

TWO YEAR TERM FOR JOHN KING

Pennsylvania "Swipes" Convicted in Marion.

Tried For Latta Burglary

Special to The State. Marion, Oct. 7.—Yesterday morning John King, alias "Pennsylvania Swipes," was convicted and sentenced to two years in the State penitentiary for breaking into the store of John L. Dew at Latta during the night of February 25, 1904. King was acquitted of the charge of breaking the safe of the Bank of Latta.

For the same crime three men were convicted at Marion in 1904, and subsequently pardoned by Gov. Heyward, after the conviction of other men in the United States court.

The Robbery.

On the morning of February 26, 1904, at Latta, it was discovered that safe blowers had visited the Bank of Latta, the store of John L. Dew, and the postoffice, located in the store, the night before. The bank vault had been blown open, likewise the outer door of safe, also the safe in the postoffice and the safe in the store of Mr. Dew. Several days later two store safes at Kenly, N. C., were blown open, and about \$2,500 taken from one of them. Shortly afterwards at Smithfield, N. C., in the same county, H. E. Cunningham, Leonard Hinkey and George Waring were taken into custody on suspicion, but the only equipment found in their possession was for painting signs. A representative of the casualty company which had the bank insured, assisted by a Pinkerton detective, caused the removal of the three suspected men to Marion, where they were subsequently tried for the burglaries at Latta.

Three Men Convicted.

Upon identification by some witnesses from Latta and Dillon, who testified to having seen them shortly prior to the burglaries at Latta, they were convicted and sentenced to six years' imprisonment. An appeal was taken to the supreme court, which sustained the judgment of the trial court, and the men entered upon their sentence.

In December, 1904, at Baltimore, Md., several safe blowers were captured, including John King, alias "Pennsylvania Swipes," and James Johnson, alias "Portland Ned." The latter two were convicted in United States circuit court at Charleston in 1905, upon the testimony of McCarthy, one of their accomplices, corroborated by various other witnesses, and sentenced to imprisonment in United States penitentiary, Atlanta, Ga.

"Connecticut Shorty" Caught.

While their trial was in progress at Charleston John Fisher, alias "Connecticut Shorty," who was associated with them in the burglaries at Latta, was captured by a posse near Wadesboro, N. C. He was convicted at Lancaster of the burglary of the Springs Banking and Mercantile company's vault and safe at Heath Springs, and sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment.

Subsequent to the conviction of Johnson and King at Charleston, Solicitor Wells took up with Gov. Heyward the advisability of pardoning Cunningham, Hinkey and Waring. Postoffice Inspector Gregory presented to Gov. Heyward, Judge Watts and Solicitor Johnson the facts regarding the burglaries at Latta, as obtained through the confession of John T.

McCarthy, the reformed safe blower, and as proved in United States circuit court at Charleston.

Pardoned by Governor.

Judge Watts, after seeing Inspector Gregory, recommended the pardon of Cunningham, Hinkey and Waring, but Solicitor Johnson, prior to seeing Inspector Gregory, had opposed the granting of executive clemency. Gov. Heyward, however, pardoned the three men on October 5, 1905.

Since Gov. Heyward pardoned Cunningham, Hinkey and Waring, juries in Marion county have not been disposed to convict safe blowers. Thomas Nolan, alias "Pat Nolan," and Charles Howard, alias "Texas Dutch," were acquitted at Marion in February, 1907, of the robbery of the Bank of Mullins on December 17, 1902, but they were convicted at Spartanburg shortly afterwards of burglary of the vault of the Enoree Manufacturing company and sentenced to 10 years in the State penitentiary. The former trial of John King at Marion on June 1, 1909, resulted in a mistrial, after he had been brought from Atlanta, Ga., on the expiration of his sentence in the Atlanta prison.

Hooking Alligators.

"Hunting alligators at night with a bullseye lantern and shotgun is tame sport compared with what is called a gator hunt in Florida," said an old Floridian who is visiting in New York. "I mean the feat of capturing an alligator alive and then towing the fellow to high ground through mud and water from what is called in Florida a gator hole."

