

GOES FOR COLE

Col. T. B. Felder Addresses Open Letter to Governor Cole L. Bleese

LIBEL SUIT OR A DUEL

Publishes Two Interesting Letters of Bleese, and Dares Him to Enter Suit for Damages.—Promises to Pay Attorneys Fees if He Sues and Wins.

The Atlanta Constitution Saturday published a most sensational open letter addressed "To Cole L. Bleese" and signed by Thomas B. Felder. This letter follows one of a more general character addressed to many newspapers.

Charges of the gravest nature are made against the governor of South Carolina, and he is challenged to go into the United States courts for redress. Two letters signed "Cole" alleged to have been addressed to a liquor establishment, one asking for pay for services and the other acknowledging the receipt of \$500 and expressing doubt of "Hub's" reliability in money matters, are printed. It is distinctly shocking to South Carolinians to have "coward or thief" applied to the governor of this State.

While the matter has been published in a responsible newspaper, we do not feel warranted in reproducing the language conveying criminal charges until there is more light shed. Mr. Felder should be made to prove his charges or else suffer the penalties for gross libel.

He says in part:

If the charges I make are false, they are libelous per se, and I am suitably solvent.

Moreover, with apologies to the shade of my departed ancestors, I in modesty (?) claim to be your equal, and if you are aggrieved by the charges, it will be my pleasure to meet you at such time and place without the confines of your State that may suit your convenience, to the end that abundant opportunity may be afforded to redress your grievances.

If my charges are groundless and libelous and you do not wish to seek personal satisfaction, you can institute suit, against me in the United States court in the city of Atlanta—should it be objected, however, that this is my home county, then in any of the subdivisions of the district. As soon as suit is filed I hereby promise and agree, in order to facilitate and expedite the same and by way of circumventing any excuse you may offer for inaction, that I will acknowledge service and will enter into a recognizance with good and approved security in an amount covering the sum sued for, the fees of your counsel and the cost of court, together with your personal expenses and the expenses of your witnesses; the only condition of the bond be that you shall finally prevail in the litigation.

An investigation of this court will disclose that it is presided over by a distinguished jurist, who, in the administration of the laws, knows neither friend nor foe, and while his decisions are occasionally reversed, they abound in such rigid integrity that they are universally interpreted to be "without variableness or shadow of turning."

Then follow the direct charges on which Bleese is invited to base his suit for libel. They affect his conduct while senator from Newberry in dealing with persons selling supplies to the State dispensary.

Here are two letters as presented by Col. Felder:

I use your own language: From the "mountain of evidence" in my possession I submit for your consideration "a few grains of sand." In doing so I omit the name of the addressee:

"Dear sir: I am greatly surprised that you failed to call upon me during your recent visit to Columbia and arrange the matter as promised. Spoke to Hub about it and he referred me to you. Have performed all services as agreed, both as to matters pending here and as to the last purchases by the board. Let me hear from you at once. Read and destroy."

Yours very truly,

(Signed) "Cole."

This letter was written by you during a session of the legislature of the State of South Carolina, in the month of February, 1905, to the representative of a well known liquor house which has had large transactions with the State dispensary. Thereafter, on March 16, 1905, you addressed another communication to the same party, as follows:

"Dear sir: Since writing you on the 26th ultimo, saw Hub. He handed me the five hundred. Hereafter either deal directly with me or through J. F. Confidentially cannot rely on Hub in money matters. Hope to see you soon and report happenings."

Very truly yours,

(Signed) "Cole."

Other charges about the methods of securing votes in the primary election last summer follow, and Felder closes in a caustic taunt to the gov-

NEED OF RAIN

IS FELT ALL OVER THE SOUTHERN COTTON BELT.

Price of the Crop Hangs on the Words of the Weather Man for This Week.

A dispatch from New Orleans says this week in the cotton market nearly everything but the weather will be lost sight of. It is generally acknowledged that the crop is fast getting into a critical condition as the result of protracted drought and high temperatures. At the end of last week there was no relief in sight on the weather map, and if the week opens with a dry and hot map the chances are that a sensational rise in prices will take place and that new high levels for the season will be established on the new crop months.

