

SHOCKING TRAGEDY.

Editor Gonzales, Unarmed, Shot Down on the Street by

LIEUT.-GOV. JAS. H. TILLMAN.

The Two Men Meet, and as Gonzales Was About to Pass, Tillman Pulls a Pistol and Shoots Him.

Mr. N. G. Gonzales, Editor of The State, was shot down on Main Street in Columbia, at half-past one o'clock Thursday, by Mr. James H. Tillman, Lieutenant-Governor of South Carolina. Mr. Gonzales was unarmed, and as he had passed Mr. Tillman several times on the street since the Legislature met, was not expecting trouble. When they met Thursday with the suddenness of a thunderclap from a cloudless sky Mr. Tillman drew his weapon and sent the bullet on its deadly mission. When shot Mr. Gonzales was within a few feet of Mr. Tillman and was in the act of walking around him and two other gentlemen who were with him. The following is the story of the terrible tragedy as furnished The News and Courier today by its Columbia correspondent:

The shooting occurred on Main Street, just at the intersection of Ger-ard Street, in full view of the State Capitol. It was an awful tragedy in daylight and upon the most frequented street and corner in Columbia. The bullet which pierced through one of the most distinguished editors of the entire South may end that brilliant life but if the best of surgery, the best of care and the most ardent of prayers and wishes avail for aught, that life ought to be saved.

A SHOCK. It was just a few moments before 2 o'clock when the cry was passed along the streets that "Jim Tillman had shot N. G. Gonzales." It was a shocking and startling announcement. It went like a thrill through all Columbia and there was a rush towards the scene of the tragedy to learn the facts and the condition of the distinguished editor. The office of The State is on the same block as the scene of the shooting and it took but a few moments for a great throng to assemble in front of the newspaper office.

TWO PISTOLS. The excitement and the indignation on the streets was intense. Policeman Boland immediately after the shooting arrested Lieut. Gov. Tillman and took him to police headquarters where he was relieved of two pistols—the one with which he shot Editor Gonzales and a second large revolver of .38 calibre. From the police station he was taken to the county jail where he is tonight in full protection of the officers. There was no conflict and the only attributed cause for the shooting by Lieut. Gov. Tillman is that during the recent primary election Editor Gonzales opposed Lieut. Gov. Tillman in his race for governor—and in that editorial opposition Editor Gonzales had been severe in his opposition.

THE PROBABLE CAUSE. During the progress of that campaign Editor Gonzales in his fight to defeat Mr. Tillman had editorially called him a debauchee, "blackguard" and in fact denounced him as a "criminal candidate" and a proven "liar." It was this and other such editorial expressions—it is supposed that goaded Mr. Tillman to the desperate deed of Thursday. This was in August last and since the first primary, August 26, 1902, Editor Gonzales has had nothing to say about Mr. Tillman, except to comment on the result of the primary.

Editor Gonzales and Lieut. Gov. Tillman have passed each other in full view since the opening of the present session of the general assembly on Tuesday but there had been no encounter, no word passed, no recognition of any kind and Thursday it came like a thunderclap out of a peaceful sky when the shot was fired. It was absolutely unexpected and all thought that whatever soreness there was as a result of the primary of August had passed away, but it seems otherwise.

THE STORY. As to the shooting that is a simple story. Lieut. Gov. Tillman met Mr. Gonzales on the street, drew his pistol and fired into him. There was no fuss or feathers but when at close range Mr. Tillman opened fire, wiped his pistol on his coat-sleeve, took aim as if to fire a second time changed his mind and let his pistol fall to his side. Lieut. Gov. Tillman was perfectly cool and collected, sober and unexcited to all appearances. Mr. Gonzales was unarmed. The shock from the magazine pistol paralyzed him and as Mr. Gonzales saw the deadly weapon aimed at him, perhaps for a fatal bullet, he cried out "Shoot again, you coward." Mr. Gonzales was in no way armed and had no pistol. If his life be spared, perhaps that expression

were in tears, he told the story of the tragedy. Dr. B. W. Taylor, Dr. F. D. Kendall, Dr. Philpot and Dr. J. W. Babcock were soon at his side and in a few moments there were half a dozen or more physicians doing all they could to save life. It was promptly decided that the only hope was to perform an operation and get the true course of the bullet and try to repair the serious but then unknown damage.

