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THE LARGEST CIRCULATION OF ANY NORTH CAROLINA DAILY.

A SPECIAL MESSAGE

PRESIDENT CLEVELAND WRITES ABOUT THE VENEZUELAN DISPUTE.

OUR HONOR MUST BE MAINTAINED

England Having Refused to Submit the Matter to Arbitration it is Recommended That a Commission be Appointed to Fix the Boundary Line Between Venezuela and British Guiana and That it be Maintained by the United States.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—The President to-day transmitted to Congress the correspondence between the governments of the United States and Great Britain with regard to Venezuela, together with the following special message:

TO THE CONGRESS:

In my annual message addressed to the Congress on the 3d instant, I called attention to the pending boundary controversy between Great Britain and the republic of Venezuela, and recited the substance of a representation made by this government to Her Britannic Majesty's government suggesting reasons why such dispute should be submitted to arbitration for settlement, and inquiring whether it would be so submitted.

The answer of the British government, which was then awaited, has since been received, and, together with the dispatch to which it is a reply, is hereto appended.

Such reply is embodied in two communications addressed by the British prime minister to Sir Julian Pauncefote, the British ambassador at this capital. It will be seen that one of these communications is devoted exclusively to observations upon the Monroe doctrine, and claims that in the present instance a new and strange extension and development of this doctrine is insisted on by the United States; that the reasons justifying an appeal to the doctrine enunciated by President Monroe are generally inapplicable "to the state of things in which we live at the present day," and especially inapplicable to a controversy involving the boundary line between Great Britain and Venezuela. Without attempting extended argument in reply to this position, it may not be amiss to suggest that the doctrine upon which we stand is strong and sound because its enforcement is important to our peace and safety as a nation and is essential to the integrity of our free institutions and the tranquil maintenance of our distinctive form of government. It was intended to apply to every stage of our national life and cannot become obsolete while our republic endures. If the balance of power is justly a cause for jealousy among the governments of the old world and a subject for our absolute non-interference, none the less is an observance of the Monroe doctrine of vital concern to our people and their government.

Assuming therefore, that we may properly insist upon this doctrine without regard to "the state of things in which we live," or any change in the conditions here or elsewhere, it is not apparent why its application may not be invoked in the present controversy.

If a European power, by an extension of its boundaries, takes possession of the territory of one of our neighboring republics against its will and in derogation of its rights it is difficult to see why, to that extent, such European power does not thereby attempt to extend its system of government to that portion of this continent which is thus taken. This is the precise action which President Monroe declared to be "dangerous to our peace and safety," and it can make no difference whether the European system is extended by an advance of frontiers or otherwise.

It is also suggested in the British reply that we should not seek to apply the Monroe doctrine to the pending dispute because it does not embody any principle of international law which "is founded on the general consent of nations," and that "no statesman, however eminent, and no nation, however powerful, are competent to insert into the code of international law a novel principle which was never recognized before, and which has not since been accepted by the government of any other country."

Practically the principle for which we contend has peculiar if not exclusive relation to the United States. It may have not been admitted in so many words to the code of international law, but since in international councils every nation is entitled to the rights belonging to it, if the enforcement of the Monroe doctrine is something we may justly claim has its place in the code of international law as certainly and as surely as if it were specifically mentioned and when the United States is a suitor before the high tribunal, that administers international laws, the question to be determined is whether or not we present claims which the justice of that code of law can find to be right and valid. The Monroe doctrine finds its recognition in those principles of international law which are based upon the theory that every nation shall have its rights protected and its just claims enforced.

Of course this government is entirely confident that under the sanction of this doctrine we have clear rights and undoubted claims. Nor is this ignored in the British reply. The Prime Minister, while not admitting that the Monroe doctrine is applicable to present conditions, states: "In declaring that the United States would resist any such enterprise if it was contemplated,

President Monroe adopted a policy which received the entire sympathy of the English government of that date."

He further declares: "Though the language of President Monroe is directed to the attainment of objects which most Englishmen would agree to be salutary, it is impossible to admit that they have been inscribed by adequate authority in the code of international law."

Again he says: "They (Her Majesty's government) fully concur with the view which President Monroe apparently entertained, that any disturbance of the existing territorial distribution in that hemisphere by any fresh acquisition on the part of any European state would be a highly inexpedient change."

