

REFUSE TO RESIGN

EXAMINER RHAME DECLINES TO VACATE OFFICE

TAKE MATTER TO COURT

He Declares That Governor Blease's Act Removing Him is Purely Arbitrary and That He Will Hold His Office Until Ordered by the Court to Relinquish the Same.

"The Governor's act in attempting to remove me from office is purely arbitrary, and his statement that the condition of the bank was not published is false. I shall disregard his order and shall hold the office until ordered by the Court to relinquish."

Mr. Rhame filed with Governor Blease his answer to the letter of the governor of recent date in which the chief executive asked the bank examiner to explain his actions in connection with the condition of the Lexington Savings Bank in not reporting the condition of the bank two years ago, when it was learned that its condition was shaky and asking the bank examiner to resign if he could not explain its condition.

The examiner explains that he is not required to report bank conditions to the governor, that he is required to report such with the State treasurer and this he did in connection with the Lexington bank. He explains that the Lexington bank was not incorporated and as a private concern was so connected with President Roof's business as to make it almost impossible to ascertain the actual condition of the bank.

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He had no way, he said, of knowing whether the bank was solvent or insolvent. As to the deposits in the bank of State and county funds the bank examiner stated that he did not know until a recent date that such were in the bank and that he has no right to discriminate in favor of State accounts in a bank against the deposits of individuals, so that had he known there were State deposits he could have acted in no other manner.

The letter of Mr. Rhame to the Governor was followed by the Governor's order removing the bank examiner and the latter's refusal to be removed until ordered to do so by the Courts. Governor Blease stated over the telephone tonight that he had not selected a successor to Mr. Rhame. The matter will now go in the courts, where it will be threshed out.

MANY LIVES WERE LOST.

Many Vessels Met Disaster Off New England Coast.

One hundred and twenty-one persons perished by shipwreck and eighty-five vessels met with disaster off the New England coast or while engaged in the New England, Canadian or New Foundland trade during the fall and winter season of 1911-1912. Of the eighty-five vessels cast ashore, sunk, burned or involved in other mishaps, seven were steamers, two full rigged ships, two bark, three brigs, sixty-four schooners and seven barges. The financial loss is estimated at more than \$1,000,000.

FELDER NOT BEEN INVITED.

He Will Not Testify Before the Legislative Committee.

Telegraphic inquiry brings from Atlanta Tuesday afternoon assurance that Thomas B. Felder has not received any invitation to testify before the dispensary committee at Columbia and does not contemplate attending the session of committee, which was resumed Wednesday. This disposes of a persistent and conspicuous rumor which has been circulating for some time to the effect that Felder was going to tell the probers a lot of inside facts on dispensary liquidation.

Lutheran College Located.

Sumnerland, the site offered by selected for the Lutheran Female College of South Carolina by the special committee of the conference. This announcement was made Wednesday by Dr. E. J. Etheredge of Leesville, the chairman of the committee, who was among the visitors in the city.

Powder Mills Explode.

The Lafin and Rand Powder Mills at Wayne, N. J., blew up. The detonation shook the district for miles around. Three of the buildings of the plant were demolished by the explosion.

GIVES OTHER SIDE

(Continued from first page.)

point concerning his charges for mileage and how he construed the matter when riding on a pass is taken from the official stenographer's notes as follows:

Q. "Did you make any investigation to ascertain whether the members of that old board had charged against the State expenses they had not really incurred?" asked Senator Carlisle.

A. "No, sir," replied Mr. Dominick. "We were informed by Mr. Stevenson at one of the meetings that we had Dr. Murray before us that he took the position that we had no right whatsoever under the Act to investigate any of the acts and doings of what is commonly known as the Murray commission."

Q. "The whole business, your commission, the former commission, seems to be under investigation more or less. Do you know of any sums charged by your commission against the State?" asked Senator Carlisle.

A. "Not that I know," replied the witness.

Q. "Any mileage charged up that was not paid?"

A. "No mileage charged up. Expenses were charged."

A. "Any member of your committee that didn't pay fare?"

A. "I travelled on a pass on one road."

Q. "That is from Newberry to Columbia?"

A. "Yes, sir."

Q. "Railroad fare charged on that road?"

A. "Yes."

Q. "On the Columbia, Newberry and Laurens?"

A. "Yes, sir."

Q. "Was that fare actually incurred?"

None on Free Pass.

A. "Here is the way of considering that. When I use mileage in a matter of that kind and charging up expense account I charge actual railroad fare, because when I pay \$20 for railroad books that money is tied up for a year or more before it is entirely used. At Newberry I am and have been for several years past the local counsel for the Columbia and Newberry and Laurens Railroad Company. As a retainer I get a local pass."

