

A SIGNAL FAILURE

Holton Breaks Down Completely in His Halifax Political Prosecution.

THE DEFENDANTS DISCHARGED.

The Five Men Charged with Forcing a Resignation as Registrar from the Negro Steptoe Appear Before Justice Montgomery--Steptoe the Only Witness for the Prosecution--He Breaks Down on Cross Examination and Contradicts Himself--The Defendants on the Stand Positively Deny the Charge--Republicans Hacked.

(Special to The Messenger.) Steptoe then broke down in his evidence. He said his township had a white majority. He acknowledged that after his first visit to Raleigh Claude Kitchin had charged him with coming here after troops, and he had said he came to see his daughter. He said Captain Kitchin had made him write out his resignation, and yet two days ago he said here that Claude Kitchin made him write it.

Captain Kitchin was put on the stand and swore he never saw Steptoe before tonight, so far as he knew, and never spoke to him, was never at his house in his life.

Claude Kitchin said he saw Steptoe last Saturday morning, spoke of the strained relations of the races in Halifax and of the secret meetings of negroes and that he (Steptoe) had attended these and done all he could to arouse the negroes against the whites, and also that he knew Steptoe, Dave Smith and Stuart Hardy, had gone to Raleigh as a committee to ask for troops for Halifax; that in the secret meetings resolutions against white men and their property had been passed; that the white people wanted to have peace between the races, and so had appointed two men, one a preacher, to keep all whites twenty-five yards from the polls, while negro men voted; that Steptoe admitted some very rampant resolutions had been passed against the white people and their property, but declared he voted against them; that Steptoe said he did not want to be a pollholder or a registrar and intended to resign. Kitchin made no attempt to force him to resign. He swore he was not at Steptoe's house Saturday night, nor did he know of anyone going there. He told Justice Montgomery he had not conducted himself so as to prevent negroes from voting and had not determined to suppress the negro vote, but had sought to prevent a race conflict.

The other defendants all swore they had never been to Steptoe's house. They were all in Scotland Neck Saturday. Half a dozen witnesses testified to the good character of the defendants. The other defendants all swore they had never spoken one word about election matters to Steptoe.

As soon as this evidence was in Judge Montgomery said: "The defendants are discharged." The republican case had collapsed. The republican were thoroughly hacked. One of their counsel said as he left the court room: "that was a water haul." Claude Kitchin denied absolutely telling the correspondent of The Washington Post that he had been to Steptoe's house, but said he told him he had been at Steptoe's school house, the place to which he went Saturday morning.

The following Halifax men came here today with Defendants Kitchins and others: R. F. Gray, J. E. Bowers, L. M. Pitman, S. W. Morris, J. P. Futrel, W. E. Whitman, W. F. Currie, T. L. Emory, F. P. Shields and Dr. W. O. McDonald.

The result of the trial has literally knocked the republican headquarters people out of the box. Charles A. Cook's admission that "it was water haul" covers the whole matter. Dr. Person, of Wilson county, is at the head of the delegation which is here with a story about dynamiting a house at Wilson. Dr. Person was in the lower house of the last legislature and this year was dismissed from one of the penitentiary farms on account of relations with female convicts.

Late to bed and early to rise, prepares a man for his home in the skies. But early to bed and a Little Early Riser, the pill that makes life longer and better and wiser. R. R. Bellamy.

Soldiers Guarding the Jail at Augusta. Augusta, Ga., November 3.—The Augusta jail tonight is under guard to prevent a repetition of last night's attack by lynchers who wanted to wreak their vengeance on Will Robinson for attempt to outrage Miss Walker.

CANDIDATE FOR CONGRESS

W. E. Fountain Announces Himself an Independent Candidate in the Second District (Special to The Messenger.)

Tarboro, N. C., November 3.—W. E. Fountain issues the following card: "To the Voters of the Second Congressional District.

