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## WASHINGTON.

### A "Patched Drawers" Case Argued in the Supreme Court.

THE SOLEMN JUSTICES CONVULSED WITH LAUGHTER

By the Argument of Ex-Congressman John D. Wise, of Virginia—John M. Thurston, An Omaha Candidate for Secretary of the Interior, Now in Washington—Other Washington News.

New York, Dec. 21.—The Herald's Washington correspondent says:

If the supreme court had been transferred to the stage of a theater, and Wellesley's proceedings advertised, the sign "standing room only" would have been visible before the curtain went up, and when the last act of the drama had been concluded it is fair to assume that the entire company would have to respond to the enthusiastic calls of the audience. The usual sedate and solemn justices gave way before the wit and humor of counsel, and were convulsed with laughter. The fun began when the clerk announced Case No. 135, Robert H. Anderson, appellant, vs. Henry T. Miller & Company, and John D. Wise, the ex-congressman from Virginia, arose to state the case in behalf of the appellant.

It involves the validity of a patent for a patch intended to reinforce drawers in the crotch. Mr. Wise is a bright, witty young lawyer, bubbling over with good spirits. He seized at once upon the opportunity for a display of his talents as a fun maker, and with anecdote, sarcasm and rallery kept the court, justices, lawyers, spectators and all in a roar. Mr. Wise read from his brief the opinion of Judge Hughes, of the United States court for the eastern district of Virginia, in the case. This opinion is remarkable for its levity.

Judge Hughes said that it was a patent for a patch upon drawers, extending from the back of the waist band down under the crotch and up in a split form to the waist band in front. Of course it is a patch upon new drawers before worn. One of its merits is that it strengthens or, to use the euphemism of the patent office, "reinforces" the drawers at the crotch, where a catastrophe is most likely to occur. Then, as a statement of his reasons he did not believe a patent should be granted for this improvement, Judge Hughes said:

"It strikes me that a patent for a patch upon drawers, designed to remedy the evils of rip and tear to which they are liable in the crotch, ought never to have been granted, interfering as it must necessarily do with the prerogative of the housewives of the civilized world to patch the drawers of their husbands, fathers and sons freely in their own way, with no patentee to molest or make them afraid."

"It is impossible that the patch can be novel as to the simple matter of strengthening the seams and the material of drawers in the immediate region of the crotch; for if drawers do continually give way there it would be a reflection upon the housewives of civilized society, not to admit that for hundreds of years they have been in the habit of patching the garment 'and the forks thereof' by lapping the seams and 'reinforcing' the rents in that region.

"As to the disorders of men's drawers in and near the crotch, which have troubled housewives for centuries, I do not think any person in our day and generation can employ a patch for the purpose of preventing or curing them that can have any real novelty."

Mr. Wise dilated upon this opinion at length, and with inimitable gesture and expression warned the justices of the importance of the case to the feminine portion of the community, and of the wrath that was impending over them. Concluding, he said the case resembled the game of faro.

"There is this difference, however," said the speaker. "In faro the dealer gets all the splits, and in this the splits are all against the dealer."

At this sally the court lost likeness to its usually serious and dignified self. The laughter became boisterous and every one gave way freely to his feelings. Chief Justice Fuller could not restrain himself and almost fell out of his chair. Justice Harlan's huge form and big rosy, round face became convulsed with laughter until it became almost polemic. Justice Gray made a strong effort to preserve the dignity of the court, but he, too, was compelled to succumb and join in the general merriment.

### Waddell Will Contest Wise.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—Judge Edmund Waddell, Jr., Republican candidate against Representative George D. Wise, of the Third congressional district of Virginia, was in the city Wednesday to serve a notice of contest on Mr. Wise. The grounds set forth in this notice for the contest are obstructions to the casting of votes by Republicans in one ward of Richmond. Among the evidence Mr. Wise holds in rebuttal, besides testimony of witnesses denying illegal obstructions, is a letter stating that one of Judge Waddell's most active lieutenants had asked the writer to prepare the Democratic tickets in imitation of those put forth by the Democratic committee, excepting the substitute of Waddell's name for that of Wise. Wise will charge Judge Waddell with obstructing Republican voters, knowing he could not be elected and placing his hopes for success upon a contest.

### Want Pure Elections.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—Mr. Holman, of Indiana, has introduced a bill to preserve the purity of elections. It provides that any person who shall receive or solicit subscriptions to be used at National elections shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and punished by a fine or imprisonment. It is decided that this

provision shall not apply to money used in printing ballots, running newspapers and otherwise disseminating information. Persons who bribe others or are bribed are disfranchised from holding office for four years besides being subject to fine and imprisonment.

