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TREASON CHARGED

AGAINST DELEGATE ROBERT W. WILCOX, OF HAWAII.

HE FAVORED THE FILIPINOS' CAUSE.

Wrote Letters to Filipino Leaders offering Them His Aid in Their War for Independence—Highly Sensational Development.

Washington, Feb. 2.—Charges have been submitted to the House committee on elections No. 1, against delegate Wilcox, of Hawaii, representative in the House of Representatives, by George D. Gear, of Hawaii, who submitted letters purporting to be copies of letters written by Wilcox to Filipino officials. The alleged letters are of a highly sensational character. One bears the alleged signature of Wilcox, it is dated Honolulu, January 31, 1899, and is addressed to Dr. Jos. L. Lomada, Captain Marti Burgos and Senator J. Luna, and introduced to them "a friend of mine who is a very able man, to help you in your cause."

Among other things the letter says: "Mr. — will be a useful ally to fight for the cause of the Philippines."

One thing is sure that you could resist against any army of invasion. You have a population of 12,000,000 and already a disciplined army of 30,000 well equipped with modern arms.

"I have already made up my mind to join with you in your country against America, in case they insist to ignore the rights, the justice of your cause. I know well my profession as an artillery officer. I have no fear of the world while I fight for a legitimate cause like yours. Between General Aguinaldo's determination and myself it would be very little chance left to the invading army of the United States to conquer your country. Tell General Aguinaldo I have already given my service for your country and I am ready to offer orders to go to your country and fight for the independence of your people and country and at any moment."

Another letter, dated Honolulu, March 8, 1899, says: "I am thinking to go to the Philippine Islands and give my assistance to Aguinaldo against the invaders—the hypocritical Yankees—the carpet-bag politicians."

The petition says there was no election machinery when Wilcox was elected Delegate, November 6, 1899, and that many voters therefore made no attempt to vote. It is alleged that Wilcox, in his speeches prior to the election, made use of the strongest kind of anti-American utterances for the purpose of carrying the election, telling the native Hawaiians that the Americans had stolen their country and that a vote for him was a vote for the restoration of the Queen, and that if he were elected the Queen would be restored; that said Wilcox was and is guilty of treason against the United States in that he did as petitioner informed and believes, since the annexation of said Hawaiian Islands, write and send through the United States mails certain letters highly treasonable in their nature, wherein he did counsel and incite others to engage in open rebellion against the United States, and did so offer his own services."

The petition, in conclusion, charges his election was invalid; that "he is not a fit and proper person" to represent Hawaii; alleges bigamy and further alleges "written and uttered treasonable language;" wherefore it is petitioned he should be expelled from Congress.

Mr. Wilcox says he has no fear of the charges made. He admits that he wrote a letter to Dr. Lomada, Capt. Marti Burgos and Senator Luna, introducing C. Casar Marimo, an Italian of this city, whom he knew while the latter was in Hawaii, and to whom the unaddressed letter filed by Gear was addressed, but he said he was unable to say whether the letters filed were exact copies of those sent.

CHILD LABOR IN THE MILLS.

0000 Oppatives Petition Against the Bill and the South Carolina Legislature Kills it for the Second Time.

Columbia, S. C., Feb. 4.—The Legislature has the second time killed a bill to prohibit child labor in cotton mills. The vote in the House was 66 to 32. Thirty members were absent.

The action is based upon the fact that 6,000 mill operatives in the Piedmont section presented petitions asking to be let alone. The conditions in their belt are ideal. The mills furnish theatres, schools and churches, but in other sections it is charged a system of bondage is fostered.

More Red Shirt Politics.

The town of Lumberton was to hold an election on the question of issuing bonds for an electric light plant, on Tuesday last week, but the election could not be held because someone had "misplaced" the registration books. A reward has been offered for the conviction of the guilty parties. The commissioners have ordered a new registration and the election will be held about March 1st.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

What "Squib" Thinks of Things in General.

Perhaps a few good fellows got left reaching for office.

The State of Virginia absolutely ruled out slot machines.

I take up other people's thoughts and they take down mine.

Col. Lusk ought to be a candidate for minister to Te-ho-han.