"I am paid then for actual work just in accordance with bar fees in Newberry. As a retainer I receive my railroad pass, which is not a free pass, and I consider that just as much my own private property as if Mr. Childs were to pay me a retainer fee for \$100 or \$500 per year."

Q. "The only way you get any actual cash out of the railroad pass is when you are travelling for the State?"

A. "When I travel for clients I charge up railroad fare, in coming here to argue cases in the Supreme Court or have any other business here."

Q. "Were any other members of the commission similarly situated with reference to railroad mileage or fare?"

A. "I don't think so," replied the witness.

Witness took the ground that a great part of the expenses paid by the State should have been paid by Felder as set out in the report of the Blease commission. His construction of this matter was similar to that of the witnesses Wednesday.

LYON-HOLMAN MATTER.

Mr. Dominick told of the employment of Mr. Holman and of the Attorney General's refusal to consent to the employment of Mr. Holman until the commission told him for what purpose the commission wanted to employ Mr. Holman; that the commission didn't feel that they should do this, especially as they wanted Mr. Holman in the Felder matter and on account of the close relations of Mr. Felder and the Attorney General they did not feel that it would be just to the Attorney General or to the commission to ask the Attorney General to undertake the prosecution of Felder. That they took the view that they could employ any counsel they wished. Witness said they employed Mr. Abney, and he considered him a fine lawyer. Did not know whether Mr. Abney used the assistance of Felder or not in making the settlement in the Richland Distilling Company case; he did not think the commission intimated to Mr. Abney that they did not want Felder used in any litigation that might be necessary.

Witness thought the Ansel commission lost some money to the State by their construction of the Felder contract in May, and that Felder was overpaid some \$50,000; would scarcely consider this construction by the Ansel commission incompetency, but rather an error, and due to advice of attorneys.

Witness said that under the article of the Attorney General he felt that they were forced to employ an attorney, but that they were not compelled to employ Mr. Abney; that they employed Mr. Abney because of his competency. Witness said the attitude of the Attorney General of fealty towards the commission was cordial, and the first clash came when Mr. Holman was employed. After that time the Attorney General was not consulted officially by the commission. Thought the deeds of cordiality was due to personal attitude of Attorney General.

AS TO T. B. FELDER.

Mr. Dominick gave a brief resume of the work of the Blease commission told his work in the Felder matter and of the belief of the commission that Felder could have been convicted at an impartial trial; thought the apprehension of Felder would have been a service to the State; told of the settlement of the Richland Distilling Company case; of consideration of other claims, by Scruggs, John Black, Blumenthal & Bickett, C. E. Dunbar and others which the commission considered and refused.

The Scruggs claim was for \$4,000, which he claimed was due him by the Ansel commission under an understanding with the Attorney General. Scruggs claimed he had G. H. Charles in charge and obtained some evidence for him. There had been some misunderstanding between the Ansel commission and Scruggs over what he should be paid. Witness testified that most of these claims had been considered by the

GOES TO THE CHAIR

SPEEDY TRIAL AND CONVICTION OF A BLACK FIEND

WENT IN A LADY'S ROOM

Jury at Special Term of Court Promptly Convicts Fiend of Attempting to Criminally Assault Wife of Prominent Farmer of Dean Station in Anderson County.

Convicted of attempting to criminally assault the wife of a prominent farmer of Dean Station, Anderson county, on February 26 last, William Reed, colored, was Monday sentenced to die in the electric chair at the State Penitentiary in Columbia on the 12th day of July next.

A special term of Court was convened at Anderson Monday for the purpose of giving Reed a speedy trial. He appeared in the court room without a lawyer and Judge Prince appointed three prominent members of the local bar to defend him. The indictment was handed to the grand jury and a true bill was returned within a few minutes. The jury was selected without much delay and the case was entered upon.

For the State Sheriff King and Supervisor Peerman, who brought Reed to the county jail, testified, telling of Reed's confession of having gone into the house of the lady for the purpose of burglary. The lady upon whom the attack was made was next called to the witness stand. The court room was cleared by Judge Prince, only the persons directly interested in the case being allowed to hear her testimony. The lady testified that when she awoke on the night of the alleged attack she found Reed in her room.

Reed was the only witness to take the stand for the defense. He declared that he went into the house for the purpose of stealing some money, with which he intended to buy corn; that he entered the room occupied by the lady, not knowing that she was in there. Reed was subjected to a severe cross-examination by the solicitor and made a very poor witness for himself. Many material facts strongly against him could not be explained by Reed.

The jury retired with the case about noon and returned a verdict of guilty at 6:30 o'clock, when court resumed business after a recess for dinner. The jury reached a verdict a few minutes after retiring with the case.

On the night Reed was lodged in the county jail a large mob gathered on the streets here to storm the jail, with the intention of summarily dealing with Reed. The attack on the jail was called off because some plans of the mob miscarried; reinforcements expected did not appear on the scene. Great excitement prevailed at the time.

