12 PAGES

THE RICHMOND DISPATCH

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DEATH AWAITS HIM.

The Negro Higginbotham Has Confessed His Awful Crime.

GUARDED BY THE MILITIA.

Troops Ordered Out by Gov. Montague to Protect Prisoner.

TAKEN BACK TO LYNCHBURG.

He Arrived There Early This Morning—Danville Citizens Summoned as Jurors to Try the Fiend—What the Negro Says About His Movements After His Hideous Deed—Was Indicted Yesterday.

LYNCHBURG, VA., January 22.—(Special.)—There will be eight military companies in Lynchburg to-morrow, in connection with the trial of Higginbotham. They will be the Lynchburg Home Guard, the Danville Light Infantry, the West Augusta Rifles, and the Staunton Rifles, of Staunton; the Monticello Guards, of Charlottesville; the Hoge Tyler Rifles, of Pulaski, and the Blues and Light Infantry, of Roanoke. These companies will arrive here between 1 and 3 o'clock in the morning, the troops from Roanoke and Pulaski guarding the prisoner. The latter will be brought on a special, running as the second section of a regular Norfolk and Western train. It is to arrive between 2 and 3 o'clock.

COLONEL PERRY IN COMMAND.

The troops will be under command of Lieutenant-Colonel William J. Perry, of Staunton, with Major Stanley W. Martin, of Danville, second in command.

Soldiers are guarding the Union Station, to prevent any crowd from assembling at that spot. During the trial, pickets of soldiers will prevent persons from approaching within two hundred feet of the court-house or jail.

A special venire of twenty men has been summoned from Danville, and if the court should fail to secure a jury from this number, some delay in the proceedings may result.

THE CITY QUIET.

At 1 o'clock the city is quiet, with no indications of trouble.

The Danville company arrived, over the Southern railway, at 2 o'clock, and the Staunton and Charlottesville companies half an hour later. The trial will begin to-morrow at 10 o'clock.

FIRST STEP IN TRIAL.

Special Grand Jury Finds True Bill—More of Negro's Confession.

LYNCHBURG, VA., January 22.—(Special.)—The first step in the trial of Joe Higginbotham, the negro who criminally assaulted and attempted to murder Mrs. Ralph Webber here on January 11th, was taken this morning at 10 o'clock.

Judge Christian has held the Corporation Court open from day to day in order to be prepared to deal promptly with the case. When court convened this morning, only the officials, witnesses, and two or three spectators were present. A special grand jury, composed of seven well-known white citizens and one colored man, was empanelled.

They were charged by the Judge in the usual manner, and retired to their room, where they heard the testimony of five witnesses—Miss Mildred Cabell, Dr. Samuel Lile, Police Sergeant John M. Seay, and Policemen James Watts and E. A. Blankenship.

Miss Cabell it was who saw Higginbotham jump the fence in the rear of the Webber residence on the morning of the crime.

Dr. Lile, who is Mrs. Webber's physician, and Sergeant Seay were present in Roanoke jail last night when the prisoner was identified by Mrs. Webber, and to Dr. Lile the negro made his confession.

After about half an hour the grand jury reported a true bill against Higginbotham for rape. The whole proceeding was carried out in a very business-like manner.

PARTICULARS OF THE CONFESSION.

Further particulars of the negro's confession in Roanoke jail last night were learned to-day. When Dr. Lile returned to the cell after having been informed of Higginbotham's desire to confess the crime, the negro said he was guilty; that he had been plotting for several days to commit the crime, for which he was now sorry. He did not know what possessed him.

The prisoner did not go into all the horrible details of the crime, nor was he asked. It was sufficient that he said he had committed it.

THE ROUTE TAKEN WHEN FLYING.

Asked as to which way he went after the assault, he said he went down to Taylor street, and that Miss Cabell did see him that morning as he jumped the fence. From Taylor street he went to the railroad; then on to the cotton-mill, but soon returned by way of Camp Davis to the school-house, where he changed his clothes—those found in the boiler-room by Officers Watts and Blankenship being the ones he took off.

SAW THE DOCTOR ATTENDING HER.

Incidentally, he also mentioned the fact that the knife found stained with blood was the weapon he used on Mrs. Webber's throat. After changing his clothes the man went into the street and watched Dr. Lile, while he was sewing up the wounds in Mrs. Webber's throat. Joe is positive he did not go near the Presbyterian Cemetery, and if the route described by him is really the one he took, the bloodhounds got on the wrong trail.