There is a man in this Legislature who swallows other people's thoughts.

The Legislature seems to lack the presence of Hoopa Boon, the Cherokee chief.

Major Edward Sully, the gold bug Democrat, gave his presence to Raleigh last week.

There is no use in talking, but Julian of Rowan is missed in this era of good feeling.

The "yaller" dog has more friends than any other animal in this State, even the man—animal.

Legislators swell with their coming, swink with their staying, and swank with their going.

There does not seem to have been a foot-ball headed man sent to represent himself in this Legislature.

The most magnificent man in a military sense comes from Henderson. He has a face and poses on it.

The old young man from Person, Col. Cunningham, is here—happy in the knowledge that he has many friends.

Mr. Pain-hour seems to want Mitchell county to have a different set of officers from those elected by the people.

They have caught 27 out of every 28 rabbits in Chatham county this winter, but expect a larger crop than ever next year.

Chambers ought to have something even for having run so often and been turned bottom up by the people every whack.

A fellow who was taken for a Methodist preacher during this session, remarked that he was—but only in so far as chicken and apparatus went.

Somebody is sure to get mad and those who did not get the vacant places under this new government have the remainder of their lives to recuperate their good feelings.

The Judiciary committee of the present Legislature had to be composed of itself, so that every man who had seen a law book was put on the committee in order for weightiness.

That same committee was so pedantic it had to be divided into three compartments, white, black and yellow—which is the "Jim Crow" dispatch?

Murdered by Wife and Companion.

Richmond, Va., Feb. 4.—News has reached here of a remarkable murder near Discard Station, in James City county. James Beach was killed in his own house by his wife and Roland Wholmes, and his body was placed in a boat, carried a mile up a creek, and then placed on the railroad track, in order that his Beach's death might be attributed to accident and the railroad company held responsible. The first train did cut the body to pieces, but the crime was traced to Sarah Beach and Wholmes. The parties are negroes.

A Strife Among Town Officials.

Paris, W. Va., Feb. 4.—The municipal authorities at Ghoxville, Gilmer county, are having a warm time. The chief of police heard a noisy gang, headed by the mayor, parading the streets, and arrested the mayor for disorderly conduct, but released him for trial on his own recognizance. The mayor then had the chief arrested for being an accessory to the disturbance by arresting peaceable men.

Woman Wanted to Hang.

Trenton, N. J., Jan. 31.—Mrs. Storey, an aged spiritualist, of Camden, came to Trenton today to see Gov. Voorhes for the purpose of offering herself to be executed in place of Hill, who is sentenced to be hanged at Camden, February 5. Gov. Voorhes was not here and the woman left the Statehouse saying she would go to the governor's home at Elizabeth.

A Costly Introduction.

New York, Feb. 1.—James Henry Smith, said to be the richest bachelor in the United States, is going to introduce himself to society by giving a \$15,000 dinner and dance at Sherry's. It is estimated that each plate will cost \$100. He inherited \$60,000 from an uncle who died lately.

Cut to Pieces by Train.

Richmond, Va., Feb. 1.—George Jurkes and Winfield Rogers, two young white men were caught on a Chesapeake and Ohio Railway trestle in the lower part of the city last night by a shifting engine, run down, and literally cut to pieces.

About Right.

Durham Herald.

The Legislature is largely composed of lawyers and they could not do better than to repeal about half the laws now on the statutes, many of which they do not understand themselves.

CHINESE GIRLS SOLD BY AUCTION.

Five Put Up at Public Sale and Bought from \$1,700 to \$2,500 Each. San Francisco Dispatch.

Five Chinese girls were sold at public auction in Frisco's Chinatown recently, as publicly as though they had been in Canton, China, where such human slavery is a recognized institution. These girls were the property of Gong Gwo, an old Chinaman who has kept for years one of the disreputable dens in Chinatown. He wanted to go back to China, so he advertised the furniture and chattels of his establishment at auction. According to Chinese customs creditors of Gong appeared and posted bills on the door of his place, specifying their claims. Every Chinaman who bid at the auction agreed to pay the claims against the girl he fancied.