At Times of Peace Prepare for War.  
WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—Mr. Blair introduced in the senate yesterday the bill introduced in the house by Mr. Chipman, December 10, providing for the construction of torpedo forts, riddled cannon, etc., also the bill for the construction of armored cruisers after the plans of Mason McCarty.

Bailey's Nomination.  
WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—The information sought by the senate committee on the judiciary in the case of Bailey, appointed district attorney of Indiana, has been placed in the hands of a member of the committee. It consists of the petition sent to the attorney general by the committee of one hundred and heretofore published. It is expected that the judiciary committee will agree to an adverse report on the Bailey nomination at its next meeting, and that the nomination will be acted upon very summarily by the senate.

John M. Thurston in Washington.  
WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—John M. Thurston, of Omaha, arrived in this city Wednesday morning. He is one of the western candidates for secretary of the interior under President Harrison. His friends think him entitled to some recognition as he was temporary chairman of the convention that nominated Harrison. They have been getting in some strong work for him.

He was at the senate during yesterday afternoon and saw many Republican senators. He said to a representative of the United Press that he was here on legal business. "I have not been to Indianapolis since the election," he said. "I guess there are enough pilgrims visiting Harrison now."

The Senate Recess.  
WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—A holiday recess from December 21 to January 2 has been agreed upon by the Republican and Democratic senators.

The house amendments to the direct tax bill were non-concurred in by the senate and a conference was ordered.

It was ordered that voting on the tariff bill and amendments shall begin January 21, after which there shall be no further debate without unanimous consent.

Called Back.  
WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—The senate committee on foreign relations will probably begin the investigation of the Samoan troubles on Monday next. Harold M. Sewall, the Samoan consul who had just started for his post, was intercepted at San Francisco by a telegram of the secretary of state, and he is now on his way to Washington, which he will probably reach on Sunday next.

Mrs. Judge Waite Ill.  
WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—Mrs. Waite, widow of the late chief justice, is lying ill of pneumonia at her residence in this city. From last Friday until yesterday her illness was very critical, but a favorable change took place yesterday and her physicians consider her past the danger point. Her son, Mr. C. C. Waite, who was summoned from Cincinnati, has returned home.

### ROUGH TREATMENT

Of an Old Man at Akron by White Caps. Findlay Saloon Demolished.

AKRON, O., Dec. 21.—Joseph Carn, aged sixty, a widower, was attacked by a small party of self-constituted White Caps in a lonely part of this city Tuesday night and was shamefully treated. He was on his way home about midnight, when he was seized, and was informed that he was to be punished for alleged immoral conduct. A rope was placed about his neck, and the rope being thrown over a limb of a tree Carn was drawn up until pretty well choked. He was frightened almost to death. The rope was then loosened and the party held a consultation, during which Carn made a dash for liberty and escaped. A notice was last night also posted on John Horn's door notifying him that he would be hanged if he did not feed his stock better. The perpetrators of these acts being quite well known now claim it as a joke, which will prove very serious if they do not desist.

### Saloon Demolished.

FINDLAY, O., Dec. 21.—Early Wednesday morning parties disguised as White Caps demolished the saloon of B. J. Messmore, at Rawson. They smashed in the front of the building, broke up the furniture and poured the liquors on the street, after which they posted a notice to the proprietor to reopen at his peril, and left. Messmore is in Michigan, but when he comes home he will doubtless make a strong effort to discover just who compose the White Caps of Rawson.

### Murdered in a Barn.

AVOCA, Iowa, Dec. 21.—Joseph Hair, aged twenty-six, who worked on a farm near here, was murdered Tuesday night. He heard a noise in the barn, and went out to investigate. When found his head was battered in and near by a bloody roller.

### Caught by a Shaft and Killed.

MADISON, Ind., Dec. 21.—Adolph McCarty, an employe at the ship yards, while oiling the machinery preparatory to launching a boat, was caught and drawn upon a rapidly revolving shaft, his neck and both legs being broken and a hand torn off.

### Broke Through the Ice.

WORCESTER, Mass., Dec. 21.—John Beljon, aged six years, and Bertie Holmes, aged nine, were drowned yesterday by breaking through the ice at Curtiss pond.

### Flouring Mills Burned.

LANSING, Mich., Dec. 21.—The Capital flouring mills, at this place, were burned Wednesday night. The loss will reach \$50,000.

## DECISIVE BATTLE

### Fought Between the English and Rebels at Suakin.

THE LATTER ROUTED WITH A LOSS OF SEVERAL HUNDRED.

The Loss to the British and Egyptians but Slight—The Sultan of Zanzibar Inaugurates a Reign of Terror by Beheading a Number of Natives—African Tribes Again at War—Cablegrams.