THE MEETING. There appears to be no conflict of testimony as to the essential features of the tragedy. Mr. N. G. Gonzales was going home alone from his office to his lunch. To go home he had to go down Main street to Gervais and then turn east and go down that street. Mr. Gonzales was as usual walking. Lieut. Gov. Tillman left the State house just after adjourning. He had presided at the senate's session and remained around the senate chamber for a while. As he came out of the State house he was accompanied by Senator Talbird of Beaufort, and Senator Brown of Darlington, and he was joined on his way up town by Congressman-elect Wyatt Aiken and former Representative Dornick.

The meeting was just at the turn of main and Gervais streets on the north side of the street, just at the street car transfer station. There was no encounter, no fist fighting, no laying on of hands. Lieut. Gov. Tillman, the testimony now all seems to be, simply drew his revolver and fired into Editor Gonzales. Most of those who saw the affair say there was nothing said until after the shot. One of Lieut. Gov. Tillman's escort says he thinks Mr. Tillman said, "I received your message," and then fired. He is not certain on this but thinks so. The other escort of Mr. Tillman says he did not hear anything and did not see the affair but thinks he would have heard any words as he was in the very midst of the affair. Two or three others say they heard nothing until after the firing of the pistol.

MR. GONZALES' STATEMENT. Mr. Gonzales himself gave a perfectly plain and explicit statement of the whole affair prior to being put under the anaesthetics and he was very emphatic in saying that he had not sent any message to Lieut. Gov. Tillman, at any time and that Mr. Tillman said nothing until after he had fired and then after the shot he said something about taking him (Gonzales) to his word. Mr. Gonzales took this to mean that Mr. Tillman told him that he was settling old scores face to face with him. Mr. Gonzales is certain that nothing was said until after the shot was fired. After the first shot Mr. Gonzales tottered to the transfer station, against which he leaned. Tillman was still pointing his pistol at him, whereupon Mr. Gonzales said: "Shoot again, you coward." Then Lieut. Gov. Tillman lowered his pistol and walked away.

THE WOUND. There was only one shot fired and that entered the right side between the eighth and ninth ribs and passed through the fore part of the body, coming out above the free border of the ribs. At first it was thought the bullet had gone through the body from the front to the back, but it did not, as it went through the fore part of the body, entering above the vest pocket on the right and coming out below and behind the vest pocket on the left side. The bullet was picked up on the pavement and it seems to be bright and new and in no way battered. It was a bullet from what is said to be a long range German make magazine pistol.

AFTER THE SHOOTING. Tillman after the shooting walked out into the middle of the street where he was arrested and taken to the station house on Gervais street. He was met there by several of his friends but said nothing. The police took from him the long range magazine pistol which had one empty cartridge and a large Colt's revolver. Just as soon as Mr. Gonzales was taken into his office Dr. W. J. Murray arrived and made the wounded man comfortable. Dr. Griffith and Dr. Coward were the first to give medical assistance and gave an injection to relieve the intense pain. Gradually a pallor stole over the face of the stricken man but he seemed anxious to talk and to give the story of the shooting. He answered all inquiries and inquired particularly about the members of his devoted family, all of whom had by this time arrived.

TAKEN TO HOSPITAL. Dr. B. W. Taylor, the eminent physician, was placed in charge and it was promptly decided that an operation would have to be performed. Arrangements were made to take Mr. Gonzales to the Columbia hospital. He stood the trip elegantly and after being taken into the building his pulse registered 72, and at no time had it gone below 60.

