

WATSON'S SUCCESSOR NOT PICKED AS YET

Blease Denies Offering Job to Hudson or Others. Meant What He Said in Letter to Watson. Hudson Makes Statement on Situation.

Newberry, Dec. 28.—When asked while here to-day as to the report that Ira W. Williams, of the government farm demonstration work, has been transferred from this State to Georgia, "supposedly because of opposition to the governor," and that Commissioner Watson is to be displaced when his term expires, and that Mr. Watson's place had been offered to A. D. Hudson, of Newberry, Gov. Blease said:

Sorry Williams to Leave.

"I have seen the article in to-day's Columbia State, to which I suppose you refer. I was informed some time since that Ira W. Williams was to be transferred from this State. To what point I do not know. Mr. Williams supported me in the campaign of 1910, so I have been reliably informed, and he and I are the best of friends, and I am sorry that he is going to leave this State. The statement that he and I are at enmity, or that he is leaving on account of any feeling between himself and myself, is absolutely and unqualifiedly false. I would be glad if Mr. Williams would stay in the State, and if he will stay I will ask the legislature to keep up the appropriation for this department and do next year, as I have done this year, all in my power to assist him in his demonstration work.

As to Watson's Job.

"I have never offered Mr. Watson's position to anybody, but merely stated on one occasion to John Richards that I was sorry he accepted the railroad commission position, because I expected to appoint him commissioner of agriculture, and the report that I have offered Mr. Watson's position to one or two others is absolutely false.

"As to Mr. Hudson, he told me emphatically on two occasions that he did not want Watson's position. I am informed, however, that he would accept the position held by Williams.

Warning to Watson.

"As to the letter to Commissioner Watson, I wrote him that my understanding was that he was appointed commissioner of agriculture for South Carolina, and not the United States, and that if he left the State again without my permission I would declare his office vacant and put some one in it who would stay at home and attend to it. I meant that and shall carry it out to the letter. Copies of my letter and his reply are on file in my office, to which the newspapers are welcome, as there are no secrets in the governor's office. Everything that is done there is open and above board, is placed on the public files, and there are no secrets from the newspapers.

Not for Him to Say.

"As to the next State farm demonstration agent being acceptable to the governor, as I understand this, it is a matter in the hands of the United States department, with which I have nothing to do. I know nothing of Mr. Baker's candidacy for the position. I shall uphold the department of agriculture and the farm demonstration work, and do everything in my power to make it a success. And if I had been consulted this year in regard to the departments, I think could have given some very valuable suggestions, and possibly saved some people from putting themselves in very awkward positions. But as I have not been consulted in regard to any matter, I am in no manner, shape or form responsible for the turn affairs have taken.

Rather Premature?

"When Mr. Watson's term expires, it will be time enough for me to consider whether I shall reappoint him or give the position to someone else. I understand that the constitution forbids life tenure of office, and I do not presume there is any exception made in the case of the commissioner of agriculture."

Asked as to the charge that his commutations and pardons were a slap in the faces of judges and jurors, the governor said:

Replies to Pardon Criticism.

"I have paroled, pardoned and commuted a good many people. It has not been intended as a reflection upon anyone. In many instances, judge, solicitor and jurors have signed the petitions. The records are public and are on file in the office and open for inspection to all parties, and the reasons for each will be properly transmitted to the general assembly at the right time, as required by the constitution. However, if anyone has been hit, I have no apologies to make and no excuses to give. I have done what I believe to be my duty."

that the other officers have done likewise."

Mr. A. D. Hudson requested that the interview given out by Gov. Blease be read over to him, and Mr. Hudson gave out the following statement:

Hudson Not Seeking Place.

"In my interview with Gov. Blease some days ago the subject of the commissioner of agriculture was mentioned only in the connection that he felt that the present commissioner was not doing successfully the work outlined for him. The question of my being a candidate for the position was not discussed, even remotely, and he in no way tendered me the position; in fact, he stated that unless there be some change in the present policy of the office that the office would be discontinued. I am in no sense a candidate or applicant either for Col. Watson's or Mr. Williams' position."