LONDON, Dec. 21.—Dispatches from Suakin state that a decisive battle has been fought, in which the rebels have been worsted and dislodged from their position. The combined force of the Egyptians and British made an assault upon the rebels.

They stormed the redoubts and trenches, and after a half hour's brilliant fighting the enemy was driven into the bush, completely routed. The rebel loss is estimated at 400 killed, with large numbers wounded. The loss to the British and Egyptians is slight. The British forces are now encamped in the position recently occupied by the rebels. The victory to the British arms is complete.

Later dispatches state that the British had four men killed and two wounded in the cavalry charge. The Egyptian black regiment made a brilliant charge upon the enemy's trenches, in which two were killed and thirty wounded. Only two Egyptian officers were wounded.

### In the French Senate.

LONDON, Dec. 21.—The debate of the budget in the French senate Wednesday was not only in itself an exciting incident, but the fact was demonstrated conclusively that Boulangerism is rapidly spreading, and gaining in influence, and also that the government, in spite of its heroic efforts to appear calm, is positively alarmed thereat. Probably nothing that the government could have done would have had greater effect in estranging it from the respect and confidence of the populace than its action in the matter of the Panama canal bill and the dissolution of the chamber of deputies, and the revision of the constitution, as a direct consequence of the defeat of that measure, cannot much longer be deferred.

The speech of Senator Challemeil-Lacour has given the Monarchists to understand, if indeed they needed to be told, that their only advantage lies in the direction of active support of Gen. Boulanger, and their future action as allies of the men of destiny, covertly or openly, is beyond the bounds of doubt. It is true that M. Lacour deplored the downfall of the empire, and mildly deprecated the country's prostration at the feet of Boulanger, but what are the Monarchists to do in their present straits, if they do not join hands with the only man in France strong enough to overthrow the existing government, and take their chances of utilizing his power in their own interests later. This will undoubtedly be the course they will pursue.

It is a bitter pill for them to swallow, but it is perfectly plain that they must first accept the leadership of Boulanger, at least tacitly, if they would ultimately lead him and mould him to their purposes. That they can do this by no means certain, but the experiment, from their point of view, is worth making and it is confidently predicted by astute politicians that it will be made.

The exuberance of the enthusiasm which has seized the Servian radical peasants in celebrating their recent election victories by burning the houses of their political adversaries will scarcely have the effect to clear the political atmosphere in Servia and the reaction which must take place after the cheerful jubilation of the semi-barbarians is over will doubtless afford Russia a pretext for restoring order by overruling the country with troops whose corrective atrocities will cause the present outrages to appear insignificant.

### Reign of Terror in Zanzibar.

LONDON, Dec. 21.—A dispatch from Zanzibar says the sultan has signaled his return by a remarkable outburst of fanaticism, which bodes no good to the peace and safety of his subjects or security of European residents. Tuesday morning he ordered the instant beheading of four natives charged with murder, but who had had no trial.

The sentence was carried out in the public street with clumsy brutality, and the bodies were suffered to lie weltering in their gore until evening. The sultan proposes to repeat this revolting spectacle every day for a week, there being twenty-four men and women under sentence of death.

He announces that he will be guided in the future by the Mohammedan law. What change this makes may be judged from the fact that capital punishment has been unknown on the island of Zanzibar for twenty-five years. Thursday's butcheries and threats of others to follow have caused a profound sensation.

The whites are shocked and the blacks terrified. Col. Ewan Smith, the British political agent, has waited upon the sultan and remonstrated against these cruelties.

Common action will probably be taken by British, German and other representatives of European powers, to prevent their recurrence.

News has been received of an outbreak between the Arusha and Masai tribes. The former tribe had enticed the Masai warriors into making a cow-lifting expedition, and during their absence the Arushas raided the Masai settlement, massacred the old women and men and children, and seized the younger women for concubines. They also carried off 14,000 head of cattle. The Masai warriors, returning from the expedition and finding their homes devastated, lamented for three days, and then commenced a war against the Arushas, which will probably last for three years, and result in the devastation of the country west of the Kilima-Njaro mountain.

### Will There Be Trouble?

LONDON, Dec. 21.—It is asserted that the German government is endeavoring to compass the removal of Sir R. D. Morier, British ambassador to Russia. The stories of Morier's connection with Marshal Bazaine in 1870, have been revised and enlarged upon to an extent threatening the total extinction of the original yarns, but it is not believed that

the czar can be induced to disturb the amicable relations of Russia and England, even to placate Germany, any more than England can be induced to recall a faithful and capable official to satisfy the whim of a monarch whose facility for getting himself into hot water is his most conspicuous characteristic.

An Italian Tragedy.  
FLORENCE, Dec. 21.—The Countess Costa was stabbed to death in a carriage here by a captain in the army, who then committed suicide by shooting himself with a revolver.