Some of those who heard his confession are of the opinion that he did not tell the truth about it, but others believe he did, and that the dogs were unable to find the tracks.

HE COMMITTED ROBBERY, TOO.

Regarding the Home and Retreat robbery, he owned having committed it, and said that the gold watch stolen, which he is thought to have sent to his girl in the North, would be found in the basement of the school; but the prisoner did not state where.

He emphatically disclaimed having robbed Mrs. John W. Carroll of her tin box containing valuable jewelry, watches, and money, and said that he was not the man who went into the home of Mrs. Farrar, on Grace street, in the daytime and stole a ring and some money.

A matter that had puzzled Dr. Lile and the officers was as to what disposition Joe had made of the sleeves he cut or tore off his shirt in the jail after his arrest. This he explained by saying that he had thrown them into the jail sink because they were bloody.

Higginbotham is expected to arrive here under military guard some time before morning for trial to-morrow.

STAUNTON MILITARY CALLED.

Sent to Lynchburg to Prevent Violence to Higgenbotham.

STAUNTON, VA., January 22.—(Special.)—Under orders from State Adjutant-General Nalle, the Staunton military companies, the West Augusta Guards, commanded by Captain Carter Braxton, and the Staunton Rifles, commanded by Captain Rudolph Bumgardner, left to-night at 7:39 via the Chesapeake and Ohio and Charlottesville for Lynchburg.

Lieutenant-Colonel William J. Perry is in command, and the two Staunton companies of 125 men will be in his charge at Lynchburg.

With other military, they will attempt to stop any mob violence at Lynchburg against the negro Joe Higginbotham, charged with criminal assault on Mrs. Webber.

Though, technically speaking, the orders to proceed to Lynchburg came from Adjutant-General Nalle, Governor Montague has been communicating to-day with the Staunton military.

The Staunton companies will reach Lynchburg, where Higginbotham, the accused, is supposed to be, at 1 o'clock to-night.

Yesterday Hon. J. C. Featherstone described to your correspondent the terror that existed among the women of Lynchburg and Campbell county. They are wild with fear, and the police office at Lynchburg is besieged with applications for individual police protection.

DANVILLE JURY TO TRY HIM.

Higginbotham Will Not Be Tried by Lynchburgers—Military Called.

DANVILLE, VA., January 22.—(Special.) This city will not only furnish a military company to protect Joseph Higginbotham, who assaulted Mrs. Webber, in Lynchburg, but the jury into whose hands the fate of the negro is to be placed, will come from Danville.

Sergeant Johnson, of Lynchburg, was here to-day, and summoned the following well-known citizens to appear before the Judge of the Corporation Court of that city to-morrow morning to serve as jurors: Messrs. G. G. Temple, W. W. Waddill, Theo. Royalty, A. Wildman, W. G. Swanson, L. G. Martin, R. T. Vaden, W. E. Cook, B. S. Motley, George F. Rathvon, J. B. Powell, T. R. Young, L. A. Francisco, J. L. Cruse, R. E. Tobin, J. W. Turbiville, W. H. Lipscomb, H. O. Eans, and J. D. Enright.

The soldiers assembled at the Armory under command of Captain Shadrach at an early hour to-night, and at 11 o'clock they left over the Southern railway for Lynchburg.

ROANOKE JAIL GUARDED.

Precautions Taken There—Admissions of His Guilt.

ROANOKE, VA., January 22.—(Special.)—To-night the Roanoke jail was surrounded by two details from the two Roanoke military companies, as a matter of precaution to protect Joe Higganbotham, the assailant of Mrs. Webber.

The negro confessed the crime last night, and said to-day that he was awaiting the action of the law. Higganbotham declared his guilt, but when asked as to why he cut Mrs. Webber's throat, he said he preferred not to talk about the horrible affair. When asked if he would make any defence in court, he replied that he was in the hands of the law, and awaited the jury's verdict, acknowledging his guilt.

He was taken to Lynchburg at 12:30 to-night under guard of the Roanoke Light Infantry, Roanoke Blues and the Pulaski Rifles. There was no demonstration here, and but few were out to witness his departure.

SOLDIER GUARD OF 400.

Nine Military Companies Ordered to Assemble at Lynchburg.

There will be nine companies of military in Lynchburg by daylight this morning to prevent the people from taking the law into their own hands and wreaking vengeance on Higganbotham when he is brought back there from Roanoke for trial to-day.