It is seldom that at this time of the year the cotton belt has suffered such uniformly bad weather. According to both private and official reports every state in the cotton belt needs good rains.

The high temperatures would not be a draw-back in most localities if sufficient moisture were falling to keep the plant growing. Warm nights right now are an advantage that the crop seldom has. Without rain however, the high temperatures are adding to the injury being worked.

At the end of last week the worst complaints were coming from the Carolinas, parts of Oklahoma, Texas, Mississippi and Louisiana. All other states, however, needed rain but not as badly as the ones mentioned. It was claimed that in parts of Mississippi cotton was tall enough to germinate because of the excessive dryness of the soil. Should these conditions be relieved this week the trade will again take another look at the bureau reports of last week.

The improvement in crop conditions that rain would bring will be commensurate with the condition figures of 27.8 on May 25 and calculations made on the basis of the 35,000,000 acres reported planted this year to arrive at the first real crop pointers of the season. Should the drought continue the trade would have nothing much to base calculations on because it would have no way that that both bulls and bears would accept of determining the number of points in condition that the crop has fallen off.

It will be a weather market more than anything else from now on, although the summer months may again spring into prominence. The departure of W. P. Brown of New York, has again revived stories of an organized bull campaign in July and August, and with Mr. Brown again in the New York ring, it may be that definite operations of the bull crowd may come to light.

His Head Knocked Off.

Daniel P. Wrinkle, aged 33 years, a conductor on an Oak street car at Chattanooga, Tenn., had his head knocked off while the car was crossing the McCallie Avenue Viaduct at 3 o'clock Saturday afternoon. The car was loaded with women and children, who became frantic with excitement at the sight of the headless body of the conductor.

Automobile Accident.

In an automobile accident near Richmond, Va., Saturday Miss Mildred Calisch was instantly killed and the other occupants of the car, Misses Hanna May, Bessie Straus and Virginia Levin and Emanuel Wallerstein, Harold Calisch, brother of the dead girl, and Sylvan Straus, were more or less seriously injured.

Auto Struck by Train.

While driving across the tracks of the Southern Railroad in Fort Valley, Ga., Saturday afternoon with Mrs. T. C. Eberhardt, the Rev. H. B. Dean, a Methodist minister of that place, was killed and his companion seriously injured when a freight train struck their automobile.

To those who know Col. Felder and who are informed as to the chaos existing in the political affairs of South Carolina, it is scarcely necessary to say that the governor of South Carolina has, to say the least of it, taken a circuitous route to attack Mr. Felder, his allegations, as mysterious and misty as it is, relating to an event of seven years ago. If there had been anything in the governor's position, he was recreant in his duty in not having given the people of his State the benefit of his information before now, when he suddenly springs an attack on Col. Felder in a general fusillade in which he assaults at the same time many prominent citizens of South Carolina.

Gov. Bleese seems to have a way of running amuck, and that he has done so in this instance no one who knows Col. Felder will doubt. The State cannot, of course, forecast the course of the governor of South Carolina in this crisis.

BUCKS THE BOARD

STATE TREASURER REFUSES TO ALLOW MONEY REMOVED.

Dispensary Board Had Ordered Fund of \$25,000 Divided Among Banks at Homes of its Members.

State Treasurer Jennings will refuse to countersign checks transferring the dispensary fund amounting to \$25,000 to four banks in the state because the banks have not been approved by the state financial board as depositories for state funds. This \$25,000 in question is now on deposit in the National Loan and Exchange Bank of Columbia, where it was placed as a working capital by the old commission.

Several days ago the new commission passed a resolution authorizing the \$25,000 to be placed in the following banks: Enterprise Bank of Charleston, \$5,000; Bank of Mullins, \$5,000; Bank of Bishopville, \$5,000; Newberry Savings Bank, \$5,000, and Farmers Union Savings and Trust Company, of Orangeburg, \$5,000.

The Newberry Savings Bank, of Newberry, is the only bank that has been approved by the financial board which is composed of the governor, state treasurer and comptroller general, as depositories for state funds.

State Treasurer Jennings has addressed a letter to the secretary of the new commission informing him of his position. The letter was addressed following the receipt of the resolution.

