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## Attorney-at-Leaws

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## P. H. WINSTON, JR.,

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Presesd to Death.
In early times it was considered that criminals accused of felony could not be properly tried unless they consented to the trial by pleading and putting themselves on the country. After reading the indictment to him the questioh was put: "How say you-are you guilty or not guilty?" If he said "Not guilty," the next question was, "Culprit, hom i, inill sopu be tried?" To which the prisoner had to answer: "By God and my country." If he willfully omitted eithefportion-offtitat answer he was said to stand mute, and a jury was sworn to say whether he stood mute of malice or mute by the visitation of God. If they frund him mute of malice, that was equivalens-te pleating guittyl) cases of treason or misdemeanor; but in easses offelony the was condemned, after much exhortation, to the paine forte et dure-that isy ta be stretched riaked on his back, and to have iron laid upop him, as much as he could bear, and more, and so to continue, fed upon bad bread and stagnant water on alternate days, 'till he either pleaded or died. This strange rule was not abolished until 1772, when standing mute in cases of felony. I was: made equivalent (to a conviction. A case actually occurred as late as 1726 , when one Burnwater, accused at Kingston Assizes of murdery refused to plead, and was pressed for an hour and three-quarters, with nearly 400 weight of iron, after which he pleaded not guilty, and was conyicted and hanged. In $165^{8}$ a Major. Straneways was pressed to death: The object of refusing to plead was that, as in that case there, was no conviction, no forfeiture took place, and the property of the accused person was thus preserved for his heir.

Most judges do not know what they can do with a case until they try it.

B'Watching ob Santa Claus in a Well.-About 2 o'clock Christmas morning, a colored man, named Bob Terry passing by a well in the old Livery Stable lot, felloin. The well is aboft forty fet decp.f Bob found by actual measurement that the water reach ed his shoulders. He says that he slept very well, but was rather cold when he awoke. He remained there quietly until the next morn, ing aftertworoertiree buckéts of Whan bad drawh from the "ell, afraid to say alything to the one drawing, lest he should be killed by the bucket being turned loose. ..... A few nights before Christmas some villians went to the house of Mr. Sam Mason, near Pope's Chapel, and broke in, D. arsouse cointaining sonte corn, The family consists of Mr. Mason who is old, deaf and almost helpless, and his daughter Miss Sallie Masong Just es thie rascals had filled two sacks, Miss Mason heard them and went out and they ran off leaving the corn. She carried the corn into the dwelling and emptied it out of the sacks. Then hearing a noise she took a light went to the door and looked out, One of the rascals caught her by the throat, dragged her out/of the house, choked her, and threatened to kill her if she did not keep quiet. The other one entered the house, refilled the sacks with corn and went off.-Franklinton Weekly. Says the Wimington Star: An effort will be made to secure the ent session of Congress to erect a peblic buildinghere, to cost \$roo, 000, for use as a post office, United States court room, etc. Fayetteville is moving for one, to cost $\$ 75,000$.

Richmond, VA., Jan. 4--Geo. H. Swann was to-night nominàted by the Democrats for Judge of by the Democraty ${ }^{\text {Pat }} 1$

DRIED FRUIT REPORT.
Cherries, pitted,
Damson, Plums, 10
Whortleberries. Blackberries,

Apples, quartered, 4 to 5 Apples, sliced; common, 3 to 5 Apples, sliced, bright, bo 4 to 7 Apples, sliced, fancy, to 8 Peaches, dark, peeled, 4 to 8 Peaches, bright, peeled, 8 to 10 | Peaches, fancy, peeled, |
| :--- |
| Peaches, quarter, unpeeled, | Peaches, halves, unpeeled,

## EUGENE E. GRAY,

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## Wisston, N. C.

The following trre-clans Fire Insurance Companie Fepresented: Worth Britivh and Mercantile; Hartford; Iondon Aseurance corporntion America; Commercinl Union; City of London; Yinginta; Home; Vinginis. Kire api Marine; Hoccienter Gertisn; GOrman-American Connec ticut; Fivetern Ateurance and Liop Five Inaurance Company.

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