The utmost secrecy has been observed by the Governor in arranging for the troops to be sent there, and he has all along declined to state what companies he had ordered to the scene. The Dispatch can state, however, that orders were issued to the following companies to proceed to Lynchburg and guard the prisoner:

Company K, Seventieth Regiment, Staunton; Staunton Rifles, unattached; Company D, Charlottesville; Company M, Seventieth Regiment, Danville; Hoge Tyler Rifles, Pulaski; Roanoke Light Infantry, Roanoke, Seventieth Regiment; Roanoke Blues, Seventieth Regiment, and, of course, Company E, of Lynchburg.

Lieutenant-Colonel Perry, of the Seventieth Regiment, will be in command of the troops, and Major Stanley Martin, of Danville, will be the next in command. There will be about four hundred men under arms about the jail. The troops were ordered to proceed to Lynchburg on the regular trains, and were expected to reach there by 2 o'clock this morning. It is presumed that the two Roanoke companies will accompany the prisoner from that city.

ANOTHER VICTIM OF AN "UNLOADED" PISTOL.

Rex Thomas, of Greene County, the Unfortunate—How He Lost His Life.

QUINQUE, VA., January 21.—(Special.)—The untimely death of Rex Thomas cast a shadow of gloom over the town of Standardsville and brought irreparable sorrow into the home of Mr. R. S. Thomas, a prominent attorney.

Young Thomas was employed in a commissary store in West Virginia, when a companion picked up a pistol which had been lying around, and, playfully pointing at Thomas's breast, told him to "Watch out." Then the man instantly pulled the trigger and fired a bullet through Thomas's heart. The unfortunate young man fell back dead.

A physician was at once called in, but as he could do Thomas no good, his attention was directed to the young man, Cole, who had played the sad part in the tragedy. He suffered agonies over his terrible carelessness.

The body was shipped to Barboursville and met by the sorrowing father. The remains were buried in Stanardsville on the 15th instant.

Smith Thomas, another son of the bereaved parent, died away from home a few years ago, but was not brought home for burial.

Oscar Douglass, of Orange county died and was buried on the 18th. Four of his children are now quite sick. His sister, Mrs. Clarke, is also ill and at the point of death. Three of the children of a brother, John Douglass, of Ruckersville, have the pneumonia, and one of those is in imminent danger of death. So said a prominent physician yesterday.

Mrs. Betsy Mallory is also seriously sick at Quinque, and Mr. N. B. Early, who has been so repeatedly spoken of in this correspondence, is growing worse.

The mining men have resumed operations in the Blue Ridge, and a new find will be worked on the pike, some six miles above Stanardsville, where a large saw-mill is now at work on the lumber for the houses.

Greene county is now principally an agricultural section, except in and about the mountains, which constitutes about one-half its area.

Mrs. Mittie Durrer had a fall by which the end of her nose was mashed off. The doctor sewed it back again.

DIFFICULT TO PLACE.

Large Concerns Find Trouble in Securing Fire Protection.

INSURANCE PEOPLE WARY.

This State of Affairs Deplored, as Affecting Future of the City.

A. T. COMPANY AND TRIGG WORKS.

These Among the Establishments Who Are Finding It an Embarrassing Matter to Secure Sufficient Insurance at Reasonable Rates—Other Big Houses Also Experience the Same Difficulty.

The American Tobacco Company, the William R. Trigg Company, and other large purchasers of fire insurance protection, including big dry-goods establishments, are finding it difficult to secure sufficient insurance in view of the conditions which obtain at this time in the insurance market.

While those in touch with the situation are apprehensive that a general raise in local insurance quotations all along the line will follow the report of Inspector Johnson, of the National Underwriters' Association, unless the force of his conclusions is anticipated by prompt and vigorous action on the part of the city government, this is a danger of the future, and can be averted.

The embarrassment of several large local insurers at this time in the matter of securing a sufficient line of insurance arises from two causes, local and general. The large fire losses in Richmond have made the insurance companies much more conservative in their placing of risks hereabouts. In cases where a year or two ago a company was willing to place as much as $8,000, it is now naming $5,000 as its maximum. Five thousand dollar policies are expiring and the companies are replying to inquiries concerning renewal that $3,000, of $3,500, or $4,000, is really as much as they can place at risk on that property.

FORCED TO THE WALL.