Foreign Notes.  
Troops were called out to quell a students' revolt in Rome.

Mr. Gladstone started for Italy yesterday. His arrival at Dover was greeted by thousands of his admirers, who cheered him enthusiastically. The channel is rough and a heavy fog prevails.

Madame Di Muraska is dangerously ill in body and mind at Munich.

A new anti-Semite paper will appear at Vienna at the beginning of the new year.

The English government has ordered the reinforcement of the Mediterranean stations stopped.

The trial of Professor Geffcken will probably be postponed until March. It will take place at Leipzig.

A revolt against the actions of the customs authorities is expected to take place in Crete at no distant day.

The lower house of the Austrian reichrath has suspended trials by jury in fifteen judicial districts, under the Anarchist laws.

It is rumored that Russia has protested to Persia against that country, granting a monopoly of commerce to any foreign power.

The Samoans under Mataafa have succeeded in capturing the most of Atua. One hundred killed and several hundred wounded.

The police have discovered an extensive forgery business in London, and have made seizures of fictitious five-pound Bank of England notes.

The Italian chamber of deputies Wednesday, by a vote of 118 to 51, adopted the motion of Signor Saracco to expend \$1,700,000 in military and railroad improvements.

The construction of three new Russian cruisers, one of 9,000 and the others of 6,000 tons, is about to be commenced. The submarine boats will shortly be finished. The work on them is done with the utmost secrecy.

Lord Salisbury spoke at a meeting at Scarborough. He dwelt upon the progress that the Liberal Unionists were making, and congratulated them. In referring to the Gladstonians, he gloated over what he termed the impossibility of a reunion of Mr. Gladstone's followers.

The Radical peasants of Servia are celebrating the victories of their party in the parliamentary election by firing the homes of political opponents in the vicinity of Belgrade. The sky has been lurid for three nights with the reflection of the flames of burning dwellings.

The French minister of marine contradicts the report that the French government is about to send several ironclads to Panama to watch United States vessels of war there. He says two unarmored cruisers will go to Panama simply as a police measure, to look after the interests of the French workmen employed on the canal.

An Arkansas Tragedy.  
CAIRO, Ill., Dec. 21.—Passengers on the Cotton Belt road report a horrible tragedy at Paragould station, Ark. Tuesday night Officer Bryan, of Paragould, was detailed to serve a warrant on John Williams, who was charged with selling liquor contrary to the county law. Williams was discovered by the officer disguised as a negro. Williams resisted arrest, and during a running fire succeeded in mortally wounding Officer Bryan and his two assistants. Williams was also wounded, and will probably die.

Phil. Daly's Assaults Sentenced.  
NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—Edward Meredith, who planned the badger game in a Fourth avenue flat, in which Gambler Phil Daly was murdered, was sentenced to state prison for eight years and ten months. Henry Herman, who pleaded guilty a few days ago, was sentenced for a term of six years and eleven months. The two women, Addie Stanton and Ella Hammond, who aided them, were remanded, and will be placed on trial next week.

The Police Stopped It.  
CHICAGO, Dec. 21.—There was no sparring exhibition between Kilrain and Mitchell at the Casino, Wednesday night. Early in the afternoon Chief Hubbard notified the manager of the Casino that the sparring would not be allowed. An effort will be made to get an injunction to restrain the police from interfering with the exhibition. Meanwhile Mitchell says he is open to wrestle any man in Chicago, Gracco-Roman style, for \$50 a side.

Washed Overboard and Drowned.  
HYANNIS, Mass., Dec. 21.—The captain of the schooner Jonathan Sawyer reports that during a heavy gale off the Isle of Shoals on the 12th inst., Joseph Crowley, seaman of Red Bank, N. J., was washed overboard and drowned.

Construction Train Wrecked.  
HOUSTON, Tex., Dec. 21.—A construction train on the Arkansas Pass railway when twelve miles from this city, was derailed Wednesday, the following men being killed: A. Howard, commissary clerk of Austin; Henry Robert, brakeman; Antone Carlson, foreman of the work, hailing from San Antonio. The following were injured: S. W. Bailey, the Berry brothers, and a man named French.

The Badgers in Court.  
NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—Edward Meredith, Ella Hammond and Addie Stanton, the three badgers who tried to rob and kill Phil Daly, were arraigned before Judge Martine in the court of general sessions, to plead to the indictment found against them. Each in turn pleaded not guilty and was remanded back to prison, until to-morrow, when one of the badgers will be tried.

Coal Pool Formed.  
COLUMBUS, O., Dec. 21.—The coal operators in the Hocking, Sunday Creek and Shawnee valleys have formed a pool to regulate the output and selling price of coal for the coming year. This pool controls about two-thirds of the output of the state of Ohio.