Comptroller General Jones is of the same opinion as the state treasurer and the action of Mr. Jennings will be upheld. The state treasurer will countersign checks for the money to be placed in banks that have been approved by the financial board. It might be mentioned that the banks in question are located in the home towns of the members of the new commission.

State Treasurer Jennings is acting under Section 12 of the acts of 1908. This act requires that he countersign all checks payable according to law. He takes the position that the checks transferring the money to four of the banks would not be according to law, and therefore will refuse to give his signature.

The following is the resolution of the commission: Whereas, the moneys on deposit to the credit of the state dispensary commission are deposited in the National Loan and Exchange Bank, of Columbia, without interest; and

Whereas, it has come to the knowledge of the commission that the same can be deposited in other banks at a rate of interest not less than 4 per cent per annum, subject to call; and

Whereas, this commission is of the opinion, the said funds should be deposited upon interest. Therefore, be it:

Resolved, That out of the funds on deposit as aforesaid, the sum of \$5,000 be deposited according to law in the Enterprise Bank of Charleston; \$5,000 in the Bank of Mullins; \$5,000 in the Bank of Bishopville; \$5,000 in the Farmers Union Bank and Trust Company of Orangeburg; \$5,000 in the Newberry Savings Bank of Newberry as required by law, said deposits to be made upon the condition that interest will be paid at the rate of four per cent per annum and that the said funds be subject to call."

STAGE COACH FATALITY.

One Killed and Ten Injured in Yosemite Valley.

In a stage coach runaway in the Yosemite Valley late Saturday, R. L. Lelensing, of Allentown, Pa., was killed, three women were seriously injured and seven other persons sustained minor injuries. The coach was on a steep grade between the Big Tree Grove, at Wacana, and the floor of the Yosemite Valley. The party, numbering forty persons, occupied four big mountain stage coaches.

At a steep grade the horses of the front stage became frightened. The brakes failed to hold and the team galloped down the winding road with the stage swinging from side to side between a high bank and a sharp precipice, while the passengers screamed in fright. Convinced that he could not stop the animals, the driver finally turned them straight into the wall of the cliff. The stage turned over and several of the passengers were caught beneath it. Lelensing was thrown clear, but struck on his skull.

Many Soldiers Killed.

The explosion which occurred in the fortress La Loma, on Tiscapa, Hill, overlooking Managua, Nicaragua, Thursday afternoon, resulted in the killing or wounding of 120 soldiers. It was officially stated Friday that the blowing up of the fortress was due to a political plot. Many liberals, supporters of ex-President Estrada, have been arrested.

Executive Clemency.

Since assuming the duties of chief executive of the state of South Carolina on January 17th, Governor Bleese has granted executive clemency in 171 cases, as follows: paroles, 84; pardons and commutations, 87.

HIS DAYS FEW

Second Lorimer Probe Will Penetrate Deeper Than the First.

NO DOUBT OF HIS GUILT

Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections Have a Stormy Meeting.—Kenyon Demands that Inquiry Be Made Into the Activity of the Beef and Lumber Trusts.

The Washington correspondent says the days of William Lorimer as Senator of the United States are numbered. The second probe ordered by the senate will penetrate deeper than the first and seek to ascertain his personal knowledge and corruption practised in his election.

Moreover, the demand was verified this morning at the motion of the Senate committee on privileges and elections, that the senate committee should try to learn: First, did the beef trust and the lumber trust seek to buy a seat in the Senate for one of the henchmen? Second, have not several individuals subjected themselves to criminal prosecution for acts of bribery and corruption practiced in connection with the election of a United States senator?

The meeting of the Senate committee was anything but peaceable. The issue came up upon the selection of a sub-committee of eight to conduct the investigation in accordance with the "gentlemen's agreement" previously entered into.

Senator Kenyon demanded that the investigating committee should inquire into the activity of the beef trust and the lumber trust in securing the election of Lorimer to the Senate. Until recently Mr. Kenyon was the chief trust buster of the administration and conducted the prosecution of the beef trusts.

Other members of the committee strongly opposed this and argued that the inquiry should be limited to Lorimer and his right to retain his seat believing the Senate committee should not deliberately seek evidence to incriminate others in the acts of fraud and corruption.