In the belief that the doctrine for which we contend was clear and definite, that it was founded upon substantial considerations and involved our safety and welfare, that it was fully applicable to our present conditions and to the state of the world's progress and that it was directly related to the pending controversy and without any convictions as to the final merits of the dispute, but anxious to learn in a satisfactory and conclusive manner whether Great Britain sought, under a claim of boundary, to extend her possessions in this continent without right, or whether she merely sought a possession of territory fairly included within her lines of ownership, this government proposed to the government of Great Britain a resort to arbitration as the proper means of settling the question, to the end that a vexatious boundary dispute between the two contestants might be determined and our exact standing and relation in respect to the controversy

It will be seen from the correspondence herewith submitted that this proposition has been declined by the British government, upon grounds which, in the circumstances, seem to be far from satisfactory. It is deeply disappointing that such an appeal, actuated by the most friendly feeling toward both nations concerned, addressed to the sense of justice and to the magnanimity of one of the great powers of the world and touching its relations to one comparatively weak and small should have produced no better results.

The course to be pursued by this government in view of the present conditions does not appear to admit of serious doubt. Having labored faithfully for many years to induce Great Britain to submit this dispute to impartial arbitration, and having been now finally apprised of her refusal to do so, nothing remains but to accept the situation, to recognize its plain requirements and deal with it accordingly. Great Britain's present proposition has never thus far been regarded as admissible by Venezuela, though any adjustment of the boundaries which that country may deem for her advantage and may enter into of her own free will cannot, of course, be objected to by the United States.

Assuming, however, that the attitude of Venezuela will remain unchanged the dispute has reached such a stage as to make it now incumbent upon the United States to take measures to determine with sufficient certainty for its justification what is the true divisional line between the republic of Venezuela and British Guiana. The inquiry to that end should, of course, be conducted carefully and judicially and due weight should be given to all available evidence, records and facts in support of the claims of both parties.

In order that such an examination should be prosecuted in a thorough and satisfactory manner, I suggest that the Congress make an adequate appropriation for the expenses of a commission, to be appointed by the executive and who shall make necessary investigation and report upon the matter with the least possible delay. When such report is made and accepted, it will, in my opinion, be the duty of the United States to resist by every means in its power, as a wilful aggression upon its rights and interests, the appropriation by Great Britain of any lands or the exercise of governmental jurisdiction over any territory which, after investigation, we have determined of right to belong to Venezuela.

In making these recommendations, I am fully alive to the responsibility incurred and keenly realize all the consequences that may follow.

I am nevertheless firm in my conviction that while it is a grievous thing to contemplate the two great English speaking peoples of the world as being otherwise than friendly competitors in the onward march of civilization and strenuous and worthy rivals in all the arts of peace, there is no calamity which a great nation can invite which equals that which follows a supine submission to wrong and injustice and the consequent loss of national self-respect and honor beneath which is shielded and defended a people's safety and greatness.

(Signed) GROVER CLEVELAND, Executive Mansion, Dec. 17, 1895.

RECEPTION OF THE MESSAGE.

Congratulations Pouring in Upon the President From All Quarters.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—The message of President Cleveland to Congress transmitting the correspondence between Secretary Olney and Lord Salisbury relative to the Venezuelan boundary dispute, created a real sensation in Washington to-day. Although the nature of Secretary Olney's various communications and Lord Salisbury's answers had been already accurately foretold in the Associated Press dispatches from Washington and London, there was still a great popular craving to learn just how the President would deal with Lord Salisbury's refusal to submit the matter to arbitration and the message was listened to with intense interest in Congress and was read with avidity in the streets.

On the streets the message was discussed and old veterans of the late war talked exultantly of what they were prepared again to undertake at the call of their country. In the great hall of the Pension building, the employees gathered and sang with gusto "The Star Spangled Banner" and "My Country 'Tis of Thee."

At the White House messages poured in from every quarter of the country congratulating the President upon his message.

The matter of course was of the greatest interest in diplomatic circles, and the general impression on a sober second consideration of the notes was that the matter has not yet reached a stage where war is imminent and that the hint of Great Britain's purpose to re-open negotiations with Venezuela looking to settlement of the dispute between themselves perhaps may be regarded as the indication of how the whole matter will end.