Two more fire insurance companies, the Citizens and the Eagle, went out of business last week, reinsuring their risks in other companies. Twenty-five companies have passed into liquidation and quit the business in the past twelve months. This very considerably reduces the number of companies doing business in this country. Its immediate effect can be illustrated in this fashion: The owner of a $50,000 property purchases insurance of a local company or agency. This company or agency at once looks about for other companies in which to reinsure about $45,000 of this amount. With the decrease in the number of available companies it has been increasingly difficult to divide up insurance risks after the fashion which is the rule in the fire insurance business. While these conditions have not rendered the placing of insurance risks of moderate size difficult, in the case of the American Tobacco Company and the Continental Tobacco Company, whose enormous warehouses are stored with costly tobacco, especially full at this time, and whose property at risk is valued at over $3,000,000, it is, and has been, exceedingly hard to place full lines of insurance.

The importance of fire protection and low insurance rates where tobacconists are concerned are not fully appreciated. These two kindred factors have been largely operative in bringing about the great development of the American Tobacco Company's plant and property in Richmond. Because of the belief that good fire protection was afforded, and at a low insurance rate, Richmond has been made the largest storage depot of this corporation, rather than Danville or Lynchburg or some point in the Carolinas. If it is established that good fire protection is not afforded in Richmond and the rates change from low to high, the whole attitude of the company with reference to Richmond may be reversed. Under no circumstances will this company store tobacco at a point at which insurance cannot be satisfactorily secured. A very large number of the American Tobacco Company's policies expire in the next few months. Their renewal upon satisfactory terms is a matter of importance to the city.

TWO OTHER CONCERNS.

Other large concerns, which are finding it difficult to place full lines of insurance, are the Hasker-Marcuse branch of the American Can Company and a big Broad-street house. The values at risk in each instance are about $200,000, and for their placing some forty companies are necessary—no easy matter to find at this time.

With the William R. Trigg Company the situation is somewhat different, and even more important. Its buildings and machinery are insured in the usual way in American and English companies, and for them satisfactory insurance can be obtained without great difficulty. The government, however, requires all shipbuilders to carry a full insurance on all boats in process of construction, and as the number of ship-yards in America is comparatively small, this insurance is handled exclusively by English companies.

WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN.

Should these companies become dissatisfied with the reports of fire losses in Richmond, and nothing is more certain than that their central offices in London keep in close touch with the situation in Richmond and every other city around the world in which they have large values at risk, and should they put Richmond on their prohibitive list, the net result of the situation would be that the Trigg Company would be unable to handle government contracts, and would be compelled either to leave Richmond or give up all government work.

This statement of the case, in view of Inspector Johnson's relation to the English as well as the American companies, accentuates the importance of his visit to Richmond at this time.

He is making a thorough study of the situation, and will remain for some time longer. Yesterday he spent with Superintendent Bolling, of the Water-Works.

MR. M'CARTHY READY TO FIRE A BROADSIDE

Sinking Fund Commissioners, and One of Their Recent Transactions, Will Be Touched on in Academy Speech.

A special meeting of the Board of Sinking Fund Commissioners has been called for to-day at noon to receive the opinion of the City Attorney upon the question that was referred to him at a recent meeting of that body.

The board recently sold a block of State bonds held by the city as a part of the sinking fund, realizing thereon a good margin of profit. Upon inquiring into the matter the board found that Chapter 19, Section 6, of the City Code provides that "All such bonds or certificates, whether of the city, the State of Virginia, or of the United States, shall be held by the board until some part of the city debt shall become due, when, so far as may become necessary, they shall be sold and the proceeds applied to the redemption of the city debt."

Mr. Carlton McCarthy, the City Accountant, is of the opinion that the board had no right to make the sale. He does not criticise the commissioners, but censures the Mayor for failing, as he claims, in seeing to it that the laws were properly enforced and obeyed. When asked how the Mayor could have blocked the sale, Mr. McCarthy replied that the Mayor should have refused to sign the minutes or declined to append his signature to the papers making the transfer of the bonds.

In Mr. McCarthy's opinion the question put to the City Attorney, in substance, amounts to about this: What is the relation of the Board of Sinking Fund Commissioners to the Council? Is the board subject to the Council or independent? In the event of the City Attorney's opinion either way, Mr. McCarthy says he can give the board and its president "Hail Columbia." In fact, the City Accountant and candidate for mayoralty honors says frankly that he doesn't care a rap which way the City Attorney decides, as he has ammunition in readiness in either event. The defence made for the board, that it made something for the city by its deal, fails to go with Mr. McCarthy, for he holds that the plain provision of the law is that the commissioners are to be investors and not speculators.