"I hereby announce myself a candidate for congress in this district. This course is taken by me in consequence of the failure of Mr. J. B. Lloyd, present populist candidate, to meet the over-shadowing issue of white supremacy. It was expected of Mr. Lloyd, that he would stand with his race on this vital issue and allow the unification of the white voters to accomplish the defeat of George H. White, the republican negro candidate. Realizing that he had disappointed the expectation of the democrats and populists alike, in this matter, and appreciating the fact that his candidacy could only tend to bring about the elevation of White, Mr. Lloyd placed in my hands his resignation and requested me to call a meeting of the committee to act upon it. For reasons best known to myself, Mr. Lloyd prevented action by the committee and thereby obstructed what the democrats and populists alike were endeavoring to accomplish—the nomination of a man who could unify the white vote of the district. This action on his part can only aid White and make the populists of the district responsible for it. Will you do this? For one, I will not. By this conduct Mr. Lloyd has released us from any obligation to vote for him. I am assured that I will have the hearty support of the democrats of the district and I, therefore, call upon every populist of Anglo Saxon blood to stand by me in this fight against the attempt to have a negro represent the good white people of this district in congress.

"W. E. FOUNTAIN."

When you ask for DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve don't accept a counterfeit or imitation. There are more cases of Piles being cured by this, than all others combined. R. R. Bellamy.

EUROPEAN WARLOUD

England Buying Coal in this Country. Activity Among Her Warships in Eastern Waters—To Repair Cruisers, at Philadelphia

Philadelphia, November 3.—A morning paper publishes the following: The probability of a war between England and France received fresh impetus here yesterday by the action of England, who purchased a large amount of coal for immediate delivery at her west India naval stations. In response to hurried cablegrams from London, shipbrokers engaged in the West India trade, spent the greater part of yesterday searching for tonnage suitable to transport the coal from Philadelphia and Newport News to points where it will be most convenient for English craft to fill their bunkers. Sailing vessels from 1,500 to 2,000 tons carrying capacity are particularly in demand.

It was reported yesterday that two British warships had been ordered here to undergo slight repairs, which under ordinary circumstances would have been made either at Halifax or the Bermuda islands.

ACTIVITY IN BRITISH NAVY

Hong Kong, November 3.—Extraordinary activity has prevailed in naval and military circles here during the past few days, but no information on the subject is attainable. It is reported that the British gunboats have been ordered to rendezvous here. At the navy yard here the ordnance department is most active and is engaged in mounting siege guns.

Mary Ann Butler at Mount Olive

(Correspondence of The Messenger.) Mount Olive, N. C., November 3.

"Mary Ann" Butler arrived here this morning on the 11:40 o'clock train and was met by a small crowd of Reps and Pops and was escorted to E. J. Morton & Sons' hall, where she spoke on the outside of the hall in a vacant lot to a gathering of about 150 people, of which about seventy-five were Reps and about fifty Reps and about twenty-five Democrats. He spoke for over three hours, but the longer he spoke the smaller grew his crowd, as his talk was enough to make a well man sick, and the sick Pops certainly could not enjoy such speeches as he makes.

There were several Rep-Pop candidates present to hear Butler, but he did all the talking and slandering, as he was more fit for it than most any one else.

But Butler is killing time when he comes here to speak, as Wayne county will go democratic by a big majority. The people in Wayne can see the standing of political affairs and every body here wants white government and pure democracy, which every white man in North Carolina should want, and we are going to have it as sure as the 8th day of November comes next Tuesday.

Overcome evil with good. Overcome your coughs and colds with One Minute Cough Cure. It is so good children cry for it. It cures croup, bronchitis, pneumonia, gripe and all throat and lung diseases. R. R. Bellamy.

TO PURGE REGISTRATION BOOK

A Number of Names Improperly on Book of A. Wake, Precinct—Another Copy of Democratic Outrage Heavy White Registration in Raleigh

Raleigh, N. C., November 3. The secretary of state has begun the distribution of the 122d volume of N. C. supreme court reports.

Ex-Congressman "Buck" Kitchin arrived here early this morning, to answer the charge brought against him by B. B. Steptoe, a negro registrar of Halifax. Captain Kitchin says he was never at Steptoe's house and that the entire charge made by Steptoe against him and other democrats, including Claude Kitchin, Dr. Liverman and others, is false. The case will be heard at chambers this afternoon. A number of prominent lawyers volunteered their services to Captain Kitchin.

A delegation of fusionists from Wilson arrived today, loaded with another campaign story. They came to see the governor, and the republican and populist state chairman. They say that a house was dynamited night before last at Wilson, and of course add that democrats did it. "How do they know democrats did it?" was asked Populist Secretary Ader, who replied "because of course nobody else would have done it." Such is fusion evidence and fusion logic.