Senator Kenyon insisted that the sub-committee make a thorough and sweeping investigation of the whole case and expressed the opinion that evidence will be found to sustain criminal indictments. With this in view he and those who support his view seek to have a sub-committee of nine, of which Mr. Kenyon will be a member. The "gentlemen's agreement" provided for a sub-committee of eight, to consist of Senators Dillingham, Gamble, Sutherland, Clapp, Kenyon, Republicans; and Johnston, Fletcher, Kern and Lea, Democrats.

Senator Kern, Democrat, offered to give up his place on the investigating committee to Kenyon, Republican. It was impossible to reach an agreement and the matter went over until Monday afternoon, when another meeting will be held.

The telegram received today by Senator Dillingham from Lorimer is taken to mean that the rumors that Lorimer would resign rather than subject himself and his friends to another grueling investigation are entirely groundless.

RIOTS IN MEXICO.

One Hundred Men Killed in Town of Leon on Sunday.

One hundred residents of Leon, Mexico, are dead or wounded as the result of a riot in that city Sunday, according to telephone messages received from there. Navarro, with forty of his men, entered the place Sunday morning to await the coming of Madero. The leader went to the Zocalo and while making a speech there a mob formed and attacked the jail with the object of releasing the prisoners. The police fired on the rioters. Navarro rushed his men to the defense of the local authorities, who mistook them for a part of the mob, and fired. Notwithstanding this, he gave orders to continue in the assistance of suppressing the mob, but order was not restored until scores had been injured and many killed.

Train Fired Upon.

Clifford Foxhall, a brakeman, colored, was killed and two white men were shot through the hands Sunday morning on a Southern Railway train at Traloo, Ala. Foxhall was shot twice and died on the train. The shots came from ambush as the train was proceeding at a rapid rate of speed.

Suicides With Handkerchief. Using a handkerchief as a noose, Mrs. Minnie Miller, aged 76, committed suicide in the police station at Philadelphia, Pa., Saturday by hanging herself from a cell bar. The woman was arrested on a charge of picking pockets. Fear of disgrace was the motive for suicide.

Endorsement of Governor Marshall. A resolution endorsed Governor Marshall for the presidency in 1912 was adopted by the Indiana Democratic Editors association at its summer meeting in session at Laport, Ind.

TALKS TO EDITORS

WOODROW WILSON SHOWS THE DANGER OF THE SYSTEMS.

New Jersey's Governor Calls on the Editors and Lawyers to Prevent Combinations.

Governor Woodrow Wilson spoke in the Opera House in Columbia on Friday evening before the State Press Association. The Opera House was packed with a large and fashionable audience. The eloquent speaker pointed out the dangers of the concentration in a few hands of the nation's wealth.

He warned the editors that their duty was not only to comment upon the workings of the "system with a capital S," but also to reveal to the people what these activities were and what they signified. The lawyers of the country, he said, are the men who must solve the difficulties; and I believe they will have sense enough to do so.

Governor Wilson said that the country is menaced by a wave of socialism unless some steps are taken to unlock the double-bolted doors of opportunity. Speaking of the dangers of combinations of capital, Governor Wilson said:

"What is it that we are afraid of? In the first place we thought some years ago that what we were principally afraid of was the deliberate violation of restraint of trade and restraint of everything that was inconsistent with everything against the men who made the combinations and so we passed the anti-trust act, and we have been trying ever since to interpret the meaning of the anti-trust law, and the trusts are just as much in power now as they were when the supreme court of the United States began to interpret that statute."

"You dissolved the Standard Oil company, but its power is not dissolved. You dissolved the American Tobacco, but somehow its grip continues to be felt in its constituent parts in our several communities."

"Are we so young, are you so innocent as to suppose that that is the only way in which it is done? That is the conspicuous way, but men are getting too wise to do it in that way and you must get very much into particulars."

"I would that every newspaper in the country would publish the circumstances of its own locality as it knows it in order that we may see what exactly it is that we have to fear, and here is a great deal to be feared—not fear as those who fear when they think of themselves defenseless, but as those fear who fear only ignorance and who are sure when they know they can take care of themselves."