When the sale began there was a large crowd. The girls were exhibited and the auctioneer enumerated their good points. They stood stolidly by, as if they were used to such proceedings, having been sold before they were brought here. They fetched fancy prices, as the restriction act is so rigidly enforced now that it is difficult to get pretty Chinese girls into the country. They sold at from \$1,700 to \$2,500 each, and they were at once removed to the quarters of their new owners.

TOWN OF PLYMOUTH BURNED.

Bank and Postoffice Destroyed—Loss in Excess of \$100,000.

Norfolk, Va., Jan. 30.—The town of Plymouth, N. C., was pretty nearly wiped out by fire last night. Telegraphic advices from the scene received this afternoon state that the Bank of Plymouth, the postoffice, and the large stores of Messrs. Hornthal, of Norfolk, were destroyed.

The moneys of the bank and the postoffice are in the safe, which is in the ruins, and still too hot to handle. The loss is upward of \$100,000.

A Queer Trade.

Johnstown, Pa.—A remarkable and funny case came before the court in Edinburg recently. George Reed resides near the city and wears a peg leg, and Sadie Brown, a neighbor, also uses a wooden leg, as the result of an accident. She alleges that a month or more ago Reed persuaded her to trade pegs with him.

Afterwards she became dissatisfied with her bargain and wanted Reed to trade back. This Reed positively refused to do, as the leg he had traded for suited him better than the old one.

Miss Baldwin then brought suit against him to recover her peg. Reed pleaded guilty to larceny by bailee, paid the costs and returned the artificial limb.

Beat Her Head to a Pulp.

Greensboro, N. C., Jan. 31.—John Burton, a negro, is in jail charged with attempting to murder his wife last night. The woman's head was beat almost into a pulp with an iron kettle and a large rock. Burton and his wife had been to a dance and were near their home when the row occurred. Mayor Taylor heard the woman's screams and went to her relief, arresting Burton and carrying him to jail. It is thought that the woman's injuries will result in death.

Mississippi Gets \$750,000 Back Taxes.

Jackson, Miss., Feb. 1.—The Illinois Central Railroad this afternoon paid to the State revenue agent here the sum of \$750,000, being the amount of back taxes due the State and various counties and municipalities in the State from 1893 to 1900 under the recent decision of the United States Supreme Court.

To Be Tried by Court-Martial.

Washington, Jan. 31.—The Navy Department has ordered a trial by court-martial, at Port Tampa, on February 9, for the loss of coal barge No. 2, off the Florida coast, December 20, while on the way to Genoa. McCornick commanded the tug Potomac, to bring the barge.

Quickly Defined.

From the Chicago Times-Herald.

"Pa," asked little Georgia, "what's the pump and circumstance of war, anyway?"

"Gen. Miles," replied the old gentleman without looking up from his paper.

In Modern Society.

From the Chicago Times-Herald.

He—I believe that my father and your mother were once very fond of each other.

She—Yes, I have often heard mamma say she was more than half sorry they ever got divorced.

Will Open Parliament in Person.

London, Feb. 4.—It is officially announced that King Edward has definitely decided to open Parliament in person, on February 14th.

A Distressing Question.

From the Kansas City Journal.

The Hon. Joe Bailey, of Texas, will now pass from the House into the Senate. This raises a new question. Does the Constitution follow Bailey?

Mr. Chas. Pearce formerly of Statesville was drowned in Lonesville, La., one day last week.

SENATOR BUTLER'S RESOLUTION.

He Asks for an Appropriation to Remove the Obstruction at the Mouth of the Brunswick River. Special to Charlotte Observer.

Washington, Jan. 31.—Senator Butler is exerting himself to help along the inland water way route, and will have a formal hearing before the Senate committee on commerce at the earliest opportunity. He is also pushing the Cape Fear improvements before the committee. The Secretary of War, in response to a resolution offered by Senator Butler, informed the Senate that it will cost \$100,000 to remove the obstruction at the mouth of the Brunswick river. Mr. Butler will endeavor to have an appropriation of \$100,000 incorporated in the river and harbor bill when it reaches the Senate, to remove the obstructions.

SEVEN THOUSAND KILLED IN BATTLE.