Minister Andrede, of Venezuela secured a copy of the message early in the day and cabled it to his government, and it is felt that its reception at Caracas will be the signal for an enthusiastic demonstration.

Mr. Andrede's enthusiasm was almost beyond the power of expression. "The message is superb," said he with much enthusiasm. "It is even a surprise to me in its vigor and the nobility of the sentiments expressed and in the masterly exposition of the Monroe doctrine."

Senators and Representatives with rare exception warmly commend the message. A few of the prominent Republicans declined to comment.

Senator Davis, Republican member of the committee on foreign relations, said: "I think the President has an opportunity such as has not been presented to any President in many years, in language of great dignity, power and accuracy he has stated the Monroe doctrine as understood by the American people for seventy years."

Senator Teller, Republican, said: "The concluding words have an American ring."

Senator Gorman, Democrat, said: "It is a war-like document; a very vigorous statement. Of course much depends upon what the commission which we are to send to Venezuela shall report."

Senator Brice, Democrat, said: "We have arrived at a time when the President is not only heartily supported by his own party, but is thoroughly in accord with and enthusiastically supported by the Republicans."

Senator Voorhees, Democrat, said: "It was splendid—splendid. I violated the rules of the Senate the first time in my life by clapping my hands when the message was read. I endorse every word of it, and so will the American people."

Representative Henderson, Republican, Iowa, said: "I like the message. It is uncompromising on the great underlying principle of the Monroe doctrine. I cannot doubt that Congress will promptly sustain the President in his recommendation for a commission."

Senator Bacon, Democrat, Georgia, said: "I agree with the President fully."

PROSECUTING THE TRUST.

Case Against American Tobacco Company Again Postponed.

TRENTON, N. J., Dec. 17.—The suit against the American Tobacco Company for the annulment of its charter on the ground that it is a monopoly came before Chancellor McGill to-day on motion of counsel for J. R. and F. W. Miller, the prosecutors, to have the case referred for a hearing. The chancellor referred the matter to Vice-Chancellor Reed who will not, however, be able to sit in the case before March. It is expected that about two weeks will be consumed in taking testimony. The matter has been hanging fire for about eighteen months and nothing has been done previous to to-day except the taking of testimony outside of the State. The American Tobacco Company claims that the real prosecutor is the National Cigarette Company.

THE INSURGENTS VICTORIOUS.

HAYANA, Dec. 17.—The insurgents, in spite of the reports of their defeats, have crossed the military lines between the city of Santa Clara and Cienfuegos, the headquarters of General Campos, and their advance guards are now in sight of Las Lajas, well to the westward of Santa Clara, showing that the Spaniards have been utterly unable to check their progress since they crossed the frontier of Santa Clara from Puerto Principe at Iguala.

BIG STREET CAR STRIKE.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Dec. 17.—A street car motorman's strike began at 4 o'clock this morning. All the lines in the city are tied up. There was serious rioting in Chestnut street this afternoon. Dozens of cars were smashed by the mob. The police are powerless. The mayor has issued a proclamation calling on the citizens to preserve peace.

DEATH OF MRS. DOUGHTON.

WINSTON, N. C., Dec. 17.—(Special)—Mrs. Robert Doughton, of Alleghany county, died in Atlanta to-day, from an operation performed a few days ago. Her husband is a brother of Lieut. Governor Doughton. The remains will arrive at home to-morrow for interment.

FOUR MORE CONVICTED

NOE AND THE THREE DELAMARS FOUND GUILTY OF CONSPIRACY.

THE BEAUFORT INSURANCE CASES

This Makes Seven Convictions and Three Submissions for the Past Seven Days—Nobody Has Yet Been Acquitted—The Vilest Conspiracy to Defraud Insurance Companies Ever Concealed in the South—Another Case Against Delamar and Hassell.

TRENTON, N. C., Dec. 17.—(Special)—To-day is the seventh day in the trial of the Beaufort "Graveyard" insurance conspiracy cases.

The court yesterday resumed the case of State against Noe, Delamar & Co., composed of Levi T. Noe, J. C. Delamar, Selden D. Delamar, agents, and Dr. T. B. Delamar, examining physician.

The first witness called to-day was Robert C. Strong, the hand-writing expert, who has proved indispensable to the State.