THE OPERATION. It was exactly two hours after the shooting that Mr. Gonzales was placed on the operating table. The operation lasted about two hours. The patient bore the operation well and after being put in bed had a pulse of 115-120 and respirations of 31. The operation was done by Dr. LeGrand Guerry, assisted by Dr. Lindsay Peters and Dr. J. H. McIntosh. Dr. D. S. Pope gave the anaesthetic. Dr. B. W. Taylor was chief consultant, with Dr. C. W. Barron and half a dozen other Columbia physicians were present, among them Dr. J. W. Babcock, Dr. Gibbs, Dr. Philpot, Dr. Watson, Dr. Griffith and Dr. Fishburne. Before the operation Mr. Gonzales spoke to the physicians about himself and made some suggestions.

IN THE HOUSE.

Mr. Mendel L. Smith Elected Speaker Almost Unanimously.

ORGANIZATION OF THE BODY.

No Other Business Attended to on the First Day, the House Adjourning Out of Respect to Judge McIver.

The house of representatives was called to order at noon on Tuesday, Jan. 13, by Col. Tom C. Hamer, clerk of the last house of representatives. Hon. Altamont Moses was chosen temporary chairman of the representatives-elect. Mr. Moses was temporary chairman of the organization two years ago and is a very fine presiding officer. He has had a longer and more varied legislative experience than any other member of the house of representatives.

The members-elect presented themselves before the speaker's desk and were sworn in. The roll of counties was called and the members-elect presented themselves by counties and laying their hands upon the house Bible took the oath of office. They then subscribed to the roll of the house and were duly qualified representatives of the State of South Carolina.

Nominations for speaker being in order, Mr. B. A. Morgan of Greenville, secured the floor and nominated Hon. M. L. Smith of Kershaw county. This was seconded by Mr. Whaley of Charleston, Mr. E. H. Linton of Spartanburg, Mr. Richards of Kershaw and others. Mr. Gaston of Chester, put in nomination the name of Hon. T. Yancy Williams of Lancaster. This was seconded by Mr. Halle of York, Dorroh of Greenville, Mr. Moss of Orangeburg and several others. There were 118 votes cast, of which Mr. Smith received 97 and Mr. Williams 21.

The following voted for Mr. Smith: Messrs. Aull, Ballew, Baker, Banks, Bass, Bates, Black, Blackwood, Bomar, Brooks, Brown, Bullen, Callison, Carey, Carville, Chilton, Coggeshall, Cooper, Culler, Davis, DeBruhl, Dennis, DeVore, Doar, Donald, Dowling, Doyle, Edwards, E. H. Fox, Eraser, Gause, Glover, Goodin, Hall, Harrell, Haskell, Hendrix, Herbert, J. E. Herbert, D. O. Hill, Hinton, Holman, Humphrey, Ivy, James, Jarnegan, Johnson, Kelley, Kibler, King, Kirby, Lancaster, Lanham, Leaverett, Lesene, Lude, Little, Lofton, Lyles, McCall, Mac, Magill, Mahaffey, Middleton, Mims, Morgan, Moses, Nichols, Parnell, Paterson, Pearman, Quick, Rainsford, Rankin, Rawlinson, Ready, Richards, Richardson, Russell, Scarborough, Smith, J. Smith, W. C. Staekhouse, Stuckey, Tatam, Thomas, Toole, Towill, Traylor, Tribble, Wade, Walker, Wall, Webb, Whaley, Wingard, Wingo.

The following voted for Mr. Williams: Messrs. Barron, Beamgard, Bennett, Colcock, DesChamps, Dowling, Forde, Gaston, Halle, McCall, Mauldin, Moss, Pearman, Peurifoy, Potts, Wyatt Sinker, Strong, Wise, Wright and Youmans—21.

Mr. Smith was escorted to the chair by Messrs. Morgan, Paterson and E. H. and after taking the oath of speaker, addressed the house.

SPEAKER SMITH'S REMARKS. I would be ungrateful, indeed, if I should fail to make my first utterance in the position to which you have so kindly elevated me an expression of deep and lasting gratitude for that most highly distinguished honor.

THE STATE SENATE.

All the Former Officers of the Body Re-elected Without Opposition.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES.

The Governor's Message Read. A Tribute to the Late Chief Justice. Proceedings of the First Week.

