

Vick Backed by White Democrats

New Developments in the Contest Over the Post Office at Wilson-Geo. H. White in His Fighting Clothes

By T. J. J. PRINCE

Washington, Dec. 5.—Special.—Senator H. V. Wilson's colored postmaster arrived in Washington today, and he brought with him certificates of good character from leading citizens of the town, which will be placed before the president tomorrow.

After his arrival Vick called on leading colored men, with whom he was in consultation throughout the day. He saw Recorder Dancy, ex-Congressman George H. White, Whitfield McKinley and others. He did not seem to discuss his case. His papers were left with Geo. H. White, who announced that he would present him to the president tomorrow morning.

Wilson was working in another direction. The news was learned tonight that Senator Pritchard had telegraphed during the day for T. J. Sharpe, chief clerk under Marshal Dockery, who is a Wilson county man, and there was a rumor that the senator aimed for him to consult for Vick's position. While there is nothing against the character of O. B. Boykin, whom Senator Pritchard had already agreed upon as his choice for the appointment, the fact that he is in the same business, it is argued, would handicap him before the president. The senator has not indicated that he would drop Boykin but this probable contingency was suggested in several quarters today.

Friends of Vick assert that he made a great mistake in permitting George H. White to take an active part in his behalf. It is claimed that White does not stand well with the administration and that the ex-congressman's activity in his behalf has greatly lessened his chances of re-appointment.

At his office today, White had all the papers in the Vick case, and they certainly testified to the good character of the man and the high esteem in which he is held by the citizens of Wilson as an industrious, peaceable and respected citizen. Vick was not present, and White said he would give out the names of the men who certified to his good character so that the world would know what manner of man he was. He said Vick might not like his name, but he thought it proper. The letters were written largely by the merchants of Wilson. Nearly all of the writers stated that they are Democrats and that they wanted the president to understand that they were urging no one for appointment. Their point was that they took pleasure in certifying to Vick's high character as a citizen and his good record as postmaster.

Among those certifying to Vick's good character were State Senator J. E. Woodard, Solicitor C. C. Daniels, J. M. Pace, of the Farmers' Warehouse; M. B. Overman, Woodard & Gardner; J. T. Williams & Co., E. F. Nadal, druggist; Perry Taylor, George H. Hackney of Hackney Brothers; J. R. Ezzell, attorney; Oestricher Brothers; Rev. J. T. Farmer, William Farmer, T. E. Best & Co., C. E. Blount, J. S. Overman, F. L. Taylor, Pou & Finch, lawyers; S. A. Woodard, lawyer; George W. Connor, lawyer; Dr. Albert Anderson, Sheriff W. D. P. Sharpe, Clerk of the Court J. D. Borden and others.

One of the strongest letters in Vick's behalf was written by John W. Blount, whose father owned Vick's parents in the days of slavery. It brings out clearly the ante-bellum feeling entertained by southerners for a family slave. The letter follows:

Wilson, N. C., Dec. 4.

His Excellency, the President:

I am a citizen of Wilson, N. C. I am a white man and a Democrat, and as such I take pleasure in certifying to the high character of Samuel H. Vick as a citizen, and his efficiency as an official, as postmaster at this place. In the days of slavery his mother and grandmother belonged to my father. His mother was raised in the family

home by my mother, nursed me in my infancy; and as a model colored woman, a model as to honor, virtue and truth, she retained the kindly regard and good will of all the family all the days of her life.

The son, Samuel H. Vick, is daily exemplifying the principles of honor and uprightiness inculcated by his father and mother, and, aided by his intelligence, his exemplary habits and his polite and clever demeanor in public and private station, he has won the confidence of all classes of our people.

And as to these facts, I take very great pleasure in certifying.

Very respectfully,

JOHN W. BLOUNT.

Ex-Congressman White remarked that he did not see how the president could do otherwise than appoint Vick. "If," he said, "Senator Pritchard holds to his recent statement that he will be influenced by the sentiment of the people and the high character of the applicant in making recommendations for office, he cannot do otherwise than name Vick."

Whitfield McKinley, the negro banker, who entertains Booker Washington while here, said today that he did not believe the president would remove Vick.

Vick said today that he was not making his fight along with that of Dr. Crum, as has been suggested. He stated that he had done nothing in his own behalf save at his home. There was a report today that John S. Clarkson of New York had been wired to come to Washington and take the Vick case up with the president. Later it was stated that Clarkson had gone south to attend the bedside of a son who is ill.