"For I am not afraid that the American people will not know of remedies for the evils so soon as it distinguishes what those evils are. I am, therefore, eager that the American people should be minutely informed—surely that is the duty of the press—and gentlemen of the press, there are opportunities in your own community."

FARMERS BEING BUNCOED.

Lumber Trust is Behind Fight on Reciprocity.

In a speech before the Western Economic Society of Chicago on Saturday night, President Taft declared that the principal opposition to the Canadian reciprocity agreement came not from the farmer but from the lumber trust and from American manufacturers of print paper.

In one of the most comprehensive addresses that he has made on the subject, the president outlined some of the methods employed by the opponents of reciprocity; practically told the farmers that they were being "buncoed" by special interests, and said that the fate of the agreement rested not so much with the United States senate as with the people of the country.

If the farmer and the country at large, he said, could be brought to understand that this treaty was in the interests of the majority of the people, he would no longer fear the coming vote in the senate.

Found Nearly Dead.

John D. Rodenburg, at one time a very prosperous merchant of Savannah, was found almost dead in his room in a boarding house there Sunday morning, and died shortly afterwards. Attracted by the odor of escaping gas, the landlady and others broke into Rodenburg's room with an axe and worked for an hour or more in an effort to resuscitate him. He was 46 years old.

Lopez Put to Death.

"Red" Lopez, the Mexican revolutionist, ordered imprisoned by Francisco I. Madero, Jr., on the charge that he had "sold out" to American interests while in command of a section of the insurgent garrison at Augua Prieto, has been put to death. Lopez was being carried to Camaneca to serve an eight-year sentence imposed by a court martial.

Bank Divided.

The distribution of check disclosed an increase of the dividend of the bank of Toronto to 11 per cent per annum.

INSURANCE FEES

OVER \$60,000 COLLECTED BY INSURANCE DEPARTMENT.

Of this Amount One-half Goes to the State and the Other Half to the Counties.

Insurance Commissioner McMaster reported Saturday to State Treasurer Jennings the amounts to be paid to the several county treasurers in the State on account of what is known as additional license fees, collected from the insurance companies for the six months ending December 31, 1910.

The several counties get for ordinary county purposes the amounts named as follows:

Abbeville.....	\$ 463.97
Aiken.....	521.91
Anderson.....	1,574.54
Bamberg.....	320.80
Barnwell.....	428.08
Beaufort.....	189.32
Berkeley.....	155.78
Calhoun.....	150.97
Charleston.....	4,599.62
Cherokee.....	313.89
Chester.....	635.70
Chesterfield.....	498.74
Clarendon.....	452.44
Colleton.....	228.60
Darlington.....	775.84
Dillon.....	215.23
Dorchester.....	325.45
Edgefield.....	389.96
Fairfield.....	318.96
Florence.....	860.07
Georgetown.....	429.41
Greenville.....	1,486.83
Greenwood.....	675.09
Hampton.....	278.06
Harri.....	168.26
Kershaw.....	354.80
Lancaster.....	458.13
Laurens.....	625.51
Lee.....	310.00
Lexington.....	365.23
Marion.....	873.76
Marlboro.....	858.73
Newberry.....	594.31
Oconee.....	269.29
Orangeburg.....	1,050.47
Pickens.....	274.17
Richland.....	2,615.84
Saluda.....	127.67
Spartanburg.....	1,768.53
Sumter.....	1,123.39
Union.....	581.08
Williamsburg.....	390.24
York.....	959.93

This shows a total collected on this account of \$60,117. One-half of which goes to the State and the other half to the counties. The total collections by the insurance department from January 1, 1911, to June 1, 1911, amount to \$101,120.21.

GIVEN A GRAND TIME.

Meeting of the Press Association in Columbia.

The State Press Association met in Columbia on last Wednesday and had a most delightful time for two days. The Association was never better entertained anywhere. The people of Columbia vied with each other in seeing that the newspaper men had a good time, and if they did not have it was their own fault.

The automobile trip, "Seeing Columbia" was a success. More than a score of automobiles made the trip. The principal places of interest in the city were visited. The trip was made under the direction of McDavid Horton. A stop was made shortly after noon at Fairwood farms, where the members of the association were the guests of A. E. Gonzales, the genial, well-souled owner of these beautiful farms.