Great Slaughter of Native Warriors in Abyssinia.

Paris, Feb. 5.—A dispatch to the Francs from Cairo says news has been received there from Abyssinia of a great battle in which 7,000 men were killed. It is supposed the chiefs rebelled during the absence of King Mendik, who has gone to the Egyptian frontier, in connection with the delimitation of the Egyptian-Abyssinian frontier. A Cairo special to the Exchange Telegraph gives the same report.

A London special says it is not unlikely, that certain malcontent chiefs may have taken advantage of King Mendik's absence from the capital to foment an insurrection.

EXCITING NEW YORK FIRE.

Large Factory Destroyed—Loss a Million and a Half.

The seven-story factory of the William Wicke Company, cigar box manufacturers, at 401 Thirty-first street, New York, was wrecked by a gas explosion and burned last Friday. Nearly 800 persons were at work in the factory at the time. A panic ensued, but only two persons were seriously injured. Fifty-four fire engines were called to the scene. The building and contents were damaged to the extent of \$1,500,000.

A Walking Fish Caught.

Jacksonville, Fla., Special, 29th, to New York Evening Post.

The first peripthalmus, or walking fish, ever seen in American waters, has just been caught in Nassau Sound, near Ferdinand, and is now in alcohol on exhibition in this city. It will be forwarded this week to the Smithsonian Institute at Washington.

Zoologists have long regarded this native of the West African coast, which remains for days out of water, as one of the strangest departures from nature. For this land life the fish is fitted by long arms, with elbow and wrist, while the fingers are separate and prehensile, instead of flat and fin-like.

Two Men and 14 Wives.

Mr. Hamp D. Smith, of Steele Creek township, was in town yesterday with a wagon-load of hogs for sale. He had good luck and was in a story-telling humor. He is half-brother of ex-Sheriff Zuck Smith. His father had seven wives. "In the same neighborhood," said Mr. Smith, "was Rev. Mr. Garrison, a Baptist preacher, who also had seven wives. If pa and the preacher had lived a while longer they would have married every widdler in that part of the country."

A Timely Suggestion.

In selecting school books for the State, those who will have the work in hand should try to adopt as near as they can those books now most generally in use. This changing books every five years will prove a burden. It will be more to the interest of some book concern and its paid allies, than to the interest of education. Changing books is a heavy expense to parents. State adoption has proven in this State to be more in the interest of the book companies than to the children. But it was not necessarily so.

Heaviest Snowfall in Years.

Wheeling, W. Va., Jan. 31.—Reports from all parts of West Virginia tell of the heaviest snow that has been known in several years. Throughout the eastern mountain region the snow is from two to five feet deep, and in many places is badly drifted. Warm rain has followed the snow in some sections, and fears of floods were prevalent in valley districts till to-night, when the severe freeze checked the rapid melting of the snow.

Another Find of Gold.

Charlotte Observer.

Mr. J. R. Winchester yesterday had a rich pan of gold on exhibition in town. He found the ore on the farm of Mr. Beattie, in Berryhill.

Mr. W. R. Cochrane and other experts who examined the pan, say that the ore will assay not less than \$60 a ton. Mr. Winchester says that at the place it came from is a good supply of ore, enough to justify mining operations on a large scale.

Trinity college has 280 students on the roll, the largest number in its history.

IS THE UNLUCKY NUMBER.

An Exhibition of "Narrow Minds and Small Souls" is the Way the Patriot Terms the Democrats Who Voted Against Dr. Curry.

It will be remembered that Dr. Curry was invited to address the Legislature a few days ago in the interest of education but some of the Democrats voted against inviting him. The Greensboro Patriot, a Democratic paper, has the following to say of the unlucky number: "Thirteen members of the North Carolina Legislature made an exhibition of their narrow minds and small souls last week, when they voted against inviting Dr. Curry the general agent of the Peabody fund, which has been of great assistance to the educational interests of this and other Southern states, to address the general assembly on the subject of education. The objection was made on the strength of a rumor to the effect that Dr. Curry had lobbied in Richmond, Pa., while the latter was conferring the seat in Congress to which W. T. Crawford had been elected. While the rumor has been shown to have been false, and while such action would have been very unbecoming on the part of Dr. Curry, there could have been no occasion for any member of the Legislature showing such rank partisanship as a matter which bore no relation whatever to politics."

