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BATSON GETS NEW TRIAL
Supreme Court Reverses Lower Courts' Decision on Technical Grounds.

After much anxiety and suspense by the attorneys and others interested, a verdict in the case of A. E. Batson, convicted of the murder of the Earl family near this city last February, was handed down by the Supreme Court Saturday and the condemned man will have a new trial. The grounds on which the lower court's ruling was reversed are purely technical.

The following from the Times-Democrat reviews the case and gives the legal points in question as pointed out by Judge Monroe, the organ of the court:

"In the first place the defense contended that the indictment was defective in that it charged the defendant with the murder of six persons, and did not allege that the offenses were committed at once or at different times. The defense set up what is technically known as duplicity, and this the court sustains, holding that the state, when it was shown that the murders occurred at different times, should have elected upon which murder it would try the defendant. The court holds that had the six persons been all murdered at the same time the indictment would have been good, but as the proof adduced upon the trial shows that the theory of the state was that they were committed at different times the state should have elected to try the defendant upon one of the charges and confined itself to that charge.

"As to the claim by the defense that the venire was not properly drawn the Supreme Courts holds that this will not stand.

"As to the admission of the vest found in the buggy and supposed to be the property of Batson, the court holds that this was testimony which should have gone to show the connection of the accused with the crime.

"As to the admission of the evidence about the leaving of the mules in Lake Charles, and the disappearance of the defendant, the court says that this also was admissible as tending to show the connection of the accused with the crime.

"But when the documents which had not been admitted in evidence, the letters of the accused and other writings of his were admitted for the purpose of identifying his handwriting by comparison the court holds that this was an injustice to the defendant and contrary to the law. The court calls attention to the fact the rules in the Code of Practice governing this phase of the case are applicable only to civil cases.

"The case is reversed upon mere technicalities because the Supreme Court cannot pass on the evidence and is limited to the law points raised. The result is that the case goes back to the Parish of Calcasieu, and Batson will be again tried. Justice Breaux dissented from the opinion of the majority.

"The murders for which Batson was indicted, tried and sentenced to be hanged were committed near Welsh in February. The entire Earl family numbering six persons were found murdered and the mules which belonged to the family were found in Lake Charles where they had been taken by Batson who was an employee of the Earls. The lively stable keeper and all the rest of the people around the stable, and some of the people on the road from the Earl farm to Lake Charles swore that they saw Batson with the mules on the day when the murders are supposed to have occurred. The evidence against the prisoner was convincing. He did not introduce a single witness in his own behalf but contented himself with making a brief statement that he did not murder the Earls and that he had nothing to do with the murder, and did not know who did it. The trial of the case consumed nearly two weeks and though the defendant had no money the court appointed two young men, Messrs. Paul Sompayrac and Winston Overton, who conducted the case with marked ability and did not overlook a chance to register an objection and an exception. They have won in the sense that the Supreme Court, which cannot pass on the evidence, concludes that the trial did not proceed according to law.

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TOUCHING ON OIL.
Representative Steidley Introduces Bill Aiding Promoters of that Industry.

Representative Steidley, of Calcasieu parish, believes that the whole state of Louisiana is interested directly or indirectly in the oil industry as a result of the discoveries in the Beaumont and Jennings fields and the active efforts being made in different parishes to sound the depths of the earth for its riches in oil. He introduced the following important bill in the state legislature Friday touching on the subject:

"That any fuel oil pipe line company organized under the laws of this state, whether under or by special or general act, may borrow from time to time such sums of money as may be required for construction or repair, for the acquisition of property or franchises, and for this purpose may issue bonds or rather obligations, secured by mortgage or pledge, as the case may be, of the franchise and of the property, real and personal, the income, revenues, contributions and receipts of said company, and payable in such terms and at such times and places as the board of directors, trustees, managers or commissioners may direct or designate, with power to sell, pledge or otherwise dispose of said bonds, on such terms as the company may direct or deem expedient."

making a total cash transaction of over \$15,000. The soil is rich, the tract improved and no better rice land is to be had anywhere. It was the largest land deal that has taken place in this place for some time.

PERSONAL POINTERS.

T. J. Matthew and A. J. Christmas, business men of Lake Charles, were in Welsh Wednesday looking after some business interests.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Hall and son, Eck, left Tuesday for Odessa, Mo., to spend the remainder of the summer the guests of kindred and friends.

