

Our Telegraphic Correspondence from the American Press Association, via the S. P. and A. Telegraph Company.

THE McFARLAND TRIAL.

Evidence to Prove the Prisoner's Insanity Pending the Murder of Richardson.

THE TRUTH. The Situation in West Tennessee as Related by Chancellor Somers.

He Thinks Reconstruction Would be Ruinous to the Whites and Blacks.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., April 4, 1870. Messrs. Geo. H. Bradford, J. R. Vincent, Geo. H. Bonfante, W. S. Scott and others: I received on yesterday a note from you, propounding certain questions to me, with a request that I should answer them in the order in which they are put.

1. When were you made Chancellor of this Division, and by whom? I was appointed Chancellor of this Division in May, 1868, by Governor Wm. G. Brownlow.

2. By what tenure do you now hold the office, and when were you elected? I was elected last May, and was commissioned by Governor W. W. Campbell, my commission being for one year, which expires on the 1st of May next.

3. What length of time have you been engaged in the practice of the law in this (West) division, and in what courts? I received license to practice law in the latter part of the year 1849, since which time up to the present I have been engaged in the practice of the law in this (West) division, and in the following courts: Circuit, Carroll, Weakley, Henry and Union.

4. Have you, by interchange, held any of the Circuit Courts, if so, when and where? I held a Circuit Court at Huntingdon, Carroll county, by interchange with the Hon. L. L. Hawkins, in 1867. I have held the Circuit Court at this place two or three times, by interchange with the Hon. John A. Rogers, in 1868 and 1869. I also held a Circuit Court at Union City, Union county, in 1867.

5. Have you, in any instance, held any of the Circuit Courts, if so, when and where? Personally I have not. I have heard of a few instances in which persons have been taken forcibly from the officers of the law and lynched. In these cases the persons taken were charged with high crimes, such as murder, rape, or other offenses, and in a case of habeas corpus some time last fall. The writ was issued by me, at the instance of a mother, whose husband had separated from her, so that she got the custody of her child—a little boy about 7 years old. The custody of the child was taken possession of by a man from Madison Bend, in Ohio county, who crossed the river and was in Missouri, intending to take a boat at New Madrid, Mo. The husband, and father of the child, took him away from the mother while he was in Missouri, at New Madrid. The counsel for the petitioner came to the court, and the case was dropped.

6. Has there been any difficulty in Union men or persons of color getting their rights in courts where you have presided? There has not. Are the people, regardless of party distinction, secure in their persons and property in the State so far as your observations extend, so far as you have observed? They are. I have known of no one being molested because of his political opinions, for the last two or three years. The people of the State, so far as I have observed, are quiet and law-abiding; as much so, at present, if not more so, than they were before the war. A manifest spirit of improvement generally prevails. They are at work in earnest, striving to repair the losses occasioned by the war, and are rapidly recovering from them. A greater spirit of industry will scarcely be found anywhere. They most of them seem to be enjoying the fruits of their labor. This is a state of lawlessness exists in that portion of the State is wholly untrue, and I believe it equally untrue as to the entire State.

7. To reconstruct the State, as it is called, will be most ruinous to the interest of all classes, white and colored. Industry and economy of the people, peace, and the spirit of improvement, now almost universal, will be once destroyed, and our people will have to set back to where they were before themselves, as best they can, with simply food and raiment enough to preserve life—they will have no heart to work for more. Having complied with your request, I remain yours truly, JOHN SOMERS.

Anti-Kissing Laws. Mallet tells us, in his "Northern Antiquities," that some curious customs which would hardly prevail in our southern climes. One of these is, that a man was liable to exile for kissing an unmarried woman without her consent, or a married woman either with or without her consent, out of her own province. All persons found aiding or abetting him in either were condemned to the same punishment. For kissing another man's wife, with or without her consent, the punishment of castration or its pecuniary equivalent was decreed. A man who was liable to the same punishment for kissing an unmarried woman under guardianship without her consent, and even if she consented, a law required that every kiss should be stamped for a fine of three marks, equivalent to one hundred dollars. A man who was liable to the same punishment for kissing a woman's wife without her consent, was liable to a fine of three marks, equivalent to one hundred dollars. These anti-kissing laws have been frequently cited by modern writers as a proof that the fair dames of the North, in the olden times, were remarkable for their chastity and propriety conduct. One hundred and forty-four pills of cloth for a kiss! It is pretty certain that there were no woman's rights here in the Oregon or the West, but also the colonies have been enforced, even if it could have existed.

Roses a Luxury of the Ancients. To enjoy the scent of roses, as much, an abundance of roses were shaken on the table, so that the dishes were completely surrounded. By an artificial contrivance, roses were blown round the guests during meals dressed on the guests round above, as a caldus, in his folly, caused heads to be showered down upon his guests, so that they were unable to extricate themselves, and were suffocated in flowers. During meals, "roses" were blown on cushions stuffed with roses, or a man with roses, and in this custom great luxury was displayed. Cleopatra, in enormous expense, procured roses for a feast which she gave to Anthony, had them laid two cubits thick on the floor of the banquet room, and caused men to be spread over the flowers, in order to render the footing elastic. Helio-gabalus caused not only the banquet room, but also the columns, to be covered with roses, interspersed with lilies, violets, hyacinths and narcissus, and walked about upon the floral pavement.

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Investigation of Charleston Howard—XVII Amendment—Argument on Legal Tender, Postponed—The Funding Bill—The Income Tax—Annexation of Louisiana—Condition of U. S. Treasury—The James and Ohio River Canal.

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CUBA.

Another Band of Spanish Fugitives—The Insurgents Again U.S.?

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COAL.

Trouble among the Miners about to Come to an End.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., April 11.—The Executive Committee of the Anthracite Board of Trade sent the following circular to all coal operators today: "The anthracite coal operators of this district are about to sign a new contract with the miners, and it is believed that the strike will be terminated in a few days. The miners have agreed to work for the same wages and conditions as before, and the operators have agreed to pay the same prices for the coal. It is believed that the strike will be terminated in a few days, and that the coal supply will be restored to normal conditions."

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