J. C. Davis, for the State, testified that he has lived in Beaufort all his life, and was, until the last election, register of deeds for Carteret county.

"I know Shepard Davis. He was raised on Davis Shore, but lives in Beaufort now and has lived there since the war. I think he is in the neighborhood of 80 years old. (The application for \$4,000 insurance states that he is 56 years old.)

"I am acquainted with Perry Chadwick. He was the son of a negro in our family. I was told that he had been in the penitentiary. The last time I saw him in Beaufort was perhaps a year and a half ago. He was in a very low state of health. His appearance as to health was very thin. He was a beggar. He was very weak—that is the whole of it. I heard him cough. He was a sickly looking object. I thought he had consumption."

"I know Melissa Guthrie; saw her here Saturday. She is in a very low state of health. I have looked upon her as a sickly girl all her life."

"I have known Samuel Windsor ever since he was a boy. He lives on the Banks. He is in my best judgment 75 or 80 years old."

"I have known Mrs. Sarah M. Gabriel all her life. I have not seen her in two and a half years. She was at that time suffering with rheumatism. I think she had been long suffering with that trouble. I called to see her and she came in her parlor. I looked upon her then as a woman in bad health. She did not tell me she had rheumatism. She is living yet."

"I know Maria Hamilton. In my judgment she is in the neighborhood of 65 or 70 years."

"I have known William Rice ever since he has been in Beaufort. In 1894 (time of application for insurance in Massachusetts Benefit Company) he was a drinking man; drank excessively. He was very dissipated. I do not know of my own knowledge that he used any other stimulant than whiskey. He had been a dissipated man for a number of years. I do not recollect ever seeing him with delirium tremens. I probably saw him in this state a year and a half ago the last time. He was not able to do his work. He is a white man. His dissipation ran back 4 or 5 years."

The application for insurance states that he had used liquors freely five years ago but not since that time, and that he did not use narcotics. Dr. Delamar states in his medical examination that he considers the risk in every way a first-class one. The agents state that he did not use liquors, but has used them freely some years ago; that he is in every way a proper subject for insurance, and they unqualifiedly recommended the risk.

The witness further stated that he had known David Parker, whose testimony was reported in the News and Observer Saturday, all his life; that Parker's character was good, and witness had heard nothing against him until this insurance business came up.

Mrs. Gabriel is a white woman, 40 or 45 years old. The widow of Samuel Gabriel who left her an estate.

Mr. Samuel Chadwick was then called. He testified that he had been living near Beaufort 15 or 20 years and knew Maria Hamilton. "In my opinion she is 65 years old. I think Shepard Davis is 80 years old."

"I have known Sam Windsor all my life. He appears to be 70 years old. (Application gives his age as 58 years.)

"I know Melissa Guthrie. Her character is good. She has been sickly all her life. I do not know what is the matter with her. She has spells like the one she has had Saturday for the last year or two."

"Shepard Davis' hair is white from age. He used to be one of the strongest men in Carteret county."

Allen C. Davis, druggist, testified that he had lived in Beaufort all his life. "I know Maria Hamilton. Her character is good. She is 63 or 64 years old." (Age in the application for insurance in National Life Association is stated to be 47 years.)

"I saw Perry Chadwick in the summer of 1894. His physical condition was very poor. He was very thin and looked like a very weak man. I think he had consumption."

"I knew William Rice. In 1894 he was drinking most of the time. He had been a drunk man most ever since I knew him. I heard he had delirium tremens."

"I have known David Parker since his boyhood. His general character is good. I never heard anything against him until his connection with this insurance came up."

On cross-examination witness said he could not swear to Dr. Edward Thomas' writing. He had seen him write twenty years ago and had filled a prescription in his hand-writing a year and a half ago. He is a physician and lives now in New York.

M. C. Phelps said that he had lived in Beaufort 72 years. "I know Shepard Davis. I think he is 80 years old."

"I know Mrs. Sarah M. Gabriel and had business with her four years ago. I had to go to her house because she could not walk. She is living. I do not think she has been able to be on the streets for four or five years. She told me she could not straighten her right leg."

"I know Maria Hamilton. Her character is good so far as I know."

"I have known William Rice twenty-five or thirty years. In 1894 and for a year or two before that he was a drunkard and a perfect physical wreck. He quit drinking about a year ago. For twelve months before that he was a perfect debauchee. I did not see him with delirium tremens. I have seen him shaking."