"The gator fishermen first find the hole, which is indicated by an opening in the surrounding grass in the midst of a dense growth of vegetation, where the ground is worn smooth by the alligator in his pulls in and out. Sometimes these gator holes are in the nature of a cave in the bank of a stream and may be fifteen or twenty feet deep, and if so it is not an easy matter to get the animal out."

"The fisher is supplied with a long pole with a metal hook on the end. He takes a strong rope and throws it about the entrance of the hole. Then the fisher rams with the crooked pole down the den and waits and listens. If he finds a gator in the hole he teases the beast by poking him until the gator in a rage finally grabs the hooked pole and is pulled from the den. It is with uncertainty that he is dragged forth, for it is not known whether the catch is large or small. The fisher does not know whether to get ready to run or to fight. Out the gator comes, bellowing and roaring mad."

"After the gator is dragged to the surface he in his rage turns and rolls and finally twists himself up in the rope or noose that has been previously prepared. With the assistance of the others in the party the gator's legs and mouth are tied and the gator is a prisoner."

"The gator is for the most part caught in marshes where the ground is soft and slushy and too wet for either horse or wagon to enter. The fishers are compelled to carry their catch to higher ground, there to be loaded into the waiting wagon, and the hunt is ended."—New York Sun.

Drowned in Pee Dee.

A county convict was drowned in Little Pee Dee near Harlee's Bridge late Saturday afternoon. The negro was a trustee and was serving a two year sentence on the gang. He purchased a string of fish from another negro who was fishing on the stream and in attempting to swim across for the fish he sank into the waters and did not rise again. The man was a good swimmer and it is believed that he was seized with cramp. He made no outcry, but disappeared under the water and did not even rise the second or third time as is usually the case with drowning people. After some difficulty the body was recovered with drag hooks near the spot

Dan Hamer Convicted.

Dan Hamer, who was tried at Marion last Friday for the murder of Pate Walker, a son of Mr. T. J. Walker who operates a shingle mill on the Pee Dee river, has been found guilty of manslaughter. Hamer was convicted at the last term of court, but an appeal was taken and he was granted a new trial because some of the jury got hold of a copy of The Herald containing the testimony at the coroner's inquest and an account of the killing. Hamer, it will be recalled, shot young Walker at the home of Jno. E. Creech, a tenant on the Marion Wiggin's place over New Bridge. Hamer and young Walker had a difficulty over one of Creech's daughters and Hamer shot Walker with a magazine pistol, inflicting a wound that proved fatal almost immediately. Hamer fled to Texas where he was recognized by Mr. John Carmichael, who was traveling that state for Pratt's Food, and turned over to the sheriff. Sheriff Dozier went out for him and he returned home without requisition papers. It is probable that Hamer will serve his sentence.

The sentence imposed on Hamer was three years and five months in the penitentiary.

HE GOT WRATHY.

Yankee Who Wanted to Buy the Hampton Mule, Got Sharp Reply.

A gentleman of Orangeburg handed us the following interesting item a few days ago:

Being an outcome of the peculiar accident by which Hampton lost his leg, the following incident, which may be vouched for by more than one worthy citizen of Richland, will probably prove of interest, especially to the survivors of those who served under the great calvary leader, as it goes to show with what esteem and veneration he was regarded by his immortal followers. It will be remembered, that not very long after his inauguration as governor, Hampton with several other gentlemen, set out on a deer hunt, a few miles from Columbia, and that while riding to his stand, the mule he bestrode became frightened, and leaving the road ran away through the thick woods, and the bridle on each side breaking at the bit, the accomplished horseman, to save his life, withdrew his feet from the stirrups, and getting both legs on the same side of the beast, leaped to the ground. In so doing, he fractured a leg and it was long ere he recovered from the effects of the injury.

Shortly after the occurrence, a North Western Yankee wrote to the owner of the mule, the late George W. Davis, of Richland, (who had been "a soldier of the Legion,") offering him a sum not exceeding \$500 for the animal, as "big money" could be realized from exhibiting it as the mule that broke Gen. Hampton's leg, and this was the answer:

"Columbia, S. C., 1876.
"D—n your Soul!
"The mule that broke Gen. Hampton's leg is not for sale, but if I thought it would kick out your d—d brains, I would make it a present to you. GEORGE W. DAVIS.