Blease-Watson Letters.

Columbia, Dec. 28.—Gov. Blease to-day released to the press copies of a letter he wrote to Commissioner Watson and the latter's reply thereto, the governor having, in his letter to Commissioner Watson, advised him not to leave the State again without his permission, and declaring that if he did so, without official permission, the office would be declared vacant and his successor appointed. In his reply Col. Watson declared that he had only been attending to his duties and working for the interest of the State at large. He stated that he would comply with the terms of the letter.

Copies of the letters follow:

Blease to Watson.

"December, 15, 1911.

"Mr. E. J. Watson, Commissioner of Agriculture, Columbia, S. C.—Dear Sir: In my opinion, you were appointed commissioner of agriculture for South Carolina, and not for the United States, and I would advise you as a friend to remain in the State and quit running about as you are doing. If you do not discontinue this continual running around over the country I will be compelled to put someone in your place who will not neglect the duties thereof. If you make another trip out of the State without my permission, an official order, declaring your office vacant, will be made and your successor appointed. Very respectfully,
"COLE L. BLEASE, Governor."

Watson in Reply.

Commissioner Watson's reply is as follows:

"Columbia, December 15, 1911.

"Dear Governor: I have received yours of even date with utter astonishment, for I have been absolutely unconscious that I have been doing anything in contravention of the administrative policy. God knows I have honestly, sincerely and without the remotest thought of self-interest, done all in my power to advance the material interests of our State and her people, and in just the same manner—as I told you in Atlanta I wanted to do—I have endeavored to work in perfect harmony with your policy. When I have gone out of the State this year it has been with no idea of self-advancement, but always after something I felt would do the State the greatest amount of good, and it has been seldom that I have gone. I believe that I have lived up to my promise to you to accomplish the hardest year's work of my life. I talked with you, as you will recall, of the objects of the recent trip to Chicago, and urged you to be there, and I had not the remotest idea that you were in any way opposed to my going. A word from you would have kept me here.

"The contents of your letter will most gladly be observed to the letter, for if I have unconsciously erred, I want you to be a fair man, which I have ever regarded you, to believe my absolute sincerity when I tell you it could only spring from overzealousness in my work, to the success of which I have sacrificed everything.

"I can only ask you to carefully consider your opinion of me and give me credit for honesty, sincerity, fidelity and complete subservience of self-interest. If you doubt that this is true, simply ask anyone who has questioned me as to how the governor has treated myself and this department. Very truly yours,
"E. J. WATSON."

Statistics prepared by Commissioner Watson show that \$118,284,336 is invested in small industries in South Carolina as compared with \$114,276,876 last year. The figures are gathered by reports made by various establishments.

WIFE KILLED, HUSBAND IN JAIL

Woman's Head Split with Axe While Lying in Bed.

Greenville, Dec. 27.—In one of the mill villages of Greenville to-night the coroner is holding an inquest into the death of a woman who was found in her bed at daybreak with her head split open with an axe and her two-year-old baby immersed in a pool of blood by her side. The woman's husband is locked in a cell at the county jail, and finger nails bearing blood stains, uncleaned by water used in erasing other alleged traces of the foul crime, are regarded by the authorities as pointing to him as the guilty man.

A Horrible Sight.

At 6:30 o'clock this morning Sheriff Poole received a call from Brandon Mill, and in responding found one of the most hideous crimes that has stained the pages of Greenville county's criminal history in some years. In their three-room apartment the sheriff discovered Mrs. Alice Campbell, wife of Lafayette Campbell, groveling in her bed in a pool of blood. Her head had been mutilated some time during the night with some instrument, a huge gash laying open the skull over the temple. A horrible bruise on one cheek and other wounds about the face almost blotted out her identity.

The woman was not dead and by her side lay her babe unharmed. Physicians were called to attend the woman and, after removing sections of her skull and a major portion of her brain, she died this afternoon shortly after 4 o'clock.