Promptly at noon on Tuesday, January 13, Lieutenant-Governor Tillman called the State Senate to order. Every Senator was present except Hon. Edward McIver, of Chesterfield. With this exception all the new members were sworn in and assigned to their respective seats. The roll of counties was called. After prayer by the chaplain, the election of officers was immediately entered into and resulted as follows:

President Pro Tem—Senator John C. Sheppard. Clerk—Gen. Robert H. Hamphill. Reading Clerk—Mr. W. H. Stewart. Sergeant-at-Arms—Mr. J. F. Schumpeck.

All of these were unanimously elected without opposition. There were four nominations, for chaplain: Revs. Dr. O. A. Dugby, Walter I. Herbert, H. M. Kлар and A. J. Harrison, of Hampton. A vote was taken and resulted as follows: Rev. Dr. Darby 27; Rev. Herbert 4; Rev. M. M. Kлар 7; Rev. A. J. Harrison 1. Dr. Darby was elected.

Senator Sheppard arose and returned his sincere thanks for the renewed mark of confidence and esteem for the honor conferred upon him by his selection as president pro tem.

NEW APPOINTMENTS. The following appointments made by Lieut. Gov.-elect Sloan were then announced:

Assistant Clerk—R. M. McCown. Journal Clerk—Tillman Bunch. Bill Clerk—Henry D. Butler. Doorkeepers—J. R. Boulware, Jasper E. Watson, J. E. Gooding. Keepers of Committee Rooms—Jas. P. McGorty and J. E. White. Keeper of President's Room—E. B. Jenkins. Pages—G. Duncan Bellinger, Jr., and Henry Jefferson Fetner. Porter—Robt. Adams. Servants—Jack Pressley and Albert Nance.

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Commerce and Manufactures—J. Q. Marshall, Chairman. G. W. Brown, S. G. Bayliff, A. H. Dean, J. M. Gaines, S. E. Johnson, J. K. Hood, C. S. McCall, J. W. Ragsdale, E. F. Warren, C. H. Carpenter.

County Offices and Officers—Le Grand G. Walker, Chairman; J. A. McDermott, James Stackhouse, E. L. Herndon, O. P. Goodwin, P. L. Hardin.

Engrossed Bills—P. L. Hardin, Chairman; W. C. Hough, J. M. Gaines, C. M. Davis, P. L. Hardin, J. E. Peurifoy, J. K. Hood.

Federal Relations—E. J. Dennis, Chairman; J. S. Brice, W. H. Sharpe, Thomas Talbird, C. H. Carpenter, G. F. Von Kolnitz, Jr., T. G. McLeod.

Immigration—C. S. McCall, Chairman; E. J. Dennis, T. Douglas, James Stackhouse, Thomas Talbird.

Incorporations—G. W. Ragsdale, Chairman; Geo. S. Mower, J. T. Hay, Thos. Talbird, J. A. McDermott, J. S. Brice, James Stackhouse, J. K. Hood, W. H. Sharpe, G. F. Von Kolnitz, Jr., J. W. Ragsdale, E. L. Herndon.

Penitentiary—J. T. Hay, Chairman; J. A. McDermott, R. I. Manning, Edward McIver, P. L. Hardin, T. M. Rysor, J. M. Forrester.

Judiciary—S. G. Mayfield, Chairman; Geo. S. Mower, Thos. Talbird, Le Grand G. Walker, J. T. Hay, G. W. Brown, G. R. Ragsdale, T. M. Rysor, D. R. Hydrick, G. F. Von Kolnitz, Jr., G. W. Ragsdale, E. F. Warren, W. C. Hough.

Privileges and Elections—J. C. Sheppard, Chairman; G. W. Ragsdale, J. T. Hay, E. L. Herndon, W. C. Hough, Edward McIver, J. E. Peurifoy, J. M. Forrester.

Medical Affairs—A. H. Williams, Chairman; R. I. Manning, W. H. Sharpe, O. P. Goodwin, G. F. Von Kolnitz, Jr., T. G. McLeod.

