

# WILLIARD DEFEATS JACK JOHNSON

## Black Champion Loses Title in Twenty-six Round Battle

Jack Johnson lost his title as heavy weight champion of the world to Jess Willard, a Kansas cowboy, in a twenty six round fight at Havana, Cuba, Monday.

The new champion had none of the skill of his black antagonist, but he had youth and strength and endurance to spare. For twenty rounds Willard was a punching bag for Johnson's rain of blows, but the white man stood all the punishment that Johnson could inflict and asked for more. When the big black showed signs of weakening and the confident smile with which he began changed to a look of puzzled wonder at his opponents ability to withstand his blows, Willard stepped in and began to force the fighting. For three or four rounds there was little doing on either side, but in the twenty fifth Willard landed on Johnson's heart with a blow that shook the negro and set his legs trembling. The knockout came in the next round with a blow to Johnson's jaw.

There is doubt whether the black fighter stood up to his opponent to the limit of his endurance or not. He was able to rise to his feet unaided when he had been counted out and many observers thought that he had given up the idea of knocking his man out and when floored took the count rather than submit to further punishment.

The following is the Virginian Pilot's account of the last round of the battle:

Johnson rose slowly from his chair and Willard met him more than two thirds of the way across the ring. Willard stabbed a long left into the negro's face, sending his head bobbing back. Before the champion could recover his position Willard swung a smashing right which landed full on Johnson's stomach. Johnson was flung against the ropes by the force of the blow and he clinched on the rebound.

The cowboy tried to tear loose but the black man held grimly with eyes closed and legs shaking. Just before the referee broke them Johnson looked over Willard's shoulder toward the box where his wife had been, his eyes showing a dazed, tired, puzzled expression.

As soon as Welch had broken the clinch Jess rushed again, forcing the negro into Willard's corner, where the finish came. Johnson was slow in guarding and his strong youthful opponent hooked a swinging left to the body. The fading champion's legs quivered and again the towering giant fainted for the body. Johnson dropped his guard and Willard won his title with a quick, hard swing to the point of the jaw.

The negro's knees folded up under him, he sank slowly to the floor and rolled over on his back, partly under the ropes.

Welch waved Willard back and began to count. Up and down went the referee's hand but Johnson never moved. His eyes were glassy, only the white visible.

At the count of ten Welch turned and held up Willard's

hand and a new champion replaces Johnson, who was still stretched on the floor of the ring. Time of round, 1 minute, 26 seconds.

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### NORTH CAROLINA

#### PASQUOTANK COUNTY.

SUPERIOR COURT  
September Term 1915

J. H. Brown

vs.

Bernice Brown.

#### NOTICE OF SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

To Bernice Brown, Defendant.

You are hereby notified and will take notice, that an action entitled as above has been commenced in the Superior Court of Pasquotank County, N. C., by J. H. Brown against Bernice Brown. The purpose of said action being to secure a dissolution of the bonds of matrimony now existing between plaintiff and defendant.

You are further notified that you are required to appear at the next term of Superior Court of Pasquotank County, N. C., to be held at Elizabeth City, N. C., on Monday the Twentieth day of September 1915 and answer or demur to the complaint of the plaintiff, or relief demanded therein will be granted.

Witness my hand this April 5th 1915.

G. R. LITTLE,  
Clerk Superior Court  
Pasquotank County.

ROSCOE W. TURNER,  
Attorney for Plaintiff  
4t apr 9-16-23-30

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**W.P.KNOWLES**