The Court room was crowded to its capacity, many spectators being unable to gain admittance. When asked by Judge Prince if he knew of any reason why sentence should not be passed upon him, Reed shook his head. He has maintained his silence since the death sentence was passed, refusing to make any comment on the trial and its outcome.

VERY BRAVE YOUNG GIRL.

Marries an Old Widower With Ten Young Children.

The Spartanburg Herald says William D. Bailey, 40 years and two months old, a widower with ten children, was married Monday to Miss Minnie Stevens, 16 years and 10 months old. The ceremony was performed by Magistrate A. H. Kirby, who 21 years ago united Bailey in marriage with his first wife, who was Miss Mattie Burrell. The first Mrs. Bailey died 15 months ago, after having been the mother of 11 children, one of whom died. Bailey's oldest daughter, who is older than her stepmother, witnessed the ceremony, which was performed in Major Kirby's office. As Minnie Stevens was less than 18 years old her parents have their consent to the wedding. The address of Bailey and his wife is Moore route No. 1.

PLUNGE TO HIS DEATH.

Friends Thought Young Man Was Hanging for Fun.

In view of several hundred persons, who thought he was playing an April fool prank, Luther Williams, aged 23, a painter, dangled for a few minutes at the end of a rope attached to the smokestack of the Georgia Railway and Electric Light Company plant at Atlanta and which plunged 150 feet to earth. He was still breathing when picked up, but died ten minutes after arriving at a hospital. In its descent the body of Williams crashed through the roof of the boiler shop.

ANSEL COMMISSION TURNED DOWN BY THEM.

Mr. Dominick made the statement of what the Blease commission had done as an answer to charges made that the commission had spent a year and done no work.

Mr. Dominick stated that all of the letters tending to show that Felder's alleged criminal connection with the attempted "frame up" which the commission had were printed in the report. He had seen one or two other letters, one in the possession of John Bell Towill from Felder, which had been turned over to him.

MR. T. F. BRANTLEY ON STAND.

Mr. T. F. Brantley, of Orangeburg, the other member of the Blease commission, agreed with the statements of Mr. Dominick and corroborated his testimony. "Mr. Dominick has given you in detail the matter and I know of nothing I could add," said Mr. Brantley. All members of the Blease commission expressed willingness to aid the committee in every way they could. At one o'clock the committee adjourned for the week.

W. F. Caldwell.

BLEASE'S CHARGES

(Continued from first page.)

the committee. Mr. Lyon stated in his letter that he had read in the newspapers that W. A. Holman had been named as attorney for the commission. Mr. Lyon also called attention to the fact that the appointment of the attorney had never been officially reported to him. Mr. Lyon also said that if the reports were true, that Attorney Holman had been employed in disregard of the law governing the winding-up of the dispensary. He also disapproved of Attorney Holman as attorney for the commission. Mr. Stackhouse said that he thought that the letter had been received.

Attorney General Lyon said before the committee, after the reading of the letter, that the Blease commission had never consulted him with reference to the appointment of Attorney Holman. A letter from the Blease board to Attorney General Lyon was read. The letter expressed the belief that the attorney general was not in sympathy with the board.

AS TO VIOLATING ACT.

"Don't you realize the fact that you violated the act of the general assembly when you appointed Holman without the consent of the attorney general?"

The witness said that he was not an attorney and that he did not put that construction on the act.

A second letter by Attorney General Lyon was read by the committee. This letter was addressed to the Blease board in which it was shown that Mr. Lyon stood really at all times to give assistance within the terms of the law.

Mr. Stackhouse did not know why the letters from Attorney General Lyon were not printed in the report of the Blease board. He gave no explanation as to why they were not printed.

Mr. Stackhouse thought that a satisfactory disposition had been made of the alcohol. The governor in message number four intimated graft on the part of the Ansel board in connection with the disposal of about sixteen barrels of alcohol.

The witness, in reply to questions, said that he knew of no more money returned the State.

"Do you know of any more than \$5,000 paid by James S. Farnum?"

"I do not," replied Mr. Stackhouse. He said that he had heard very often that Farnum had paid more than \$5,000. He said it was general talk. He did not remember a single individual who made the charge. It was all "general talk."

WALLACE TESTIFIES.

James V. Wallace of Charleston, a member of the Blease board, was questioned by the committee as to the work of the commission. He said that the alcohol question had been brought up before the Blease commission by Dr. W. J. Murray, chairman of the Ansel board. He said that the word of Dr. Murray was accepted by the commission.

Wallace charged that the Ansel commission was hampered by attorneys.

"Was the question of investigating the Ansel board ever brought before the Blease board?"

He replied that the questions had never been discussed.

"Did your board ever attempt to prosecute any one except T. B. Felder?"