Public Lands—P. L. Hardin, Chairman; E. J. Dennis, T. W. Standland, O. P. Goodwin, Thos. Talbird, T. M. Rysor.

Retrenchment—D. E. Hydrick, Chairman; G. W. Ragsdale, W. C. Hough, J. K. Hood, J. R. Blake.

Rules—T. M. Rysor, Chairman; J. C. Sheppard, Geo. S. Mower, G. W. Ragsdale, J. T. Hay, Robt. Aldrich, J. M. Gaines, chairman; A. H. Williams, J. T. Douglas, O. P. Goodwin, T. W. Standland, C. S. McCall, Edward McIver.

Legislative Library—Thos. Talbird, Chairman; E. J. Dennis, T. M. Rysor, W. E. Johnson, Edward McIver, J. R. Blake, E. L. Herndon.

Military—Robt. Aldrich, Chairman; J. Q. Marshall, E. J. Dennis, J. E. Peurifoy, T. B. Butler.

Mines and Mining—G. F. Von Kolnitz, Jr., Chairman; LeGrand G. Walker, A. H. Dean, Thos. Talbird, T. W. Standland, J. M. Gaines, E. L. Herndon.

Printing—C. M. Davis, Chairman; Robt. Aldrich, J. S. McDermott, E. L. Herndon, J. K. Hood, Edward McIver.

Public Buildings—J. Q. Marshall, Chairman; J. T. Douglas, R. I. Manning, C. H. Carpenter, J. R. Blake.

Railroad and Internal Improvements—A. H. Dean, Chairman; J. Q. Marshall, T. W. Standland, G. W. Ragsdale, Robt. Aldrich, T. M. Rysor, D. R. Hydrick, Thos. Talbird, T. B. Butler, J. K. Hood, J. S. Brice, E. L. Herndon.

The announcement was also made of the appointment of J. Frazer Lyon as clerk of the finance, and J. E. Holland of the judiciary committees.

Senator Brown introduced a concurrent resolution recommending the appointment of three senators and five representatives to attend the funeral obsequies of the late Chief Justice Henry McIver.

On behalf of the Senate the president appointed Senators Brown, Rysor and Hydrick.

On motion of Senator Brown the Senate at 1:50 adjourned until Wednesday out of respect to the memory of the late chief justice.

THE SENATE GETS TO WORK.

In the Senate on Wednesday a message was read from the Governor suggesting a Wade Hampton Memorial Day.

Another message was received from the governor vetoing the joint resolution to authorize and require the State treasurer to write on the books in his office certain bonds entered on said books as old bonds not fundable, Act of 1896, Blue Ridge Railroads \$37,000 with the reasons for his objections.

Several bills were introduced, the most important being the child labor bill by Senator Marshall, of Richland. The Senate was only in session forty minutes Thursday. After routine business several bills were introduced and the Senate adjourned to Friday.

THE SENATE ON FRIDAY.

Ex-Governor John C. Sheppard presided over the Senate Friday. The Rev. O. A. Darby, D. D., chaplain, after invoking God's blessing on the members constituting the Senate of South Carolina, and asking that they be given wisdom to enact just and equitable laws for the government of people; prayed most earnestly for the Divine blessing to rest upon "the distinguished citizen lying so low and critically ill in our midst"; that our Heavenly Father would direct the physicians who were ministering to his sufferings, giving them skill to heal his wounds, and that He would administer comfort and consolation to the sorely bereaved household.

Among the new bills introduced was one by Mr. Rysor to amend the constitution so as to provide for biennial sessions of the general assembly.

A concurrent resolution from the House condemning the appointment of Crum as Collector of Charleston was passed unanimously.

Murdered in a Cell.

An Angleton, Texas, Wednesday night stranger men entered a cell of the county jail in which Ramon O'Neal and Charles Tunstall were confined with a number of other negroes and shot the two men to death. The other prisoners were warned to cover their heads with blankets, which they did. The bed clothing of the cot occupied by the negroes caught fire and O'Neal's arm and leg were burned off. The negroes were charged with the murder of County Attorney Smith at Columbia several weeks ago.