This subject will furnish one of the features of Mr. McCarthy's address at the Academy of Music on Friday night, and he promises to address himself to a discussion of sinking funds and presidents of boards of sinking funds and other kindred topics in a fashion that will make things lively. In general terms, Mr. McCarthy will develop in his speech his views concerning the business and financial phases of the municipal government. He will have a large audience, probably one that will be limited only by the standing-room capacity of the Academy. Every body wants to hear what the strenuous rival candidate of the Mayor has to say, and the Academy meeting will present the opportunity.

J. L. PEARCE'S DEATH A MYSTERY IN NORFOLK.

Traces of Laudanum in His Stomach.

How Did He Get Into That Boat?

"Straightouts" Indicted.

NORFOLK, VA., January 22.—(Special.) Investigation subsequent to that of a jury of inquest shows traces of laudanum in the stomach of John L. Pearce.

The Coroner does not believe that there was enough of the drug to have caused death, but the statement of the druggist who sold the poison to Mr. Pearce for toothache, and who gave him cotton, has been considered and the murder theory has been abandoned.

It is thought that perhaps the young society-man came to his death from the same natural cause that carried off his father, who met a similar end.

The element of mystery yet unsolved is the finding of the body in the canvas-covered boat.

The funeral from St. Luke's church, of whose choir the deceased was a member, attracted a large crowd of his friends.

Mr. Pearce's friends are still mystified as to the cause of his death.

"STRAIGHTOUTS" INDICTED.

The Fusionists of Norfolk county, who have thus far been on the defensive, sprung a surprise upon the Straightout faction to-day when eight of the most prominent Straightouts of the county were indicted for conspiracy.

It is alleged that Melancthan Etheridge, Carrol Williams, Walter Edwards, and John De Baum in Oak Grove, took possession of the polling-place, and prevented the election officers from acting at the last election, and that L. P. Baurn, Joseph Carter, Joseph Fentress, and Clayton Wood, in Hickory Grove, conspired to, and did, prevent the election officials from acting. The cases will be tried at once.

ACTRESS BITTEN BY A PET DOG.

Mary Marble, of the Bijou Comedy Company, playing "The Man from Mexico" here at the Granby, was badly bitten in the eye by a pet dog while playing with it at the Monticello to-day.

The injury is not regarded as being very serious, and Miss Marble took her part this evening.

REDFORD GOES FREE IN PITTSBURG, PA

The Negro Whom He Shot Did Not Appear Against Him—Was Not Hurt Much.

PITTSBURG, PA., January 22.—(Special.)—Nicholas C. Redford, who was arrested January 15th on a charge of shooting the porter, Ed. Grimes, at the St. Charles Hotel, where he (Redford) was a guest, was discharged to-day. Grimes, who is now able to be out, refused to prosecute Redford. The latter at the time of the shooting was in the city a delegate frow Richmond, Va., to the Bricklayers' and Masons' Convention in session here.

PRINCE HENRY'S SWING-AROUND.

It Will Be Given a Wider Range Than Was at First Expected.

WASHINGTON, January 22.—The Committee on Arrangements for the reception of Prince Henry is studying figures submitted by railroad experts, in the form of suggested itineraries, and also considering the many applications received from various cities for the Prince's attendance. It is said that it will be possible to give the Prince's visits a wider range than was at first expected, and it is now pretty well settled that he will go to Chicago, St. Louis, Milwaukee, Cincinnati, Indianapolis, and Boston. March 8th is the probable date of his visit to the last-named city.

BOUNCE FOR MACLAY HISTORY.

Request Also That Congress Formally Thank Schley.

ANNAPOLIS, MD., January 22.—The Senate to-day unanimously adopted an order directing the State Librarian of Maryland to remove from the State Library the third volume of Maclay's History of the United States Navy.

The Senate also unanimously adopted a resolution urging the adoption of the congressional resolution extending a vote of thanks to Rear-Admiral Schley for gallantry in the battle of Santiago.

NINE IN ONE BATCH.

Remarkable Story of Convicts Coming from Russell.

SERVE TOTAL OF 141 YEARS.

Members of Three Families Who Killed Two Men in Southwest Virginia.

THE TRAGEDY NOT A MONTH OLD.

Such Quick Administration of Justice is Seldom Seen, Though It is Declared to Be Characteristic of That Section of the State—Brief Story of a Bloody Encounter During the Holidays.

The penitentiary authorities are looking for the early arrival of nine white convicts in one batch, the aggregate of whose terms is nearly a century and a half. To be exact, the men will serve a total of 141 years.