Tonight it has been learned that an effort is being made to have Dr. Crum appointed United States marshal in South Carolina, the death of Marshal Cunningham having created another vacancy in the state. It is said that Crum has cleared up his record as a delegate to the national convention, and that he was enabled to do so through the influence of Senator McComas, who was one of the Harrison managers at the time.

National Capital Pick-ups

Senator Pritchard introduced Charles McNamee, manager of the Vanderbilt estate, Biltmore, in North Carolina, to the president today. Last September when the president reached Asheville on his southern tour Mr. McNamee showed the president's party all the wonders of the vast estate of Mr. Vanderbilt, and the president recalled the incident with pleasure. He spoke of the very great pleasure he had during his stay at Asheville.

Senator Pritchard went to the war department today in behalf of Dr. J. S. Shepperd of Fayetteville, surgeon on the Besche in the service of the geological survey, who has been dismissed for insubordination. It is Senator Pritchard's hope to have him reinstated, but the department would give him no assuring information.

Mr. and Mrs. Myron M. Parker have issued the cards for the wedding reception of their daughter Louise Levaun, and Mr. Edmond Spencer Blackburn, Thursday, December 18, from 1 to 3 o'clock at 1029 Vermont avenue. The ceremony precedes by a half hour, and will be witnessed by a family party and a few personal friends. The couple will reside at the Grafton, where they will keep the Tuesdays in January as her reception days.

Miss Louise K. Blount of North Carolina, who is employed in the treasury department, has received an increase of salary. The increase is from \$1,200 to \$1,400.

Private Patrick O'Brien, 102d company of coast artillery, having been tried by a general court martial convened at Fort Caswell, N. C., and found not guilty of desertion in violation of the 4th article of war, but guilty of absence without leave, was sentenced "to forfeit five dollars of his pay and directs that a stoppage of thirty dollars be entered opposite his name on the muster and pay rolls of his company, to reimburse the United States for the expense of his apprehension as an alleged deserter."

A civil service examination for the position of custodian of the marine biological station of the fish commission at Beaufort, N. C., it to be held January

6, 1903. The examination may be taken at Asheville, Charlotte, Raleigh or Wilmington. The salary is \$720 per annum. The fish commission states that a college graduate is preferred. There is chance of promotion.

Solicitor James McNeill is here. Fortunately it is a scientific possibility which can readily be made an actual fact by the simple process of affording necessary facilities for proper artillery training, and providing an adequate instrumental equipment together with a qualified personnel to manipulate the same."

In beginning his report, General MacArthur remarks that, as preliminary to the general discussion, it may be said that the United States in all warlike emergencies can rely absolutely upon everything possible of accomplishment by reason of the voluntary efforts of a practically inexhaustible number of courageous, self-respecting men, and may rely also upon everything that can be quickly produced by the employment of an unlimited supply of money.

"These indispensable elements of military power must always be a matter of great comfort to the nation," says General MacArthur, "but in the complacent contemplation thereof it must not be forgotten that the enthusiasm of the whole nation, supplemented by billions of wealth, cannot create on the instant anything in the production of which time is the essential element." He then commends the fortification work embraced in the maneuver district, and says that, so far as forts, guns, mortars and gun-carriages are concerned, the construction can go forward without any consideration of the possibility of their becoming obsolete within any reasonable time. He admits that some defects were brought to light by the maneuvers, but they are not of such vital importance as to retard the work of fortification construction, and he urges "that all projected coast defense works be hurried to completion as quickly as possible."

CLAIM TURNED DOWN

Architects of Congressional Library Have Been Paid Enough

Washington, Dec. 5.—It was expected that today's session of the House would be devoted to the consideration of what is known as the London dock bill, but the committee on claims declined to surrender its right under the rules to take up bills reported by it, and the House went into committee of the whole. Mr. Hemenway of Indiana is in the chair. On the private calendar Mr. Tawney of Minnesota, in charge of the London dock bill, which is the unfinished business on the House calendar when the call of committees shall have been reached, says that the withdrawal by the National Lumbermen's Association of its support will not interfere with the prosecution of the measure before the House.

Mr. Fletcher of Minnesota, of the Minneapolis district, said that the reason for the action of the Lumbermen's Association, in his opinion, was that the members must have received satisfactory concessions from the steamship companies.

After spending over two hours in debate, the House laid on the table, by a vote of 54 to 29, the claim of John L. Smithmeyer and Paul J. Pelz, amounting to \$50,000 for work in connection with the construction of the congressional library.

The bill was called up at the instance of Mr. Graft, chairman of the house committee on claims.