NEGRO COLONY FORMED AT CAPE MAY.

The Colonists Will Come From North Carolina, Virginia and New Jersey.

Cape May, N. J., Feb. 1.—The Afro-American Equitable Association, an organization of negroes who propose to found an industrial colony on 1,400 acres of land about ten miles north of here, are meeting with much success in the beginning of their efforts. They have an option on the land and now lack but \$400 to make up the amount necessary to have the land paid title to them. Over \$300 is also in hand to begin work with, in the way of starting an industrial school and a plant for light manufactory purposes.

Each colonist will be apportioned a certain amount of land and necessary farming implements and stock. No one will be allowed to work or reside in the colony, except members of the negro race. The first lot of colonists will come from New Jersey, Virginia, and North Carolina.

In the Virginia Legislature.

The following bill has been introduced in the Virginia Legislature in regard to kidnappers:

"If any person seize, take or secrete a child from the person having lawful possession of such child, with the intent to extort money or pecuniary benefit, he shall, in the discretion of the jury, be punished with death or confined in the penitentiary not less than ten years nor more than twenty years."

Millions of Postage Stamps.

Washington, Feb. 1.—All records in the history of the government were broken in January in the number of postage stamps printed by the government. The value of the stamps was \$94,676,615, of these \$9,564,000 worth were bound in books to be sold at an advance of one cent above the value of the stamps contained in the books.

Bought by Northern Firm.

Greensboro, N. C., Feb. 1.—The Southern Finishing and Warehouse Company today sold its business in Greensboro to the Lowrey-Coulter Company of Philadelphia. New machinery will be installed and other improvements added at once, greatly increasing the capacity of the plant.

A Grandfather at 38.

Patterson, N. J., Dispatch.

Fred Lind, superintendent of Levy's Silk Ribbon Mills, whose home is at No. 25 Washington street, this city, is perhaps the youngest grandfather in the country. He is 38 years old, and his daughter, Minnie, 19 years old, and who was married a year ago, became a mother last week.

Tobacco Production.

The report of the commissioner of revenue shows that North Carolina stands third in the production of tobacco, with 35,952,401 pounds. Missouri leads with 67,432,265 and Kentucky second with 40,922,401. Virginia is fourth with 28,845,588. This is not the pounds grown, but manufactured into chewing and smoking tobacco.—Exchange.

The Governor of Tennessee, has attached his signature to the anti-cigarette bill, which prohibits the sale or carrying into the State, for purpose of selling, cigarettes or cigarette papers. A law passed to the same effect a few months ago but one of the Tennessee courts decided it unconstitutional. Whether the law is constitutional or not it stopped the sale for the present.

Mr. L. P. Erwin, of Rutherfordton, has loaned to the museum a flag that was carried by company G, 16th N. C. Regiment Volunteers, and used as a battle flag. The flag is made of silk and was in the battle of Seven Pines.

The widows of nine ex-governors of Indiana are living. There is not a single ex-governor of the State alive.

THE LAW MAKERS.

CONDENSED REPORT OF THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE LEGISLATURE.

MOST IMPORTANT BILLS INTRODUCED AND PASSED.

Many Bills and Resolutions Introduced—Few Important Measures Have Been Passed.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON.

Senate—Only one bill, which was of minor importance, was introduced in the Senate on Wednesday. Among the petitions presented were those by Senator Michael Miron, citizens of Allegheny county and another from citizens of Moore county asking a modification of the existing election laws, which was referred to Committee on Election Laws.

The following bills were passed: S. B. 344—Authorizing the municipality of Greenville to issue bonds. Passed third reading and sent to the House.

S. B. 350—To incorporate the Piedmont and Allegheny R. R. Co. Passed and sent to House.

S. B. 342—To incorporate the Rutherfordton R. R. Co. Passed second reading.

S. B. 389—To authorize school commissioners of Reidsville district to issue bonds. Passed second reading.

S. B. 198—To amend chapter 377, Acts 1899, in regard to appointment of members of the Board of Agriculture. Passed and sent to the House.

