

CHARGED WITH OBTAINING MONEY ON BOGUS NOTES

Highly Sensational Accusation Against Postmaster I. M. Meekins.

PROMINENT MEN AS WITNESSES

YOUNG LADY EMPLOYE OF POST OFFICE HERE CLAIMS THAT HE APPROPRIATED PART OF HER SALARY—CHARGES FILED BEFORE THE UNITED STATES SENATE POSTOFFICE COMMITTEE—BANKS AND ORPHANAGE FIGURE IN THE TRANSACTIONS—MINISTERS SEND PETITIONS IN BEHALF OF MR. MEEKINS—THE ELOQUENT POSTMASTER WAS OFFERED THE COLUMNS OF THE TAR HEEL FOR ANY STATEMENT WHICH HE MIGHT DESIRE TO MAKE, BUT DECLINED

For sometime the fight over the confirmation of postmaster I. M. Meekins of this city has been waging. Charges of forgery have been preferred against him by Hon. E. F. Aydtlett, and last Tuesday the charges became public matter, in that the senate committee on post offices opened the records for a hearing. These charges are very grave and a sweeping denial has been made by

"First. His conduct in business transactions with the Citizens Bank of Elizabeth City and others, is dishonorable in that during February, 1903, he applied to the Citizens Bank of Elizabeth City for a loan and represented to the said bank that he held notes or bonds executed by J. C. Meekins, Jr., who is his brother, amounting to sixteen to eighteen thousand dollars, which were secured by mortgage on a certain farm in the county of Halifax, State of North Carolina, being for the purchase of money of the said farm, and that all of the notes or bonds secured in the said mortgage, except those owned and held by him had been paid; and desired to deposit as collateral the said notes held by him and secured as aforesaid for a loan of seven thousand dollars.

"That the said representations, which were relied upon by the said bank were false and fraudulent.

"That the said I. M. Meekins and J. C. Meekins, Jr., at the time were insolvent.

"That the said bank, believing the said representations and relying upon same, and upon examination finding the said mortgage recorded conveying the said lands in the county of Halifax, and believing the said notes offered as collateral security were the unpaid notes secured by the said trust, was induced and because of them did make a loan of \$7,000.00, when in fact the said notes

How Many Bricks Have You Sent Away?

That sounds like a funny question, addressed to every citizen of this town and community, but it's really a serious one. Listen: There is now just completed a magnificent building of red brick exterior and concrete interior right in the business heart of one of the biggest of American cities. It occupies a whole block and calls itself in a large lettered sign "The Largest Monolithic Building in the World." It has many floors, with about a hundred acres of floor space. The entrances are of solid marble. The floors are beautifully tiled. Altogether it is a credit to the big city in which it stands. Oh, it's a Jim Dandy!

Now, how many bricks have you sent to the city to go into this big building? Honest, how many?

Of the hundreds of thousands of bricks put into the walls of this building the city where it stands has contributed not a single red brick. Country people, the people of small towns and cities far away from the big metropolis, have sent in the bricks for the construction of this splendid edifice.

You may have sent in a few hods of bricks yourself without knowing it.

Listen: This magnificent structure, which ornaments a city you probably never will see yourself, is built of bricks bought with the dollars of people living in towns just like ours—towns that would like to have some new brick buildings themselves now and then. Every dollar contributed to the city building fund means a nice, hefty hod of bricks for this big, beautiful skyscraper, "largest in the world" of its kind. This building was put up, through the kind donations of their unknown country cousins, by a firm that ran a small store in that city a few years ago.

But this firm conceived the cute idea of having thousands of strangers contribute bricks to build its fine, large, new store.

And the building is a Mail Order Store. See?



NEW MANAGER FOR BOAT LINE

Mr Pendelton Succeeds Mr J H LeRoy

EFFICIENT SERVICES

THE CHANGE OF MANAGEMENT WILL NOT EFFECT THE SYSTEM AS IT'S NOW OPERATED.

At a recent meeting of the stock holders of the LeRoy Steamboat Co., held in Norfolk, Mr. H. D. Pendleton of Elizabeth City was elected to succeed Mr. J. H. LeRoy as general manager.

Mr. LeRoy who has held the controlling stock in the company lately sold his interest to a Virginia corporation and has retired from the steamboat business.