"Hettie Davis' character is good so far as I know."

Charles Springle: "I have lived in Beaufort over 5 years. I knew Perry Chadwick and saw him in the summer of 1894. His physical condition was very bad. He looked like a man with consumption."

"Alfred Piggott also looked like a consumptive in 1894."

"William Rice was drinking very hard in 1894 and for several years previous. As a result, his physical condition was such that he was unable to attend to his business."

"Shepard Davis is 75 or 80 years old."

"Mrs. Sarah M. Gabriel is my cousin. In 1894 her physical condition was bad. She has been so for some years. I cannot say what was the matter with her. She cannot walk."

"I have heard Perry Chadwick is dead. Alfred Piggott is dead."

On cross-examination witness said: "I have a boat. The insurance companies did not employ me to get up evidence. I was employed to transport their witnesses. I cannot say positively that I have seen Rice drinking since July 6th, 1894." (Date of application.)

Dennis Jones corroborated the above witnesses as to the age and condition of the health of Shep. Davis, Perry Chadwick, Samuel Windsor, Maria Hamilton, William Rice, Alfred Piggott, whose lives were insured in several companies in amounts varying from \$2,000 to \$6,000. All of these parties were represented to be in first-class physical condition and in every way desirable risks. In no case was there any suggestion of disease, injury or ailment.

James Bryant was then called by the State. He corroborated the other witnesses as to Shepard Davis, Samuel Windsor, Perry Chadwick, Rosannah Washington (whose branch of the case came up Saturday.) Sarah M. Gabriel, William Rice, Alfred Piggott. Witness said he had been living in Beaufort 26 years and working for Mr. Geo. N. Ives, of Newbern 17 years.

Jennie Barnes testified that she knew Mrs. Sarah M. Gabriel, having lived three doors from her for 21 years. She has been in bad health and confined to her house for two years. She could not get to court. She has rheumatism; cannot walk.

Florence Chadwick was then called and testified in effect as she did in the trial of William Fisher for forgery, that she had never applied for insurance, never been examined by Dr. Delamar (who purports to have made an examination of her for insurance in three separate companies) or by any other doctor. She was in bed sick at the time with ulcerated throat and rheumatism. Was first taken in the fall of 1893 and did not get out of bed until spring of 1894. Is not well now and was sick all day yesterday.

On cross-examination, witness said she did not go into Kit Jones' store in Beaufort and throw \$5 on the counter and say Dr. Caldwell gave it to her to buy cigarettes. Her mother, Jennie Chadwick, corroborated her, in the main.

S. L. Dill was called to the stand. He said he had lived in Newbern nineteen years and had been for six or seven years superintendent of the Atlantic and North Carolina railroad. "Dr. Edward Thomas is my wife's brother. On the 9th of June, 1894, I went from Newbern to New York with Dr. Thomas. He has not returned to North Carolina. I am certain about the date because I telegraphed at the time to Mr. Chadwick, president of the road, that I was going to New York, and I kept a copy of the telegram. Dr. Thomas had been at my house in Newbern since February of that year. I recollect he went to Morehead City once while staying at my house, but do not know that he went to Beaufort. I know that he spent the last four or five weeks he was in North Carolina at my house in Newbern. I am acquainted with his hand-writing. The name Edward Thomas, signed as medical examiner to this application for insurance on the life of Perry Chadwick in the Michigan Mutual Life Insurance Company, is not, in my opinion, in the hand-writing of Dr. Edward Thomas. This application is for \$5,000 insurance and is dated Beaufort, N. C., June 16th, 1894."

At this time Dr. Edward Thomas was in New York.

The witness Strong testified that the name Edward Thomas to this application looked very much like the hand-writing of Edward Thomas to the application of Wigfall to the Bay State Association (which is admitted to be in the doctor's handwriting), but that in his opinion the name was signed by the defendant Selden D. Delamar, and was a clever attempt at imitation.

The facts in regard to this application were put before the grand jury at

the last term of Carteret court. Mr. Dill appeared before them and testified as also did A. P. Massey. A bill was sent against S. D. Delamar for forgery. It was returned not a true bill.