S. B. 205, H. B. 60—To protect quail in Yancey county. Passed and enrolled.

S. B. 300, H. B. 158—To incorporate Hilton Logging and Railroad Co. Passed and enrolled.

S. B. 321, H. B. 298—To protect deer in Onslow county. Passed and enrolled.

S. B. 339, H. B. 462—To prohibit hunting of birds, without consent of owner of lands, in Clay and Macon counties. Passed and ordered enrolled.

S. B. 341, H. B. 376—To prevent hunting in Craven county without consent of land owners. Passed and enrolled.

S. B. 405, H. B. 447—To appoint two additional commissioners for Hertford county. Passed and ordered enrolled.

The Henderson Alimony bill was defeated by a vote of 20 to 18.

House—Some of the bills passed are as follows:

H. B. 450—Authorizing the town of Marion to operate a system of water works and sewerage and to issue bonds for the same.

S. B. 151, H. B. 474—Levying a special tax in Ashe county.

H. B. 564—Enabling the city of Charlotte to fund part of its floating debt and authorizing a levy of taxes.

H. B. 582—Authorizing the commissioners of Wilson to issue bonds to improve the court house and other public property.

H. B. 639—Authorizing the commissioners of Iredell to lease, hire out and work the convicts of the county.

Mr. Wright, of Rowan, introduced an act to place all ex-Confederate soldiers and widows of ex-Confederate soldiers, who are now over fifty-five years of age, and not worth \$500 in worldly substance, on the pension roll of the State.

According to the tax returns of 1900, filed in the Auditor's office, the valuation of real estate and personal property amounted (in round numbers) to two hundred and fifty-three million dollars, and according to said returns there are 257,000 poll listed for taxpayers. The bill provides for an annual appropriation of \$25,000, besides an ad valorem tax of 3c per \$100 on real and personal property and 3c on each poll, these making the sum of \$99,000 by taxation, then add the \$25,000 to be appropriated by the General Assembly, making \$124,000 to be applied to the class of pensions provided for in this bill.

THURSDAY.

SENATE—Many petitions were presented in the Senate asking for a modification of the present election law. The following new bills were introduced.

By Mr. Martin: S. B. 417—To authorize railroad and transportation companies, existing under laws of North Carolina, to lease or be leased by, or to consolidate or be consolidated with, and to make joint stock with railroads of adjoining States. Referred to Committee on Railroads and R. R. Commission.

By Mr. Long: S. B. 433—To extend the charter of the Atlantic and Western Railway Co. Committee on Railroads and R. R. Commission.

By Mr. Warren: S. B. 438—Providing for service of legal process in certain cases. Judiciary Committee.

By Mr. Foushee: S. B. 441—To enable the Norfolk & Western Railroad Co. to build new lines, extend old ones and operate new branch roads, etc. Committee on Railroads.

By Mr. Brown: S. B. 442—Resolution of enquiry, to ascertain number of employees of the Senate, etc. Calendar.

BILLS PASSED FINAL READING.

The calendar was then taken up and the following bills passed their final reading:

S. B. 366, H. B. 445—To amend

chap. 128, Acts 1889. Enrolled. S. B. 389—To authorize municipality of Reidsville to issue bonds. Sent to the House for concurrence.

S. B. 342—To incorporate the Rutherfordton R. R. Co. Sent to House.

House—The following were the most important bills introduced in the House:

H. B. 667—By Mr. Nicholson of Beaufort—A resolution of investigating the amount expended for the running expenses of the steamer Lilly.

H. B. 670—By Mr. Graham of Granville—An act to provide for the auditing and recording of final returns of commissioners to sell real and personal property.

H. B. 671—By Mr. Spainhour of Burke—An act to amend the charter of the Carolina and Northwestern Railroad.

H. B. 673—By Mr. Calloway—An act to prevent live stock from running at large in the counties of Watauga, Wilkes, Caldwell and Mitchell.

H. B. 676—By Mr. Murphy of McDowell—An act to establish the stock law in a certain part of McDowell county.