Mr. Pendleton has been the agent for this line in Elizabeth City for several years and is thoroughly conversant with the affairs of the company which will insure the continued successful management of this transportation company.

The Tar Heel reporter has been informed that the change in the management will in no way effect the operations of the steamers of this company further than to make all the improvement in passenger and freight transportation services that is in the power of the company to make for the benefit of its patrons.

Under the management of Mr. J. H. LeRoy, this popular steamboat line established itself in the water sections of North Eastern North Carolina; and has for the past several years carried a considerable part of the freight as well as a good part of the passengers of this section.

With improved facilities for serving the public, which this company will probably make, it will continue a prominent industrial factor of this section.

CARRIED OVERBOARD BY BOOM.

Mr. Gray Loses His Life in Tuesday's Storm.

In the storm of Tuesday January the 7th, A. B. Gray, a young man of Avon, was washed overboard from the schooner E. R. Daniels and drowned.

The schooner was off Old Point in Pamlico sound when, in the gale the young man was carried overboard by the gibing of a boom.

In the gale of wind and the seas, it was impossible to effect his rescue. Before the schooner could be "brought to" he had sunk in the waves and was lost from view. The young man was about eighteen years old, had a most excellent reputation and was held in high esteem by his friends.

MR. ED OWENS DEAD.

Mr. Ed. Owens a farmer residing in Pasquotank county about two miles from Elizabeth City died last Monday after an illness of several days of pneumonia.

The funeral and interment took place Tuesday afternoon.

Mr. Owens was about sixty years old and is survived by a wife and several children, besides a host of friends and relatives who lament his loss.

He was one of the most prominent citizens of Pasquotank county. For several years he has been a justice of the peace. He was prominent in the political and social affairs of his community. He was held in high esteem and his loss will be keenly felt in his county.

RAPIDLY RECOVERING.

The many friends of the family will be delighted to learn that Sam McCleese the young son of Mrs. Anson Langley of Elizabeth City is rapidly recovering from a serious attack of pneumonia.

If nothing happens to interfere with his recovery, he will be out again in the course of a week.

MR. CRAWFORD GOES TO NEW BERN

Life Of Sevice In N. & S's. Employment

GARRET SUCCEEDS

THE LARGEST OFFICE IN THE NORFOLK AND SOUTHERN SYSTEM—SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE IN SALARY.

Harvey Crawford agent for the Norfolk and Southern railway at Elizabeth City, has been transferred to New Bern, N. C., where he will fill the position of agent for the company in that city.

Mr. Crawford and his family will leave Elizabeth City the first of February for New Bern.

Mr. Crawford is one of the best known railroad officials in North Eastern North Carolina. He is well known in this city, where he is immensely popular and is held in the highest esteem by the entire city.

His career in the service of the Norfolk and Southern railway has been one of phenomenal success, and should be an inspiration to every boy who begins life under adverse circumstances.

He was born in New York State and came to this city twenty three years ago with his parents, when he was nine years old. His father died soon after their arrival in Elizabeth City. At the age of twelve years, he entered the office of the Norfolk and Southern railway nineteen and a half years ago as office boy. His life, since then has been spent in the Norfolk and Southern's office in this city. Mr. Crawford has devoted his whole time and energy to the interest of the railway company.

Steadily, year by year he has advanced in the service of the company from one position to another of more responsibility and trust. Three years ago, he was made agent for the company, the most important and most responsible position that the railroad has in this city.

In this position Mr. Crawford has shown such ability in conducting the affairs of the company, that a few days ago he was offered the position of agent in New Bern. The New Bern office is the largest office in the Norfolk & Southern system; consequently the office of the greatest responsibility. With this promotion there is a substantial increase in Mr. Crawford's salary. Mr. Crawford's many friends will be delighted to learn of the promotion, but at the same time, they regret exceedingly to lose Mr. Crawford and his interesting family as residents of the city.

Mr. F. L. Garret, has been designated by the company to fill Mr. Crawford's place.

Mr. Garret has been in the service of the company for a very long time and Mr. Garret's promotion comes as a fitting recognition of his ability and faithful services to the railway company.

Mr. Garret is well known in Elizabeth City, where he has resided the greater part of his life. He has always been identified with the interests of the city.

No man is held in higher esteem in this section than Mr. Garret.

SCHUBERT SYMPHONY CLUB.