Mr. Dill testified to-day that the medical examination in the Wigfall application, upon which \$3,000 was collected from the Bay State Company, as reported in Sunday's News and Observer, was, in his opinion, signed by his brother-in-law, Edward Thomas.

At this point the application for insurance upon the lives of the several subjects, as brought out in this case, were read to the jury. According to the applications, a healthier and younger lot of applicants were never examined by a doctor for life insurance.

Maria Hamilton, the next witness called, testified as follows: "I live in Beaufort. I do not know how old I am. I did not sign an application for insurance on my life. (She was insured in two companies for \$5,000.) I did not know anything about it. My husband told me Mr. John Stanley had me insured. They did not consult me and I knew nothing about it. I did not sign any paper to have my life insured. I have first one complaint and then another—dysentery, nervous attacks and palsy. I have not had this palsy a great while. Last year it was not so bad off. I was palsied last summer. I cannot tell how long I have been in bad health. I was a healthy woman I guess about the time of the war, when my health began to fail and has been so off and on ever since. I have had some trouble in my head all along since the war. I have never had a child. I am a married woman and my husband is living. He has not been able to come to court. He cannot walk. He is not in his right mind. I was never examined by Dr. Delamar for a life insurance policy."

"Do you know whether Dr. Delamar knew what your condition of health was for these past years?"

"I do not know. I know him. He gave me medicine sometime for my complaints."

"Did you ever consult him as a doctor?"

"Yes, sir; I went to his shop to get medicine."

"I was not at the Morehead City trial. I was sick. No one came to me to sign a paper after these trials. I do not know whether they went to my husband. William Fisher came to my husband. Nobody came with him. They did not sign any papers. Mr. Felton came. He came with Mr. Henry—Mr. Johnnie Henry. They wanted me to sign a paper to get some money. That was what Henry told me. I signed the papers. Mr. Johnnie Henry told me to sign to get some money. He said it would come in his care. He would see that it came. He did not get a cent of the money. I do not know whether the paper was sent off to the company or kept."

On cross-examination she said "My husband told me John Stanley and he had my life insured. His name is Jim Hamilton. My husband has been so he could not walk sometime. In the spring he could hobble about the yard. I cannot tell how long he has been so he could not get out of the yard. It has been as long as three months. He was able to walk to the court-house last October court."

The paper was read. It was an affidavit signed before C. B. Felton, notary public, and stated that James Hamilton and Maria Hamilton applied on March 19th, 1894, to C. R. Hassell and Noe, Delamar & Co. for life insurance in the Mutual Life Association, and that they were both examined by Dr. T. B. Delamar, of Beaufort. The affidavit was dated August 28th, 1895.

The witness continued: "This is the way Felton read it to me. This is the paper I signed. I cannot read or write. Felton was there and John E. Henry was there, and my husband and myself. I did not know anything about the paper. It was after the trial at Morehead City."

"Don't you know your husband signed it and made your mark to it?"

"Yes, sir; he did."

"Didn't you swear at the trial in Beaufort that you didn't sign it or make your mark to it?"

"I don't know sir. I don't know when the first insurance on my life was. I don't know that David Parker had me insured in 1892. He never told me about it. I signed no application. Never was examined. Never went to his son to make application. This is the first time I ever heard about it."

Parker testified Saturday that he and the firm of Noe, Delamar & Co., would hawk these policies about the streets of Beaufort and sell them like they would a barrel of pork.

Palmer Davis corroborated the other witnesses as to Perry Chadwick. Perry was a pauper and had had two hemorrhages in witnesses' boat.

Mr. Rippey, the traveling inspector of the Bay State Beneficiary Association, was the last witness to testify in the case. His testimony in this case, as it has been in the others, was in regard to the knowledge he had of the several companies and their officers and that they held themselves out as doing a legitimate insurance business. The State here closed and the defendants offered no evidence.

This case, like the last, was submitted to the jury upon the charge of the judge. The jury were out but a few minutes when they returned a verdict of guilty, as to all of the defendants, who were immediately placed under bond in the sum of \$1,000 each, which they promptly gave.

This makes seven convictions and three submissions in six days. The court took up the case of State vs. T. B. Delamar and C. R. Hassell to-day.

Dr. C. W. Hassell, of Jamesville, a brother of the defendant C. R. Hassell, is here in the interest of his brother.