They are convicted of the killing of two men in Russell county less than a month ago. Such quick administration of justice is seldom seen, though a Russell county man said yesterday that it was characteristic of that section of the State.

A number of young men of the neighborhood in which the killing occurred had been away at work in certain coal mines and returned home to spend the Christmas holidays. During the week, there was an entertainment in the neighborhood, probably a country dance. All the young men attended. In the latter part of the night there was a general row, which broke up the party, and the guests went home, after a great deal of bad blood was displayed.

A BLOODY AFFRAY.

The following day a number of the young fellows who felt themselves most aggrieved, got together, and, armed with shotguns went to the house in which were a number of those with whom they had had the difficulty the night before. They surrounded the house, and then there was a battle which was most disastrous to the besieged party. It appears that they sallied forth and were received with a volley. There was firing for some time, and when the smoke of battle lifted, four of the besieged were on the ground. It was found that two of them were dead, and that two were terribly wounded.

QUICKLY ON TRIAL.

The nine men implicated in the affair were arrested. An indictment followed soon afterwards. The trial was not much longer in coming, and conviction was not much behind. The men were sentenced as follows:

Four brothers named Ray and two brothers named Ball, 18 years each; two brothers named Hesse received a sentence of 16 years each, and an old man was sentenced to serve one year.

All the incidents recited took place within about the space of three weeks. Mr. Henry C. Stuart, member of the convention from Russell, who related the story to the Dispatch writer, said this is no uncommon instance of the celerity and economy with which the laws are administered in Russell county.

PROBABLY UNPARALLELED.

It is doubtful if, in the history of the penitentiary, there have been so many prisoners whoes terms aggregate so many years received at the prison at one time, and all sentenced for the same crime.

A JURY SECURED FOR PATRICK TRIAL.

Statement With Reference to Alleged Offer of Bribe in Connection With the Case.

NEW YORK, January 22.—The work of selecting a jury for the trial of Albert T. Patrick, on the charge of having murdered William M. Rice, formerly of Texas, was completed to-day.

ALLEGED OFFER OF BRIBE.

ST. Louis, January 22.—John T. Milliken, the wealthy chemist, mine-owner, and capitalist, of this city, who is a brother-in-law of Albert T. Patrick, the lawyer, who is now on trial in New York on the charge of murdering Millionaire Rice, to-day made a statement to the Associated Press in regard to the report that he had been offered a bribe to have Patrick compromise the will of 1900. He said: "A short time before the trial of Mr. Patrick began, I was called to New York, and offered $50,000 by certain attorneys to have Patrick compromise the will of 1900. We declined to accept any offer that would not exonerate Mr. Patrick of the charge of murder, and stop the prosecution. A reply of such character was made to our refusal that it led me to believe we could get $250,000 if we would compromise. We again declined, as no one was in a position to deliver what we wanted, and the negotiations ended."

TO PAY COST OF DEFENCE.

Mr. Milliken declares his belief in Patrick's innocence, and says he will defray the cost of his defence.

CINCINNATI SENSATION OF THE FIRST ORDER.

Alleged Defalcation on Part of Man of High Business and Social Standing.

CINCINNATI, O., January 22.—Sensational reports were published here to-day of an alleged shortage in the books of Theodore Braemer, who resigned last Sunday his position as secretary and treasurer of the J. and F. Schroth Packing Company, of this city. The story, as first published, alleged a shortage of $160,000 to $400,000, extending over a period of twenty years, and claimed that Mr. Braemer had turned over all of his property and chattels in trust, pending an examination of the books by experts. Braemer denied that there was any defalcation, but admitted that he had turned $72,000 in personal property over to Harlan Cleveland, his attorney, and John W. O'Hara, attorney for the Schroth Company. While Braemer talked freely about the case, the Schroths refused to say anything, and the attorneys were also reticent.

Braemer is 45 years old, and has been with the Schroths twenty-seven years, most of the time receiving $25 per week as book-keeper, and in recent years twice that much as secretary and treasurer. The firm did a business of about $1,000,000 a year, which was handled by Braemer.

INVESTIGATION BY HEIRS.

When John Schroth died, more than a year ago, Lieutenant Governor Carl Nippert became the attorney of his heirs, who instituted an investigation of the company. This finally culminated in a meeting of all interested parties last Sunday, at which Braemer resigned, and from which the sensational reports of to-day emanated. Harlan Cleveland, attorney for Braemer, and John W. O'Hara, attorney for the company, and also trustees, are engaged with the experts in examining the books. The accountants insist that they cannot complete their work for two or three weeks, and counsel say that no reliable statement can be made until that time.