H. E. Head was in Crowley Tuesday night in Lake Charles the past week, returned home Tuesday, accompanied by Miss Emma Bendixen, who will spend a week with friends in this city.

Misses Florence Price and Francis Clarke, of New Orleans, and Miss Pinkie Dupree, of Houston, Texas, who have been visiting Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Tubbs in this city, have returned to their respective homes.

A. L. Ruhl, of the firm of Richards & Conover Hardware company, Kansas City, accompanied by his daughter, Miss Louise, arrived here Wednesday to visit Mrs. L. E. Robinson. Mr. Ruhl returned home today, but his daughter will spend a couple of weeks in this city.

Mrs. F. A. Arceneaux and daughters, Misses Lida and Alpha, and son Seneire, Chas. Stewart and family, Peter Unkel and Garland Hayes spent Saturday night in Jennings attending the Catholic Knights' meeting. The mission that has been in progress at the Catholic church there for a week, closed Sunday night. The Knights had another meeting last evening and many from all portions of the parish were in attendance.

LITTLE LOCALS.
Minor Happenings in the City Briefly Recorded.

Charles Moore a painter of this city, and Miss Elsie Lands went to Lake Charles Monday and were there united in marriage. They will make their home in Port Arthur, Texas.

Late dispatches confirm the report that King Edward's condition is extremely critical and the coronation ceremonies, which were to have taken place this week, will have been indefinitely postponed.

P. E. D. Underwood, the tinner, bought a lot of L. E. Robinson Tuesday on the corner of Polk street and Russell avenue, for which he paid \$250. Mr. Underwood will begin the erection of a fine residence immediately.

George A. Bailie had the misfortune of sticking a nail in his right foot Monday, and as a result has been confined to his bed since. The nail was rusty and penetrated deeply into his foot, causing a very painful injury.

The Journal's subscription list is growing at an encouraging rate—a fact that we are glad to report, because it is evidence that our efforts are appreciated. If you are not already a subscriber, have your name placed on the list at once.

The Welsh Cornet band has been invited to dispense music for a Fourth of July celebration at Port Arthur, Texas, and the boys here have begun preparing for the trip. The Welsh band has only been organized but a few months, but renders splendid music.

A. E. Parent, a young civil engineer of Lake Charles, was here two or three days this week investigating Welsh's oil outlook and was very favorably impressed with the indications on the Woods farm. He will in all probability invest in property near the oil field.

C. E. Smith, mayor of Port Arthur, Texas, and an owner of some oil wells in Beaumont was in Welsh Monday and drove out to his big rice plantation near town. He was well pleased with his prospects for a good crop and expressed surprise at Welsh's wonderful growth since having last visited here.

Mrs. N. L. Prentice, who left here three weeks ago with a party of friends for an extended visit with relatives and friends in Oregon, was taken sick at Redding, California, and the journey was delayed several days. In a letter to Welsh relatives, Mr. Prentice stated that his wife would probably be able to resume the trip this week.

A land and immigration association was organized at Galveston, Texas, last week. The officers chosen for the next year were a president, sixteen vice-presidents, secretary and executive committee. C. J. Wildeman, of this city, was selected as one of the vice-presidents. The object of the new association is to develop and improve the rice and oil lands of Texas and Louisiana, and is a good move.

Fire at Lake Arthur.

The Fox Lumber company of Lake Arthur, caught fire early last Thursday morning and all of the lumber and the saw mill belonging to the company were burned, entailing a loss estimated at \$20,000, with no insurance. The fire broke out about 3 o'clock in the morning while the residents were all asleep and before it was discovered had gained such headway that it was impossible to control it. The origin of the fire is unknown.

A Big Land Deal.

Mrs. Ella M. Gallup, of near town, through W. T. Hutchinson of this city, bought 649 acres of land, comprising the tract of the late S. G. Babcock, at the succession sale held at the court house in Lake Charles Saturday. This land is the whole of section seventeen and is located two and a half miles northeast of Welsh and brought \$23.34 per acre.

For Sale.

One 50-horse power boiler and 24-inch Menge pump for sale cheap. Huskey & Coverdale, Welsh, La.
 Office Miller Building, Cor. Elm and South Sts.

Furniture! Furniture!
 At prices to meet competition.
PAUL W. DANIELS.
 I bought my belting before the rise and will give you the benefit of it.
H. A. DAVIDSON.