The Schubert Symphony Club will give one of their delightful concerts here in the court house, Tuesday evening, February 4th. This entertainment is given under the auspices and for the benefit of the local firemen.

The Schuberts have a fine reputation and all who attend can expect some splendid music.

The admission price is fifty cents. Tickets on sale and can be reserved at Selig's Jewelry store, Main St.

Mr. J. J. Jarvis, of Norfolk, passed through the city last Monday en route to his old home in Tyrrell to visit friends and relatives.



HON. ISAAC M. MEEKINS.

Against Whom Sensational Charges Have Been Made.

Mr. Meekins, and many petitions have been forwarded to the committee. A petition signed by seven ministers, in behalf of Mr. Meekins has been received, also one from the Woman's Christian Temperance Union referring to Mr. Meekins as an advocate and supporter of the temperance cause. The friends on both sides are putting up a strong fight over the confirmation. Important witnesses will likely be called by the senate committee at the hearing.

A representative of the Tar Heel, called at Mr. Meekins office and asked him.

"Mr. Meekins have you anything to say concerning the charges made against you. The columns of the paper are open to you, if you care to make any statement." Mr. Meekins said he did not care to say anything.

The representative also saw Mr. Aydtlett and asked for a statement.

"The paper speaks for itself and I have nothing further to say."

The charges against Mr. Meekins are as follows:

MR. AYDLETT'S CHARGES.

"E. F. Aydtlett, upon information and belief, prefers charges against I. M. Meekins in opposition to his confirmation as Post Master in Elizabeth City, N. C., as follows:

said I. M. Meekins represented to Kitchin, Smith & Kitchin, attorneys for the said Baker, that all of the notes secured by the mortgage on the farm were paid except those held by the Baptist Orphanage at Thomasville.

"That, A. Paul Kitchin, of the firm of Kitchin, Smith & Kitchin, required the said I. M. Meekins to produce all of the notes secured by the said mortgage before he would allow their client to pay for the farm so as to get the title clear.

"That on the 23rd day of December, 1904 the said I. M. Meekins produced the notes as described in the mortgage with dates and amounts as therein set out, and represented them to be all of the notes secured by the said mortgage and marked each of them satisfied, and had the mortgage cancelled of record on the 23rd day of December, 1904.

"That at the time the said I. M. Meekins represented to the said Kitchin that the said notes were the same as were secured by the said mortgage, he knew that the Citizens Bank of Elizabeth City held notes with the same description as those set out in the mortgage, with the name of his brother, J. C. Meekins, Jr., thereto, which he had deposited as collateral security for the seven thousand dollars, and knew that the bank held the same upon his false and fraudulent representations that they were notes secured by said mortgage.

"He also knew at the same time that the National Bank of Commerce of Norfolk, Va., held notes purporting to be secured by said mortgage, deposited there by him.

Fourth. That the said I. M. Meekins made no report to the Citizens Bank of Elizabeth City of the cancellation of the said mortgage, and did nothing regarding his indebtedness to said bank.

"That in November, 1905 the said bank, having learned through other sources of the cancellation of the said mortgage, made a demand on

said Meekins for settlement of said loan, and required him to settle at once.

"Fifth. That after the settlement, one of the directors of the Citizens Bank approached the said Meekins and asked who held the original notes, and the said Meekins admitted that the notes held by the Citizens Bank of Elizabeth City were bogus notes.

"Sixth. That there was only one mortgage executed by J. C. Meekins, Jr. to secure I. M. Meekins on the said Halifax farm, which was to secure notes amounting to \$20,000.00 and copy of which will be produced at the hearing.

"Seventh. That when the said I. M. Meekins assumed the duties of Post Master at Elizabeth City in 1903, there was a lady employee in the said office.

"That when her check came for her pay, it was handed to her by the said Meekins and she was requested by him to endorse same. After she had done so, the check was returned and she received her money at the post office. That the said Meekins told her he could not pay her the full amount for which she received, and he deducted therefrom part of her salary and the check or receipt which was sent in to the government signed by her, represented more than she received as her salary.

"That the said deductions by said Meekins were made on several occasions.

"That the said Meekins promised the said lady employee to raise her salary the first of July following, and before that time she was discharged upon the excuse that he wanted to employ some one else whom he had promised a place in the post office."

NAMES OF WITNESSES GIVEN.

"In order to sustain the above charges, it is necessary to have the evidence of the officers of the City

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