Twix twilight and dark, up near Manitou Park, a maiden sat combing her hair, when heated with roaming, panting and foaming, there came up and squeezed her a big grizzly bear. It did not fright her, the bear did not bite her, she lay back and murmured: "O Still tighter dear." This broke up old Bruin, he let off his wooing, sneaked back to the mountains and hid a whole year.

where it disappeared. The negro was a native of Marion and the body was sent to his relatives Sunday. The train had almost completed its journey of imprisonment.

HURRICANE STRIKES COAST OF FLORIDA.

Reduces Key West to Chaos of Wrecked Buildings and Tangled Wire. Feared That Many Lives Have Been Lost.

Key West, Fla., Oct. 11.—As a result of the hurricane which struck the southern coast of Florida this morning, Key West tonight is a mass of wreckage and the damage to property is estimated at \$2,000,000. Martial law was proclaimed by the mayor at 6 o'clock and the Key West guards are patrolling the city.

The United States government has been asked to dispatch troops here without delay, to assist in patrolling the storm-area.

Chaos reigns on every hand and few people remain in their homes, hundreds of which have either been totally wrecked or damaged. It is impossible at this hour to say whether there has been loss of life, but it is feared many lives have been claimed along the coast.

It is known that many have received more or less serious injury and reports are current that several lives have been lost, but these have not been verified.

The storm reached its height at 1 o'clock this afternoon, when the wind reached an estimated velocity of 100 miles an hour.

There was a hard steady blow from 8 a. m. to 3 p. m., when the wind began to die down and by 4 o'clock the centre of the hurricane had passed this point.

While the hurricane is the worst that Key West has ever experienced, the local weather observer announced tonight that the indications are that the entire east coast of Florida will suffer terribly tonight.

Of 100 local vessels in the harbor this morning but five remain at anchor, the others having either gone to sea or been washed up on the beaches. The streets along the water front are a mass of wreckage.

Brick as well as frame buildings throughout the city suffered alike from the fury of the heavy wind and many miraculous escapes from death or serious injury have been reported.

Besides the several score of residences either totally wrecked or blown from their pillars, nine factories were partially destroyed, including the Habana-American, Martinez, Nicholas, Rue Lopez, Manuel Lopez, Fleitas Torres, Cortez and Wolf cigar manufactories.

No. 1 and No. 3 engine houses of the city fire department were destroyed, the fireman narrowly escaping, and several of the horses were killed. The top of the First National bank was blown off, the postoffice damaged and two running gears of the government coaling station were wrecked.

Every telephone and electric light pole on Duval street, the principal thoroughfare of the city, was blown down.

As soon as the wind had subsided plundering began. The city police force was unable to cope with the situation and the mayor decided to take stringent measures to suppress the looting, his proclamation of martial law resulting.

Almost every nationality is represented among the city's population of more 20,000, about one half of whom are employed in the cigar manufactories, sponge fisheries and salvage companies.

The barn and stables on the Ellerbe place, owned by Mr. Jas. H. Mannig, of Latta, were destroyed by fire about two o'clock yesterday morning. A small quantity of feed was destroyed also. The live stock escaped from the building just before it fell in. The loss is about \$1000.

Dr. Edwards Acquitted.

Dr. H. A. Edwards of Latta was tried at Marion last Saturday for the killing of John C. Kirby last summer. After deliberating a short while the jury returned a verdict of not guilty. Dr. Edwards, it will be recalled, was attending Jule Kirby, John Kirby's brother, when the latter came into the sick room and made an attack on the Doctor. The Doctor, while in Kirby's grasp, fired several shots into Kirby's body which proved fatal the following day. It was pretty generally agreed at the time that Dr. Edwards acted in self-defense and the verdict meets with the approval of the public.

Death of Mr. S. L. Page.

After an illness of several weeks from typhoid fever Mr. S. Lawrence Page died at his home at Campbell's Bridge Saturday morning. The deceased was 55 years of age and is survived by a wife and several children. The interment was made at the family burying ground near Campbell's Bridge Sunday afternoon and was attended by a large concourse of relatives and friends of the deceased.