Mr. Graft spent considerable time in explaining the claim, and during this time he was questioned by Mr. Payne of New York, Mr. Cannon of Illinois and Mr. Mann of Illinois, which showed that there was decided opposition to favorable action. Speeches against the claim were made by Mr. Champ Clark of Missouri and Mr. Meyer of Indiana. Mr. Clark said that the architects mentioned in the claims had received \$15,000 for the original drawings and \$45,000 had been allowed them by the court of claims. In addition to this, they had received salaries in connection with the work which brought their total compensation up to \$83,000. His contention was that after the court of claims had adjudicated and allowed \$45,000, which had been accepted by the claimants, congress was setting a dangerous precedent by opening up the case for a further allowance.

Mr. Cannon seconded Mr. Clark's statement in this respect, and after some discussion a rising vote was taken with the result as given above.

The first bill passed was an omnibus measure reported by the committee on foreign affairs, authorizing officers and employees of the United States to accept presents and decorations.

Ten bills were reported to the House with favorable recommendation and passed, and nine others were laid on the table. At 4:05 the House adjourned until tomorrow.

LITTLEFIELD'S BILL

The House Committee Going Ahead with a Trust Measure

Washington, Dec. 5.—Determined action along the line of the president's recommendations regarding trusts in his recent message continues, and today the sub-committee of the house judiciary committee having trust leg-

islation under consideration, reported favorably to the full committee the publicity bill.

This bill, known as the Littlefield anti-trust measure, requires inter-state corporations to make full annual reports to the government. The bill was amended requiring the report to be made to the inter-state commerce commission. Last year's bill provided for reports to the secretary of the treasury.

A sub-committee was appointed to consider all trust bills, composed of Messrs. Littlefield of Maine, (Republican); Overstreet of Indiana, (Republican); DeArmond of Missouri (Democrat), and Clayton of Alabama, (Democrat). The committee will again take up the Littlefield and other bills at a meeting tomorrow.

Million Dollar Mill

Charlotte, N. C., Dec. 5.—Special.—At the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Lockhart cotton mills, held at Spartanburg today, it was decided to increase the capital stock for the purpose of building a quarter of a million dollar cotton mill. The capital of this mill will now be a million.

Charge Against a Doctor

Charlotte, N. C., Dec. 5.—Special.—Through their report to Judge Coble, in the superior court today, the jury brought charges of neglect of duty against the county physician. The jury declares that the inmates of the home are suffering from the want of medical attention. The report created a mild sensation.

Arguing for Gold Standard

Washington, Dec. 5.—General Wright appeared before the insular affairs committee today and urged the passage of a bill establishing the gold standard in the Philippines. The provision relating to a monetary standard was eliminated from the Philippine civil government bill which passed congress late last session, for the reason that the senate and house were unable to agree, the senate favoring a silver and the house a gold standard.

WANTS TO BUY BANKS

Seaboard Air Line After the Traders' National

Washington, Dec. 5.—An effort is being made by the Seaboard Air Line to obtain control of the Traders' National bank. The negotiations, which have quietly been in progress for several weeks, are being conducted personally by John S. Williams, president of the road. The original purpose to buy in all stock offered proving ineffectual, Mr. Williams, through his attorney, has approached the directors with a letter asking if a proposition for control or for intimate identification with the bank will be considered. The matter is still under consideration by the board.

The purpose of the Seaboard Air Line in attempting to secure control of the bank is in line with a policy recently adopted to secure control of a series of banks with the purpose of developing certain business of the line. Banks have already been secured in Baltimore, Lynchburg, Leesburg and many other places that can control business for the line.

The directors of the bank control a majority of the stock.

MYSTERY CLEARED

Supposed Murder Proves to Be a Case of Suicide

New York, Dec. 5.—The mystery in the death of George F. Leyh the aged truss maker of 73 Broadway, Brooklyn, who died in his store on Tuesday morning after drinking a bottle of poisoned beer, was possibly cleared up today when Joseph A. Baltzer, an electrician of 151 Broadway, an old friend of the dead man, came forward with a belated statement that on the morning of Leyh's death he gave the old man several ounces of deadly poison, sal-amoniac, although at the time he had no idea why Leyh wanted it.

The police had scouted the idea of suicide because there seemed to be nothing on which to hang such a theory save that at times in the past three years Leyh had shown signs of extreme grief over the death of his wife. Incidentally it may be said that the police had absolutely no hand in clearing up the mystery. They were putting the boy, Robert Westphal, whom they caught in his home early this morning, through the third degree when a newspaper with Mr. Baltzer's statement in it was handed to them. After reading it they let the Westphal boy go home with his father and announced that there was nothing more for them to do.