No reports of similar character ever created such a sensation in this city, as Braemer always has been regarded as a man of the highest business and social standing. He owns one of the finest residences in the city, and it is furnished with all that art can supply. In the sensational reports that have been published, no reference is made to him as having any bad habits. The attorneys and other interested persons will give no assurance that the report of the experts on the examination of the books will be made public, when completed, as they state that every possible difference has already been adjusted satisfactorily by reason of the property that Braemer has turned over in trust.

THE TRUTH, ACCORDING TO BRAEMER.

Braemer said that he had transferred to the trustees $72,000 in Standard Oil and Cincinnati Gas and Electric stock. This, he said, would amply cover any errors which might be found on the books.

"I'll tell you the truth of the matter," said Braemer. The 'old man' and I have been fighting for about six months, and I concluded to quit, and I resigned Sunday. Some errors had been discovered in the books, and it was mutually agreed to have an expert go over them. In order to indemnify the company, Attorneys Cleveland and O'Hara were appointed trustees of my estate, and I turned over to them the $72,000 in stocks. If any shortage is found I will be to blame. My salary was $50 a week, and had been for the past ten years. I owned $15,000 state that if there is any shortage I know worth of stock in the company. I wish to nothing of it."

YOUR UNCLE GROVER AGAIN IN THE SOUTH.

He is to Take Another Hunt in the Vicinity of Georgetown, South Carolina.

PRINCETON, N. J., January 22.—Ex-President Cleveland left Princeton to-night for the South, where he will remain several days, hunting, with Colonel E. C. Benedict, Rear-Admiral R. D. Evans, General Anson G. McCook, and Herman May. The party will go to Georgetown, S. C., and shortly after arriving there will go to the home of Colonel Alexander, who lives on an island eighteen miles from that city.

Mr. Cleveland appears to have regained his normal health. He was accompanied as far as Philadelphia by Mrs. Cleveland.

SCHLEY OFF TO-MORROW FOR CITY OF CHICAGO.

President Will Turn His Appeal Over to the Attorney-General for Report.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 22.—Rear-Admiral and Mrs. Schley will leave here Friday morning at 10:45 via the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, for Chicago, in a private car furnished by the officials of the road mentioned, arriving in Chicago Saturday morning at 9:30 o'clock. The Admiral refuses to make public his appeal filed with the President yesterday. This is in accordance with the desire expressed by the President at the time of Admiral Schley's visit to the White House. The President will turn the whole matter over to Attorney-General Knox, for his report and recommendation, these to be made as soon as possible.

STATE FEMALE NORMAL SCHOOL PRESIDENCY.

No Election Yesterday—The Board to Meet Again To-Day.

FARMVILLE, VA., January 22.—(Special.)—The meeting of the Board of Trustees of the State Female Normal School, which convened here this afternoon, was one of the most interesting, as well as important, which has ever been held at the school. The chief object of the board's meeting was to consider the applications of those who wanted to succeed Dr. Robert Frazer as president of the school. There was a full board (fourteen in all) in attendance, and it met promptly at 3 o'clock this afternoon in the president's office at the school. From that time until nearly the midnight hour, with only a brief intermission for the evening's dinner, the board was in constant, careful consideration of the fifteen applications before them. The ballot at this late hour (11:15) is upon the names of three candidates, all the rest having been dropped temporarily, at least, with the result that one candidate received six votes and two others four each. It was in the midst of this seeming unbreakable deadlock the board adjourned to meet to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock. It was one or more times suggested that the election of a president be deferred until the regular annual meeting in June, but this was not acceded to, for the reason that there was now a full board and ample list of applicants from which a suitable man might be elected.

The board regretfully received the resignation of Miss Fannie Littleton, who for several years has filled the Chair of Physical Science and Chemistry. Her resignation is to take effect at the close of the session in June.

AMERICAN TOBACCO IN THE CZAR'S DOMAIN

Representatives of Former Investigating the Tobacco Industry at the Russian Capital.

ST. PETERSBURG, January 22.—Ernest Gutschow, manager of the American Tobacco Company's works at San Francisco; Judge Bernard Phillips, and Rufus Patterson are here investigating the tobacco industry for the American Tobacco Company. They have been conferring with the great La Ferme Company, from which arose the report that the latter had been purchased, but this is denied by the Americans.