"No, sir," he replied.

He was asked to be more specific with reference to the charge that the Ansel board was hampered by attorneys. He merely charged that almost all money was received by the attorneys.

Concerning the Richland Distilling Company case, Wallace charged that the Blease board was forced to employ R. L. Abney as attorney. He said that Attorney General Lyon had never urged the appointment.

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SPEAKS OF BLEASE

REVIEWS THE OFFICIAL ACTS OF THE GOVERNOR

SHOWS PARDON RECORD

Judge Jones Handles Governor Blease's Public Policies With Gloves Off, and Talks of Governor's Abuse of His Office in a Speech Free of Personalities.

Greeted by a large and perfectly orderly audience of business and professional men and ladies, Judge Ira B. Jones fired the first gun of his gubernatorial campaign in Greenville county on Thursday afternoon at the thriving town of Fountain Inn. He spoke in the auditorium of the high school at 1:30 o'clock, and for one hour and thirty minutes held the undivided attention of every man and woman before him.

The crowd was as orderly as a church congregation, except when the speaker was applauded to the echo. And this was frequent throughout the address. At Fountain Inn the speaker was introduced by the Rev. C. W. Bussy. He bespoke for Judge Jones a respectful hearing, and expressed the hope that there would not occur in Greenville county such a hoodlum demonstration as that which occurred in Spartanburg county where Judge Jones spoke some days since.

He expressed his appreciation of the presence of so many ladies, and paid womanhood a tribute, declaring that they were somehow always on the right side of any question. "I had rather be defeated in my race for governor of the State and have the good will of the women than be elected without it," declared Judge Jones. This tribute brought the first applause from the audience. After telling a few amusing anecdotes he launched with vigor into a discussion of his purpose in appearing before the people on this occasion.

Judge Jones' entire address was free from abuse, the slightest strain of vituperation or personal attack on Gov. Blease. But the policies of the chief executive the speaker handled with the gloves off. "Gov. Blease has said," stated the speaker, "that after the election I will be a statesman without a job. Yes, I gave up my job—that I conceive to be the highest in my profession. I gave it up because I feel called upon to redeem this State from a most dangerous tendency—that of Bleasism. (Here the speaker was interrupted by vigorous applause.)

Bleasism is Anarchism.

"Bleasism in South Carolina leads to anarchism. I do not mean to say that every man who voted for Gov. Blease is an anarchist, for I know that there are a lot of good people throughout the State who cast their ballots for him; but I mean to say that such a policy as that of Gov. Blease is anarchism. He wants to be the czar of South Carolina; he flouts the law, and has no respect for the machinery of government."

Bearing out his statement that Gov. Blease flouts the law, Judge Jones referred to the matter in which the chief executive treated the legislature and the manner in which he had insulted the supreme court. The governor's ignoring of the appointments of the legislature and the supreme court, the speaker declared, are examples of his disregard for law. Instances of where Gov. Blease's policy of "standing by his friends," had injured the State were pointed out by the speaker.

"I will stand by my friends," Judge Jones characterized this familiar slogan of the governor as Bleasism. "What would you think," said Judge Jones, "if a man were to be elected governor and declare that he would be the governor of Spartanburg county. It is as impartial and unjust for a governor to say that he will stand by his friends as it is for the governor of any particular county. Bleasism is partiality. If I am elected your governor I will be the governor of all the people, both friend and foe, white and black, rich and poor and high and low."

He referred to the clash between the governor and the supreme court over the appointment of Judge Caldwell to preside at a special term of the court for Richland county, and characterized it as an example of Bleasism. The refusal of the governor to commission Special Judge Quattlebaum to conduct a term of court for Horry county, and the effects of such action, were pointed out by the speaker. He told how jurors and witnesses gathered at the county court house on the morning court was to have convened; how no judge appeared because Gov. Blease refused to commission a man recommended by the supreme court; how the county was put to the loss of paying jurors and witnesses and dismissing them; how the court had to be annulled, and how the prisoners were denied the constitutional right of a speedy trial. This, said the speaker, was a typical example of Bleasism. He charged the governor of the State with annulling the instruments

key business.

"Do you again charge that there is graft in connection with the dispensaries in the six counties?"

The witness replied he did not charge that there was graft and that Felder might be selling to the dispensaries or the "blind tigers."

He was asked as to what steps should be taken if Felder was brought to South Carolina. Here the witness was questioned closely about Felder and admitted that he did not know anything that would tend to convict Felder. He admitted that the Blease board had not accomplished anything.

Jos. B. Wylie, a member of the old dispensary board of control, was called by the committee. He testified as the last meeting of the committee. He was questioned by the committee as to testimony by Henry Samuels last week on the division of graft. He said that the rebates were divided among the members of the board, Dawson and Black.