Members of Leyh's family said today that they had believed all along that he killed himself, because they knew he had fits of depression at times over his wife's death, and that during the week before his own death he was unusually despondent.

Young Westphal returned to his home at 5 o'clock this morning and was promptly gathered by the police. The lad declared that he did not run away, but that he had business in Manhattan to attend to and that was why he left the back door of Leyh's store as the detectives entered through the front.

Tempests Raging on Sea and Land

Ships Wrecked and Sailors Lost on the North Carolina Coast--A Blizzard Moving to Mid-ocean

Beaufort, N. C., Dec. 5.—Special.—The gale last night was very severe here. Several small boats were wrecked and wharves were blown away. A small yacht on the way to Wilmington was a total wreck. The telephone line to Cape Lookout was blown down and nothing can be heard from there today. Several vessels were in the hook of the cape. The schooner Ida Lawrence lost her rudder Thursday. Her cargo is coal. The schooner Warren Adams is in Lookout light. The schooner is all right.

The bark Oliver Thurlow, which was stranded Sunday night, broke to pieces last night. The cook was killed by a falling mast and another man had his back broken. Five of the crew were rescued. Capt. Hayes of the Thurlow had his leg broken in three places below the knee. The captain set his own leg. He was brought here where he received medical attention and is now at the Russell House. The Thurlow was loaded with lumber at Charleston and was bound to New York. The ship broke while her gear was being set. The captain had advised her owners to tow her to her destination.

Schooner Lost on Hatteras

Washington, Dec. 5.—The weather bureau received a telegram today from the observer at Cape Hatteras, N. C., stating that the four-masted schooner Wesley M. Oler went ashore at Hatteras inlet early this morning during the southwest storm.

The telegram said: "She was foundering in the surf one mile off shore until 8:20, when the last mast went over, carrying with it probably the last man of the crew. Almost immediately the vessel went to pieces. No freight or wreckage has as yet worked ashore. The life saving crew could do nothing to save the crew of the vessel. No bodies have as yet been washed ashore. At 12 noon the wind was still blowing at the rate of 40 miles an hour from the southwest."

Later reports from Hatteras state that the three-masted schooner Ida Lawrence, coal laden, went ashore on Ocracoke shoal during the storm, and after lashing her rudder drifted off. The anchor was let go to prevent her going ashore, but finding the vessel was making water, the crew took to the boat. They drifted up the coast and were rescued this afternoon by the Green Hill life saving men. The vessel has since dragged her anchor, and at the time the report was sent was half way up to the Hatteras station.

Hurricane Off the Coast

Norfolk, Va., Dec. 5.—Last night's storm off this coast was a very heavy blow. The wind blew in the city at the rate of sixty miles an hour, and down off Cape Hatteras and Henry it was a howling hurricane. There was little warning of the storm and the shipping was largely in it. The schooners and other small craft are jolting into port today after a fierce tussle with the storm. The Washington and Baltimore steamers got the full benefit of the gale and were delayed. The steamer Pennsylvania also got in late after a rough passage from Cape Charles.

Some concern is felt for the safety of the government collier Arethusa, bound south with coal for the fleet under Admiral Dewey. She was reported off Cape Henry at 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon, and it is hoped that she was safely past Cape Hatteras before the storm struck her. She undoubtedly had a hard time, however. She is not a very large ship.

Trees were uprooted in Norfolk and Portsmouth, and in the latter city a large building under construction was blown down. The lines to Cape Hatteras are down, and consequently no news of any damage to shipping at that point has been received. Shipping agents will be worried until news is received of the safety of craft in which they are interested. Telegraph communication from Norfolk was interrupted and the dragging anchors of harbor craft cut the cable of one telephone company between Portsmouth and Norfolk.

No loss of life is reported.

Dangerous Sailing for Ocean Steamers

Washington, Dec. 5.—Vessels leaving European ports today for New York will encounter in mid-ocean a storm which will take rank with some of the worst in history. Warnings were today cabled to the principal steamship lines telling them what may be expected affording an opportunity for precautionary measures against dangers at sea. Notwithstanding these warnings the gravest apprehension is entertained for the safety of such vessels as must cope with the storm.

The storm is the same that passed over this city today. It started on the Texas coast Wednesday morning, was central over Alabama yesterday, and

today is over New Jersey. It is passing directly northeast to the Nova Scotia coast and increasing its intensity with every mile of progress.

