

GOLDEN'S TESTIMONY.

He Swears Secretary Powers Summoned Mountain Feudists.

Such Men Were to Be Brought Who Would Stand Up in the Legislative Hall and Kill Off the Democrats.

Frankfort, Ky., March 24.—The preliminary examination of Secretary of State Caleb Powers, charged with aiding and abetting in the assassination of William Goebel, was begun before Judge Moore. The little, old-fashioned court house in which the examination took place was guarded inside and out by militia from Lexington and scores of deputy sheriffs armed with Winchester rifles to prevent possible interference from mountaineers, who were reported on their way to Frankfort, but their presence was unnecessary, as the mountaineers failed to appear and no disorder occurred.

The witnesses heard included Warden Eph Lillard, of the state penitentiary; Detective Dee Armstrong, Sheriff Bosworth, of Fayette county who arrested Secretary Powers and Capt. John Davis while the latter was attempting to escape from Frankfort, and Silas Jones, who is now under bonds, charged with complicity in the murder. The testimony given tended to show that the shots came from that section of the executive building in which Secretary Powers' office is located, although no one would swear that the shots were fired from the secretary's office.

Frankfort, Ky., March 25.—Secretary Powers was the only one of the defendants brought in court Saturday morning. Capt. Davis and Culton remained in jail. J. Wharton Golden, of Barbourville, was sworn as the first witness. He said he had known Secretary Powers for 17 or 18 years, also knew Mr. Culton. He was also acquainted with Gov. Taylor and Capt. John Powers. He said he was a good friend to all of the defendants. He was in Frankfort in January and February, and saw Secretary and John Powers nearly every day. He was in Frankfort on January 14, and went to Harlan county on the 18th, then went to Laurel county for two or three days, from there returning to Frankfort.

"When did you have a conversation with Secretary Powers?"

"When Mr. Powers and I left here together. Col. Powers told me to go to Harlan county and tell Postmaster John Hirst to send down ten witnesses in the contest case."

"He told me to go to Harlan county and tell Mr. Hirst to send down ten men who were regular mountain feudists."

"Did he understand what you meant by that, and if so, what was your understanding of that request?"

Objected to, but overruled.

"I won't answer that," said Mr. Golden.

After some parley, Golden said: "Well, men who would stand up, and if necessary, go into that legislative hall and kill off enough to make it in our favor. I did not see Mr. Hirst. I saw Hamp Howard. I told him we wanted ten regular mountain feudists for witnesses. We wanted men who had good Colts forty-fives."

"When did you see Caleb Powers?"

"I saw him on Tuesday. I got on the train at Ferris station, Laurel county. He had a couple of men on the train named Pease and Lockett. He told me to take care of them. I next saw Powers in Frankfort. I don't remember what conversation we had then."

"Who selected the men who came from Harlan county?"

"Hamp Howard. He selected 30 men besides the ten. Caleb Powers, I think, selected the men from Knox county. There were about 70 or 80. Jim Sparks, county attorney in Laurel county, selected the men from Laurel county."

"Who informed you they were wanted?"

"Caleb Powers. I saw him in London. Caleb said he wanted a regular army to come to Frankfort."

In answer to further questions, Golden said Powers gave him \$100 to give to Judge Bingham in Bell county. The witness identified a receipt for \$50 given by Bingham. Witness also said he gave Mr. Howard \$75.00 for ten tickets to Frankfort and return. He knew some of the men from Bell county. The men, a good many of them, were mountain feudists. In all about 1,200 or 1,500 men were brought to Frankfort. They were fed back of the state house, Capt. Davis and Charley Finley providing the provisions. Continuing, Golden said: "We sent most of them back that night. By 'we,' I mean myself, Caleb Powers, Capt. Davis, Bill Culton and Gov. Taylor. Finley, Taylor and Powers decided to send them back, all except ten or fifteen from each county. I selected the men to be kept from Knox county, 12 of them, well armed. Deputy Marshal George Thompson selected the men from Laurel county. About 175 men of the mountaineers brought to Frankfort remained here to see that we got justice."

"Did you have any further conversation with Powers regarding the work of to be done by the men remaining here?"

"No, sir; we understood what they were kept here for. We knew that those men were here to go into that legislative hall and if necessary clean out those fellows."

"What fellows?"

"The democrats; enough to make a majority on our side."

Golden said he was in the executive building on the day before the shooting.

ing. He met Caleb Powers in Gov. Taylor's anti-room. Powers asked him to go to Louisville that day. He told John Powers that he was going to Louisville with Caleb Powers. During a lengthy argument over a technical point, Golden became ill and court was adjourned.

Golden resumed his testimony at the afternoon session. He said John Powers and a black-red moustached man had a talk concerning the closing of Secretary Powers' office during the latter's absence.

"I had my back turned," said Golden, "but when I turned I saw John Powers give the key to the man. John Powers said to me 'Goebel is going to be killed this morning.' I said, 'This must not be done.' He said, 'Don't get excited, I gave that man the wrong key.' I said, 'We must go and see Caleb.' John Powers saw him, I did not."

"We all went back to the state house; I did not go to Louisville that morning, I can't say why."

"Did you have any talk with Caleb or John Powers about Dick Coombs?"

