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Thomas as well.

It was to Mr. Duncan that the governor said that he is satisfied that service of any part of the sentence was not needed for any reforming or deterring effect on Thomas and then asked Mr. Duncan as to any necessity for service of sentence as maintenance of a healthy public sentiment and policy. Mr. Duncan assured the governor that nobody but Thomas and his family have suffered by the action of Thomas and that the bank was in better condition than ever and the people are unit in anxiety for the pardon for Thomas. He said there was no politics in the case, but that it was certain that Beaufort, normally democratic, had gone republican largely as resentment for official conduct of some in office that had brought about the banking troubles for Thomas as a big-hearted and possibly too easily influenced a cashier.

E. H. Gorham, well-known banker, pleaded for Thomas and explained to the governor the complicated and correlated cogs in bank accounting that make possible and in a manner super-induce trouble such as that of Thomas, especially under the peculiar circumstances that controlled this case in which there were complicated relations between Cashier Thomas, his father, Alonzo Thomas, as county treasurer, and other high officials of the county in settlement and maintenance of accounts and balances. He pleaded at length for the pardon.

In summing up the situation Lary Moore made some further explanation of the peculiar conditions that super-induced the tangle into which Thomas was drawn and told the governor that Thomas, himself was in the city and would come to the executive offices for a conference if the governor desired to talk with him. The hearing continued from 10 to nearly 2 o'clock and was characterized by recitals of fact and appeals for leniency that brought frequent tears to the eyes of participants and spectators. The indications are that the pardon will be granted.

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Monster Petition and Big Delegation Before the Governor.

FOR BANK CASHIER

Thomas Thomas, of Beaufort, Was the Victim of Circumstances.

Raleigh, N. C., May 4.—In the presence of the tearful wife of the condemned man a big delegation of Carteret county citizens, backed by a monster petition including nearly ninety per cent of the qualified voters of the section, pleaded with Governor Bickett for executive clemency to save Thomas Thomas, of Beaufort, from convict stripes and the service of any part of the two year's sentence imposed by Judge Stacy last March for the embezzlement of \$62,000 from the Bank of Beaufort, of which he was cashier.

An unusual condition was presented that constrained the governor, toward the close of the hearing to declare that he is satisfied that service of any part of the sentence is not needed so far as its rectifying or deterring effect on Thomas, but that he was considering especially the question of necessity for the sentence to be put into effect as a public policy impressing the detaint of punishment in such cases. The impression prevails that the pardon will be granted, that the sentence will not become operative May 15, to which time a sixty-day respite was granted pending action as to pardon.

Lary I. Moore, Col. P. M. Pearsoll, J. H. Davis and Judge C. H. Gufon headed the delegation and others included, L. C. Duncan, Raleigh, one of the directors of the bank; J. F. Duncan, W. M. Webb, Clerk of the Court Wade, Mayor Seth Gibbs, of Beaufort; E. H. Gorham, and others. Every phase of this remarkable case was reviewed by the numerous speakers to show that Thomas was the victim of circumstances and anything but an intentional criminal in the bank shortage that developed through book-keeping that involved the bank accounts and the county trusteeship held for many years by the father of Mr. Thomas. A splendid manly career was shown for Thomas and remarkable popularity and universal confidence in spite of the shortage, which, is being fully met by the family so that no one is to lose by the shortage except the family.

E. C. Duncan, in a special statement to the governor, said the bank officers were all especially anxious for the pardon and that the bank has not suffered the least bit by the affair. In fact, that deposits are now the largest in the history of the bank and that there is the highest confidence in the bank and in Thomas

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