With the election of officers the South Carolina Press Association adjourned to meet Friday at a place to be selected by the executive committee of the association. The following officers were elected to serve for the coming year:

President, H. L. Watson, of Greenwood. First vice president, Edward H. DeCamp, of Gaffney.

Second vice president, J. L. Mims, of Edgefield.

Secretary, W. F. Caldwell, of Chester.

Treasurer, J. L. Sims, of Orangeburg.

Chaplain, S. A. Nettles, of Spartanburg.

Members of executive committee, Robert Lathan, of Charleston; William Banks, of Columbia; Neils Christensen, of Beaufort.

Brings Grief to Family.

Two miles from Austin, Pa., Mrs. Jacob Swanson was killed and four of her children, ranging in age from 5 to 12 years, were seriously hurt Saturday, when an automobile, driven by her husband, struck an iron girder in a bridge. Swanson escaped with slight injuries, but Carl Freeland, also a passenger, was seriously hurt. The five-year-old child suffered a broken leg.

Sad Ending of Party.

Six persons were drowned in Utah Lake Sunday when a launch in which sixteen people were attending a party given in honor of the approaching marriage of Miss Vera Brown and Edward B. Holmes, capsized. Among the drowned were the prospective bride and groom and two children of Capt. Frank Brown, owner of the launch.

WILSON STRONG

The Governor of New Jersey Seems to be Gaining Strength.

LOOKS LIKE A WINNER

WILSON STRONG.....\$ Since His Visit to Columbia It Looks.

Like He Will Get Solid South Carolina Delegation's Support, and He Looms Up Strong in All Parts of the Country.

The Columbia correspondent of the Augusta Chronicle says Woodrow Wilson made an impression there. He was heard by the people that really count in South Carolina, and the general opinion is that he will receive the full vote of the South Carolina delegation at the national convention.

South Carolina is regarded as most important in the matter of nominations. The state convention here will be held before others, and it is safe to say that the delegation will be instructed for Woodrow Wilson. The other states will watch how South Carolina instructs her delegates.

The governor of this state is against Governor Wilson for the simple reason that he delivered an address before the members of the State Press association. The governor, when he heard that Woodrow Wilson was to be the principal speaker at the association meeting, immediately declared himself for Harmon.

It is very doubtful if the governor of South Carolina can give a sensible reason for desiring Governor Harmon. It is all personal spite with him, and anything to hit back at the editors of South Carolina.

Fortunately for Woodrow Wilson the opinion of the governor of South Carolina is held very lightly by the people, and the governor of New Jersey need have little fear of the fight that the governor of this state will start in the convention against him.

The governor of South Carolina knows practically nothing of Woodrow Wilson. He is not capable of sizing up a man of the size of the governor of New Jersey, and it is taken for granted that he selected Governor Harmon because some of the newspapers have made the suggestion.

Wilson in Washington.

The Washington correspondent of the Atlanta Constitution says Governor Woodrow Wilson, of New Jersey, prominently mentioned for the democratic nomination for president, Mr. Bryan being willing, Saturday gave his indorsement to the Underwood bill for the revision of the woolen schedule. In thus taking a position in favor of a revenue duty on wool at the present time, Governor Wilson supports the position of leader Underwood and Speaker Clark, and dramatically opposes the views of Mr. Bryan. The latter labelled as "Aldrich democrats," anyone who would vote for a duty on raw wool.

Admitting that the doctrine of free raw materials may easily be carried to an absurd extent, since the government derives most of the revenue for its maintenance through the customs houses Governor Wilson agrees that the question of revenue must of necessity enter into the discussion of the revision of the woolen schedule.

So large a number of members of congress, and well wishers dropped in on Governor Wilson Saturday that in his room at the Willard resembled a campaign headquarters. He took advanced ground on the subject of freedom of political thought and dealt with frankness upon the fluidity of party lines. He said:

"Men everywhere seem to be of the same mind. The next campaign is going to mark the political obliteration of old time political lines. It is going to be a campaign of men and measures, rather than a campaign of parties."

"The people are going to vote for a man whom they believe will carry out the things for which they stand, rather than a man who professes to