OILS. -- OILS.
 We have just received a car load of Machine Oils and can supply your demands with any and all kinds of Oils. Call and see us before buying.
 Yours for business,
CALCASIEU IMPLEMENT CO.

Call at the S. P. Hotel for...
Fresh Family Groceries
 Fruits, Nuts, Pies, Cakes, Cigars and Tobacco.
 Also Ice Cream and Lemonade.
R. F. PRENTICE.
 South Railroad Avenue, WELSH, LA.

Elegant Instrument.

If you intend purchasing a piano and want something good, then see the WEG-MAN PIANO, positively the finest instrument on the market. Catalogue furnished by
CHARLES GRAY,
 Crowley.

Heath-Milligan ready mixed paints—complete line at Daniel's.

No Verdict in Adams Case.

New York, June 21.—The jury in the case of "All" Adams, the great policy king, reported at 10:30 o'clock this morning that they were unable to agree, and were discharged.

BELTS! BELTS! BELTS!

I have a quantity of first class rubber belt which I am closing out at cost. Call and see me at my office in the rear of Bank.
H. A. DAVIDSON.
 Don't forget that the Davidson-Wesson Implement Co., Ltd., have all kinds of buggies.

A Magnificent Showing.

That Welsh is one of the best points along the Southern Pacific railroad is shown by the amount of work done by the railroad company at this place. Station Agent Tubbs informed a Journal reporter Tuesday that this week's freight and passenger traffic was the largest in the history of Welsh. Monday tickets to the amount of \$285 were sold, and the total cash receipts of the office on that day were \$999.16. Tuesday the company's business at this place reached \$1,300, only a portion of this amount having been cash, however. Mr. Tubbs says his debit account seldom falls below \$1,000 per day, which is a magnificent showing for a town of this size.

Belts! Belts!

The largest stock ever brought to Welsh, both rubber and genuine gandy, all sizes. Also a complete line of brass goods and steam fittings, packing, oils, etc.
WELSH CARRIAGE & IMPLEMENT CO., Limited.

—List your land with the Louisiana Land Co. Ltd., office rooms 6 and 7, Citizens bank building, Jennings, La., Miller building, Welsh, Louisiana. Correspondence solicited.

Go to Bell & Co.'s for everything needed in the general merchandise line.

Gentlemen, go to Bell & Co. for a nice pair of spring shoes, or low quarters.

An Opera House a Necessity.

Welsh has an opportunity of securing a splendid lecture course within the next few months, but the matter cannot be properly worked up on account of there not being a hall in town sufficient for an occasion of this kind. Now that our city has all the other requirements of a town of its size, it seems that an opera house is almost an absolute necessity, and we hope the matter of building one will receive the favorable consideration of our citizens.

Buggies, Buggies.

Davidson-Wesson Implement Co. carry in stock an extra large line of the best makes of buggies, which are sold at the lowest possible price. Remember that with every buggy sold is given a free umbrella.

Union Sunday School.

Sessions are held in Congregational Church every Sunday at 9:45 a. m. A cordial welcome is extended to all.
Mrs. C. M. FIELD,
 Superintendent.

Frank J. Locke, watchmaker and optician, has returned and can be found at his old stand near the Racket Store.

Call and see the champion at **ROBINSON & Darr's.**

Get your wife a New Home Sewing Machine from A. E. Bell & Co.
 Phroso ice cream freezers at Daniel's.

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 Successors to H. A. Davidson.
Welsh, - - - - Louisiana.
 DEALERS IN
Hardware, Shoes, Groceries Etc.
 We Meet Competition at all times.
 Our line of
GROCERIES
 Will be constantly replenished, thereby giving our customers fresh goods at all times.
 Call and be convinced.
Prentice & Powers,
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Our stock is conveniently arranged so that our customers can inspect any piece of Furniture they want and see what they want before they purchase. Our stock is selected especially for this section, and it is a cardinal point in our business to please and supply your wants. Every article sold is guaranteed and our prices will compare with any other Furniture house. Our stock will bear inspection and you are requested to call and look at same. If you do not want anything in our line at present you may before long and then you will know where to go to get it. We have the most complete stock of RUGS ever offered in this town. Come and see them. Also our BAMBOO PORCH AWNINGS. Don't let the sun burn you out, for a few dollars invested in the cheapest, coolest and neatest awning known. REFRIGERATORS, all sizes and styles, marked 'way down low.

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