It was reported today by Professor Gariol of the weather bureau, that the storm would increase in intensity, assuming the proportions of a raging blizzard before reaching the Newfoundland coast. All now lacking is low temperature to place it in that storm category. It has both the snow and the velocity.

Snow and Sleet in the North

New York, Dec. 5.—A snow and sleet storm delayed traffic in New York today. The service on the elevated lines was seriously interfered with and communication between uptown and downtown by means of the surface lines was very slow and difficult.

Dispatches from all parts of this state show that the storm is prevailing everywhere with varying severity. At Albany the snow fall is very heavy and all trains are reported from one to five hours late. Blizzard conditions prevail at Saratoga, Newburgh and other places in the east and north part of the state. From Rochester to Buffalo the storm is much milder. In this city the storm developed into a blizzard as the day drew. About an inch of snow fell during the forenoon. Sound steamers arrived several hours late and their officers reported the storm very heavy up the sound.

Freezing Weather in the South

Memphis, Tenn., Dec. 5.—The rain and sleet of last night in the vicinity of Memphis was absent today, but the weather was colder and telegraph companies reported that communication with southern and western points is uncertain. Reports from Arkansas and Texas state that freezing weather prevails. The cold wave reaches as far south as Palestine, Texas, with heavy frost at Galveston, Houston and Beaumont.

Severe at Washington

Washington, Dec. 5.—A severe wind and snow storm visited this city last night and early this morning. Damage to telegraph and telephone wires is reported.

A Taste of Real Winter

New York, Dec. 5.—The storm, which began with rain Thursday evening and turned to sleet during the night, was a full-fledged snow storm this morning. Less than an inch fell, but the fifty mile gale that came with it made it seem like a blizzard. It was the sleet that did the most harm. It interrupted the telephone and telegraph service and what was worse practically put the elevated railroads out of business for several hours. This was because ice formed on the third rail. Passengers on the elevated found they could not get down town and deserted to the surface cars by wholesale. This hampered the street cars. The storm interfered a good deal with traffic on the bridge during the rush hours. The sleet made the trolley rails so slippery that cars could with difficulty get up the incline so that for a while passengers were transferred to bridge trains.

The telegraph companies both reported damage from the storm. In the morning the trouble was principally between Philadelphia and Washington. No place of any importance was cut off because the storm kept to the coast.

The storm itself did not amount to much except for the gale. Had the storm not been such a swiftly moving one New York, according to Forecaster Emery, would have been treated to the real thing in the line of snow storms. But it moved so fast that by noon it had washed its hands of New York and was hurrying along down east. Tonight it is between Portland and Boston and reports were coming in from that section of wires being down and a lot of damage being done. The storm area extended inland as far as Cincinnati, where they had rain. More snow fell up the state than in this city. It will be succeeded, Mr. Emery said, by a drop in temperature and freezing weather for at least thirty-six hours. There is no other storm in sight, however.

The cold snap made the coal situation in this city more acute than at any other time during the coal strike or since it ended. The retail price jumped \$2 a ton, then dealers admitted that they had coal for sale. Dealers who were asked about this said that on account of the increased demand they had to buy from speculators and individual operators, who managed somehow to secure coal and had taken advantage of the cold snap to put on the screws.

As a result of the storm that passed over Yonkers the shores of the Hudson from near Dobbs Ferry to a point below Yonkers on both sides of the river are full of wreckage, and about twenty canal boats are on the shores. Two men are in the Dobbs Ferry hospital suffering from cold and exposure; two are known to have been drowned and two more are missing.

Sheriff J. R. Milliken of Chatham county, passed through the city yesterday on his way to Goldsboro with an insane negro woman for the state hospital for colored insane.

Seaboard May Be Made Secure Against Attack

What We Need is Drilled and Trained Men to Make the Big Guns Hit Every Time

Washington, Dec. 5.—The report of General Arthur MacArthur, formerly in command of the department of the west, in regard to the joint army and navy maneuvers of last September, has just been made public at the war department.

General MacArthur reviews the operations of the army and navy and remarks upon the state of the coast

defense system, concluding with the statement that when all projected works are completed and armed, "the coast line of the United States will be practically impregnable against any hostile attack, provided the guns can be properly manned and the fire action thereof can be developed to the full limit of useful effect."

He says: "Considering all the elements that enter into the transaction, even the ordinary practice fire of a big power gun is an event of national importance. In war there is absolutely no margin for a high power coast defense gun missing. To be effective to the end in view, nearly every shot must be a hit. Such a condition of utility does not at present exist, but