A SPIRITED DEBATE.

Some of the Old-Time Partisan Fire in the House.

THAT MANILA-POST ITEM.

It is Ruled Out on a Point of Order.

REPUBLICAN AMENDMENT ADOPTED

It Appropriates Same Amount for the "Shelter and Protection" of Officers and Enlisted Men of the Army in the Philippines—Cummings, Democrat, of New York, Votes With Majority on the Question.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 22.—Some of the old partisan fire was injected into the proceedings of the House to-day, when the item in the urgent deficiency bill appropriating $500,000 for a military post at Manila, which the Democrats have been using as a text for speeches in opposition to the Philippine policy of the administration for the last three days, was reported. Mr. Cannon, in charge of the bill, confessed that the appropriation was subject to a point of order, and it went out. In lieu thereof, he offered an amendment, appropriating the same sum for the "shelter and protection" of the officers and enlisted men of the army on duty in the Philippines. This the Chair held to be in order, and it at once became the subject of a very spirited debate, in which Mr. Richardson, the minority leader; Mr. Williams, of Mississippi, and Mr. De Armond, of Missouri, were pitted against the chairman of the Appropriations Committee. The vote on the adoption of the amendment stood, ayes 127, nays 100. Before the general debate closed Mr. Watson paid a beautiful tribute to the late President McKinley.

After adopting a rule excluding the public from the floor of the House before the sessions begin, the House resumed debate on the general deficiency bill. Mr. Padgett, of Tennessee, the first speaker, advocated the addition of a declaration in favor of pledging the United States to give independence to the Philippines.

DEFENCE OF ADMINISTRATION.

After some further remarks by Mr. Chandler, of Mississippi, and Mr. Zeenor, of Indiana, Mr. Watson, of Indiana, closed the general debate in an hour's speech in defence of the administration's Philippine policy.

While he was speaking, Mr. Gaines, of Tennessee, attempted to ask him a question. "Oh! this is too much," cried Mr. Watson, amid great laughter on the Republican side. He declined to yield, and proceeded to eulogize the late President McKinley.

"Mr. Chairman," he concluded, "the Republican party will handle this question. If our Democratic friends will come along and be good, we will be glad to have them in the neighborhood; but if they propose to object, if they propose to nullify, if they propose to obstruct, if they intende always to stand off and propose nothing and oppose everything, we had just as lief they would not come along, because we propose to solve these questions anyhow and do it right, under the fear of God, who has opened the way for this great republic." (Prolonged applause on the Republican side.)

Mr. Cochran, of Missouri, declared that the attempts to subjugate the Filipino people had already cost the United States more than enough to build the Nicaragua canal and to construct 300 warships to defend it, yet the end was not in sight.

FISH STATION IN BEAUFORT, N. C.

Mr. Small, of North Carolina, offered an amendment to appropriate $12,500 for the Fish Commission station at Beaufort, N. C. The amendment was adopted.

When the appropriation of $500,000 for a military post at Manila was reached, half a dozen Democrats, including Mr. Richardson, of Tennessee, were on their feet, but the Chair recognized Mr. Hull, Republican, of Iowa, who raised the point of order against it that it was new legislation.

Mr. Cannon urged Mr. Hull to let the other side make the point of order.

"I hope the gentleman will not lecture his own side of the House," observed Mr. Richardson.

Thereupon Mr. Cannon confessed the point of order, and the appropriation was ruled out.

REPUBLICAN AMENDMENT.

In lieu of the provision, Mr. Cannon offered the following amendment: "For

(CONCLUDED ON FIFTH PAGE.)

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take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. E. W. Grove's signature is on each box. Twenty-five cents.

Our Grandmother's Remedy.
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If you wish the benefits of the Hot Springs at home, get one of the Celebrated Buckeye Bath Cabinets. Best on earth for vapor baths. Price only $5, at
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The Weather.

FAIR

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 22.—Forecast:

Virginia—Fair Thursday; Friday warmer and cloudy; probably rain; fresh westerly winds, becoming variable.

North Carolina—Fair Thursday; Friday warmer and cloudy; probably rain; fresh westerly winds, becoming variable.

THE WEATHER IN RICHMOND YESTERDAY was ideal for the season—cold, invigorating, and sunshiny throughout. The range of the thermometer was as follows:

6 A. M.	41
9 A. M.	43
12 M.	43
3 P. M.	46
6 P. M.	43
12 Night	37
Mean temperature	42.5-6