"No, but they had two negroes there to kill Goebel. John Powers told me so. They were Hoekersmith and Dick Coombs. I saw Dick Coombs at the drugstore near the depot every morning for a week or so previous to the shooting. Coombs talking to a man named Wallace in my presence, said: 'D—him, I know him as far as I can see him and I can kill him as far as I can see him.' He was talking of Goebel. This conversation was in the adjutant general's office. He also said: 'I know him every movement, and I can hit him with this as far as I can see him.' He carried a Colt's 32 that shoots a Winchester cartridge, six or eight inches in the barrel. Coombs was in the assistant adjutant general's office on the morning of the shooting with Hoekersmith and Jim Wallace. I saw the man who got the key from John Powers this morning. The fellow was a little man. When we (Caleb and John Powers and myself) went back there, he said: 'You have given me the wrong key.' I don't remember what John said to him. The rest of the day I was around town. No reference was made to the key the rest of the day. The key was to Caleb's office."

"On Tuesday did you meet Caleb and John Powers?" asked Attorney Campbell.

"Yes, I did. I saw them in Caleb's office. I got a letter from Blakeman that morning asking me to come to Louisville. Caleb said he was going with me, but said he might want me to go to the mountains. He was talking to Walter Day and Gov. Taylor, R. J. Howard, of Harlan county, came up and he talked to Taylor. He insisted on Taylor calling out the militia. Taylor said: 'My God, you people must do something first,' adding 'I can get the militia quick enough. You fellows must act first.' By that I understand we fellows must raise a riot in the senate chamber. Goebel was there. As I told you this morning, we would clean out enough of that legislature there to make it our way."

"What do you mean by that?"

"Why, kill 'em."

After Taylor was through talking I urged Powers to get the train with me, as it was due. "I learned that Senator Goebel had been shot at Lagrange. We continued on to Louisville. I do not know why Mr. Powers went to Louisville. Both John and Caleb Powers were along. We left for Frankfort that afternoon and went directly to the state house. I never saw Mr. Powers again that day."

Attorney Campbell then took the witness back, and Golden told of a conversation he had with Caleb Powers on a train in Laurel county previous to the shooting. "Caleb said," continued Golden, "d—them, we've got them." I understand by that remark that we had democrats down here and we could do as we pleased after we got here."

Counsel for the defense strongly objected to this line of examination and the commonwealth withdrew it and announced that it was through with the witness, Golden, who was very weak from his hemorrhage, begged to be allowed a few minutes rest and he was accordingly taken out by a deputy sheriff.

Golden's illness proved more serious than at first thought and after half an hour's delay an adjournment was taken until 10 a. m. Monday.

Frankfort, Ky., March 26.—Notwithstanding troops recognizing the dual governors are quartered within two squares of each other, the republican troops at the state house, under orders from republican Gov. Taylor, and the democratic troops at the court house, guarding Prisoners Powers, Culton and Davis, under orders from democratic Gov. Beckham, there has been no clash. Republican Adj. Gen. Collier and democratic Assistant Adj. Gen. Murray were together for some time in conference. Gen. Collier called to disclaim responsibility for the mine which some of the soldiers made a pretense of laying, but it is understood their talk took on a wider scope and that they discussed and mutually agreed upon plans to avoid the possibility of any sort of clash between the troops.

The examining trial of republican Secretary of State Caleb Powers will be resumed. Sergt. F. Wharton Golden, who, it is alleged, turned state's evidence, will continue on the witness stand for cross-examination, his direct testimony having been completed Saturday. When he is through, Mrs. Golden, his wife, will be introduced as a witness for the prosecution, and it is reported that she will corroborate her husband's testimony on many important points.

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PEDIGREE: [Recorded with pedigree in the Percheron Stud-Book of America.] Gray; foaled October 20, 1892; got by STRADAT 7112 (2:16 1/2); dam Abydos 960 (8:59) by ROMULUS 873 (7:55); 2d dam Elise by DUKE-D-2-CHARLES 162 (7:21).

STRADAT 7112 (2:16 1/2) by Passe-Partout (1:40) out of Biche (1:20) by a son of Coco II (7:14). PASSE-PARTOUT (1:40) by Comet 104 (7:19) out of Sophie by Favori I (7:11), he by Vieux-Chaslin (7:13) out of L'Amie by Vieux-Pierre (8:94), he by Coco (7:12). COMET 104 (7:19) by French Monarch 205 (7:34) out of Suzanne by Cambronne. FRENCH MONARCH 205 (7:34) by Ilderim (5:30) out of a daughter of Vieux-Pierre (8:94), etc.

ILDERIM (5:30) by Valentin (5:30) out of Chafon by Vieux-Pierre (8:94), etc. VALENTIN (5:30) by Vieux-Chaslin (7:13), he by Coco (7:12) out of Poule by Sandi. COCO (7:12) by Mignon (7:13) out of Pauline by Vieux-Coco. MIGNON (7:13) by Jean-le-Blanc (7:39). COCO II (7:14) by Vieux-Chaslin (7:13), etc., out of La Grise by Vieux-Pierre (8:83). ROMULUS 873 (7:55) by the government approved stallion Romulus, son of Mireuil out of Fleur d'Epine by the government approved stallion Cheri, he by Corbon.

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