The fusion registrars election at the outside last precinct of Raleigh township were before Judge Walter Clark of the supreme court today, to show cause why they should not allow the registration book to be revised and purged of the names of a number of persons, some dead and some ineligible. They were present with the book and with Loge Harris, their counsel. He asked until tomorrow afternoon and said he would give the democrats today a list of the names which it was agreed should be dropped. It is said 30 are dead, and that in all 125 are in dispute. Harris said a number would be agreed on as proper to be dropped.

Major Charles L. Davis, Tenth Infantry U. S. A., is designated as chief muster officer for this state. He is on duty as acting adjutant general. "The electric cars will not run at night for about a fortnight, in order that new machinery may be installed at the power-house.

No less than 750 more whites than negroes are registered in this township. The democratic ticket will get a boom here. Republicans who have never before voted it will do so this time.

A water gauge was yesterday placed in the Roanoke river at Weldon. There is also one at Clarksville.

The employees of the agricultural department appear to all be in the field electioneering. Today only a young lady stenographer was present for duty. A former employe of this department says that the general public has no sort of idea how little work it is now doing. "To use his words "it is doing nothing."

Governor Russell has returned here. He says positively the republicans will not put up any ticket in New Hanover.

Populist State Chairman Thompson went to Roxboro today. He is in the field a good deal, and the fusionists count him one of their star speakers. Neither he nor Republican Chairman Holton seems to be in good spirits.

William E. Allen, of Goldsboro, is here and says the democrats will elect a senator for the district composed of Wayne, Duplin and Pender. He thinks Pender will go for fusion by 50 to 75 majority.

Governor Russell's special counsel, John W. Graham, T. M. Argo and C. A. Cook were again in conference today.

John D. Barry, of Boston, is appointed by Judge Purcell permanent receiver of the Durham Waterworks Company.

All the axons which were in use by the Second Regiment were yesterday shipped to Fort Monroe. Most of them are in very bad condition. The condemned tents were all sold. One man bought 115 for \$100. The axes and picks were bought by a railway builder.

The supervisor of education of Mitchell county has sent in his report for this year to the state superintendent of public instruction. All the reports are now in for the first time.

AFTER SEVEN YEARS

Ex-Bank President Marsh Returns to the Scene of His Disgrace and Ruin.

WRECKER OF KEYSTONE BANK

Suddenly Appears in Philadelphia and Sends to His Bondsmen. For Over Seven Years a Wander and Fugitive from Justice. He Travels Over the Whole World Seeking a Livelihood at Any Kind of Labor--Twenty Thousand Dollars Spent in a Vain Search for Him--Cause of His Return.

Philadelphia, November 3.—Gideon Marsh, the fugitive president of the now defunct Keystone National bank, returned to the city today after an absence of seven years and a half and surrendered himself to Bondsmen W. H. Wanamaker. Late this afternoon Mr. Wanamaker accompanied Marsh to the office of United States District Attorney Beck and the latter at once turned the fugitive bank president over to the custody of the United States marshal who placed him in jail to await a hearing tomorrow morning.

The closing of the doors of the Keystone National bank on March 29, 1891, caused a profound sensation. A run had been made on the bank a few months prior to that date, but the crisis was averted and the public was taken by surprise when the failure became known. Subsequent investigation showed that the bank had been practically looted and that there was little left for depositors and other creditors. City Treasurer John Bardsley had loaned to the bank several hundred thousand dollars of the city funds and on these loans he had been drawing interest for his own individual profit. Bardsley was arrested and his trial resulted in a sentence of fifteen years imprisonment in the state penitentiary, several years of which he served. He was finally granted a pardon by the state board of pardons.

President Marsh and Cashier Charles Lawrence were placed under arrest on May 4, 1891. Both secured bondsmen and were released. Marsh induced W. H. Wanamaker, brother of ex-Postmaster General John Wanamaker, to enter bail for him, which he did in the amount of \$20,000. On May 21st, the day set for a final hearing Lawrence appeared but Marsh had fled. The bail furnished for his appearance was forfeited and the entire amount of \$20,000 was paid to the clerk of the United States district court by Wm. H. Wanamaker. Since that date, it is said Mr. Wanamaker has spent \$20,000 more to apprehend Marsh and bring him to trial. Lawrence was convicted and sentenced to seven years' imprisonment, which he served less the commutation for good behavior.