Mr. Page was the eldest son of Capt. Wm. Page, one of the most prominent farmers of the county, and was himself a prominent citizen and farmer. He was born and reared near Campbell's Bridge and throughout his life had been a leader in his community. In 1891 he was appointed magistrate at Campbell's Bridge which office he held continuously up until the time of his death. He was fair and impartial in his administration of the law and as a magistrate he made a record equalled by few and surpassed by none. This was the only public office he ever held.

He came along at the time when the south was recovering from the effects of the civil war and did not have the advantages of a college training, but he was a keen observer and being a man of more than ordinary ability he acquired knowledge from the school of experience and kept himself well-informed on current events. He devoted his life to farming and in that line of industry he was a success. He leaves his wife a valuable plantation which was brought up to a high state of cultivation by his own industry.

Early in life he was married to Miss Ella Harlee Moore, a member of a prominent Robeson county family. Of this union there were born several sons and daughters who still survive him: Mrs. J. K. Page and W. W. Page, of Sellers; Herbert Page, of Georgia; and Miss Nellie and Mr. Otis Page who still live at the home place.

PRIZE FISH STORY, THIS.

Keytesville, Md., Oct. 9.—While at the ice pond fishing a few days ago W. R. Sweeney noticed a large spider on a leaf at the edge of the water that seemed to be fishing also. The spider would put one leg in the water, shake it a little bit, and then wait.

By and by a minnow came to the top and grabbed the spider's foot. This seemed to be what it was waiting for, and with a minute's hesitation it sprang under the minnow being carried under the water several times, fish unreleasing its hold on the spider until it ceased to struggle and was dead, when the spider hauled its prey ashore to be devoured.

In trying to land the struggling minnow the spider would lay hold of a leaf or a weed on the water and hang the minnow by its grip, and at last it landed upon him.

DEVELOPING REEDY CREEK.

Large Force of Hands is at Work Under the Direction of Civil Engineers Laying off Walks and Avenues, Clearing out Undergrowth and Improving Property for Next Season's Opening.

It will not be necessary for the people of the Pee Dee to ride hundreds of miles next year to get a few weeks rest at a summer resort. By the time the next season opens Reedy Creek will be ready for visitors and after the plans of the present owners have been carried out there will not be a more attractive nor more comfortable resort anywhere in the state.

Announcement was made some weeks ago of the fact that Messrs. W. T. Bethea and J. B. Gibson had purchased Reedy Creek and would develop the property into a first-class summer resort. No sooner had deeds to the property changed hands than they began to plan the development of the property. They have planned improvements on an elaborate scale and it is their purpose to carry out the plans in every detail before the next season opens.

A force of about thirty hands under the direction of Messrs. Beatty & Beatty of Dillon, and Mr. J. M. Johnson, Jr., of Marion, are laying out walks and avenues, trimming away the undergrowth, and doing the preliminary work to other more elaborate improvements that will transform the property into a most comfortable and attractive place.

One of the greatest improvements will be at the spring itself which will be surrounded by a concrete curbing with a wasteway for the surplus water. The water will pour into a marble basin at the bottom and sides of the spring and will flow into the concrete trough which is laid underground a few feet from the opening. Another improvement is a concrete walk which will be built from the spring to the hotel steps.

The hotel building will be remodeled and equipped with other modern improvements. During the summer season it will be in charge of a competent manager and those who do not own cottages at the springs will have the advantage of a first-class hotelery at moderate prices.

Quite a number of people have already signified their intention of building cottages at the springs and there is every reason to believe that Reedy Creek will be one of the attractive and one of the most popular resorts in the state.

Reedy Creek is the only summer resort in the Pee Dee section and should enjoy a large patronage next season.

See Dillon Herald \$1.50 a year.

A Sign of Prosperity.

An old negro of the antebellum type had brought his cotton to Dillon and sold it at a high price. He wanted the cash and one of the banks paid him a \$100 bill. Late that afternoon he wanted the bill changed, but very few merchants care to part with that much change and the darkey was turned down at every store he went to. Finally he got discouraged and walking up to a white man he presented the bill and said, "Say, Mister, is dis from I can't get er paveme ter change it." here from \$1.50 a year.