Marsh managed to elude the officers of the law, searched the entire country for him. Detectives were even sent to points in South America, whence there had come reports that he had been seen. Even after the United States authorities had abandoned their search it was kept up by Marsh's bondsmen. Not until yesterday did his bondsmen get an inkling of his whereabouts. Then a telegram from W. H. Wanamaker, who had stated that Marsh was at the Hotel Waldorf in New York city, and would surrender to him in Philadelphia today. Mr. Wanamaker, who was in Boston, was immediately advised and he set that city for New York at once.

It is understood that the fugitive and his bondsmen met in New York last night and an agreement was there reached for Marsh to come to Philadelphia today and surrender to the authorities.

Marsh, in talking to friends who called upon him in the United States marshal's office before he was taken to prison, said that in the mere span of seven years of his absence he had roamed almost over the whole world and worked for a living at anything he could get to do. When he left he had \$1,385, which he had collected from two friends, who owed that amount to him. He went by a circuitous route to Brazil and afterward traveled from place to place. He returned to America and eventually located in the state of Washington, where, he said, he had earned money at any kind of labor he could get. He said he often longed to come back to Philadelphia, but was deterred through a desire to protect his children from scandal. He felt that to return would revive a state of affairs that would be a scandal to his family.

Mrs. Marsh, by the way, obtained a divorce from the fugitive about a year ago on the ground of desertion, she making affidavit that she had received no word from her husband since the day of his absence.

The news of Marsh's return when it became generally known, late in the day became almost the sole topic of conversation on the streets, at the hotels and clubs and in fact in all circles. Not the least interesting part of the discussion was the reference to the effect that the sudden appearance of the bank president would have on political circles. The name of the fugitive was frequently mentioned in the utterances of speakers at political mass meetings.

The present furiously exciting campaign and Marsh has particularly been the subject of heated controversy between United States Senator Penrose and John Wanamaker.

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SINGLE MAN'S LEDGER

The Treasurer's Report for the Last Fiscal Year. Washington, Nov. 3.—The treasurer of the United States, Hon. Ellis H. Roberts, has submitted to the secretary of the treasury the annual report on the transactions and condition of the treasury for the past fiscal year. The ordinary revenues of the government were \$465,321,335, an increase of \$50,000 over those of the previous year, while the net ordinary expenditures were \$443,368,582, an increase of \$77,594,423. The resulting deficiency of \$21,952,853 exceeds that of the preceding year by \$19,994,793.

Up to the close of the fiscal year the expenditures on account of the war with Spain was \$45,041,723 by the war department and \$2,262,483 by the navy department. For four months—July, August, September and October 1898—the expenditures of the war department were \$107,520,368, being \$13,131 greater than for the same months in 1897. For the same months this year the navy department expended \$27,459,577, which was \$16,014,928 more than it spent in the like months of 1897. Up to October 31st the war with Spain added to the disbursements of these two departments the sum of \$4,932,285.

Constitution prevents the body from ridding itself of waste matter. De Witt's Little Early Risers will remove the waste and cure Sick Headache, Biliousness, Inactive Liver and clear the complexion. Small sugar coating, don't vomit or cause nausea. R. R. Bellamy.

First Step for Military Occupation of Cuba

Washington, November 3.—Secretary Alger today issued the first order looking to the military occupation of Cuba by the United States troops. The order was issued only after very careful consideration of the report of the military board and other expert commissions which have been in the field. The order looks to the occupation of two points to begin with, namely, Neivitas and Puerto Principe, but the occupation will be extended as rapidly as the Spanish evacuation proceeds. The order directs the movement to begin at once, and according to the calculations of the military board, it will scarcely be feasible to make the first landing before the 22nd. Headquarters of the troops which have been created for the purpose of beginning the occupation will be at Neivitas under the command of General H. L. Carpenter.

To Slay Wrecker on Spanish Sunken Warships

Washington, November 3.—Secretary Long today afternoon that the government would take no further steps to raise the rest of the Spanish warships destroyed by Admiral Schley's fleet off the coast of Santiago, but that the government would receive propositions that end from any private firm that cared to undertake the work. He said that this determination was based upon the report of the board of construction which recently had a consultation on the subject with Naval Constructor Hobson. It is understood that there are two companies willing to undertake the work at their own risk, a Swedish company and the other company on the Pacific coast.