Search for Murderer.

Immediately after the sheriff and his assistants went to work to apprehend the person guilty of the crime. Living in the same house was another family, but none of them had heard any disturbance at any time during the night. The husband pointed out the bed in which he said he had spent the night, but it was in another room from that in which his wife slept. Going on into the kitchen, the officers discovered an axe leaning against the wall and resting upon a cow chain, which had been piled on the floor. The chain itself was bloody, but the axe had been washed of all but a few stains of crimson. This led the officers to believe that immediately after the commission of the crime the bloody axe had been stood upon the chain; that later it was taken up and the blade of it cleansed then stood once more upon the chain.

Husband Suspected.

The officers also found an old sack in the kitchen, which though freshly washed, showed traces of blood. In the stove they discovered scraps of burned rags bearing traces of blood. Later in the day suspicion began to point to the woman's husband, and traces of blood on his finger nails led the sheriff to place him under arrest and took him to the county jail.

The murdered woman herself has been in the courts of this county. Some years ago, while defending her husband from attack by her own brother, she secured a revolver and fired four shots into the latter's body. For a long time it was thought the woman's brother would die. The case dragged through the courts for some time and finally wore itself out, without any one being brought to justice.

WILL RUN FOR JUDGE.

Hayne F. Rice, of Aiken, will Offer for Office.

Aiken, Dec. 27.—The friends of Hayne F. Rice, a prominent attorney of Aiken, having declared that they would run him for the judgeship of the Second judicial circuit, which position was recently made vacant by the death of the late Judge Robert Aldrich, of Barnwell, Mr. Rice today agreed to make the race for the place.

Mr. Rice was born and reared in Barnwell county. He read law under Judge Joseph H. Earle, of Greenville, was graduated from the Citadel at Charleston in 1898, and practiced law in Bamberg for six years before becoming a member of the Aiken bar. For three years he was a member of the county board of education, resigning this position when ex-Gov. Ansel appointed him to serve on the State board, of which he is still a member.

Advices from Barnwell are to the effect that that county will have several candidates for Judge Aldrich's place, among them James E. Davis, George H. Bates and J. Emile Harley.

Making Themselves Solid.

The members of the Charleston dispensary constabulary presented the governor with a gold watch chain as a token of their esteem. A gold-headed cane from the members of the Columbia constabulary was their Christmas remembrance to the governor.

BRUTAL MURDER AT ANDERSON.

Dead Body of Aged Merchant Discovered in Store.

Anderson, Dec. 29.—David Hutto, a Confederate veteran, about 65 years of age, who kept a small store on the extreme end of Greenville street, just beyond the city limits, was found dead in his store room to-day, with the left side of his face and head smashed to a pulp. The last time he was seen was on Monday afternoon, and judging from the decomposition of the body, the murder must have been committed Monday night. Mr. Hutto was eccentric, and the fact that he failed to show himself Monday among his friends and relatives was no occasion for alarm, so no search had been made by his family to locate him.

A Gruesome Discovery.

A negro woman, who went to the store this morning to purchase some groceries, noticed that blood had trickled through the floor of the little building and that a sign reading "There is a man dead on inside" was tacked on the front door. She notified Sheriff King and he, with Deputy Martin, forced open the door, which had been locked from the outside, and in a crouching position, partly on the cot in the rear of the store and partly on the floor, was found Mr. Hutto's body. The lick over the man's head was a terrific one, as his brains and blood were spattered all over the cot, the floor and the walls nearby. There were evidences of other licks also, possibly after Mr. Hutto had fallen on the cot.

Blunt Instrument Used.

A blunt instrument, possibly an axe, was used by the murderer, but no instrument has yet been found by the officers. Evidently robbery was the motive, for no money was found by the officers in the man's clothing or in the cigar box, in which he was accustomed always to keep some change. Mr. Hutto was probably called from his cot after he had retired Monday night, for when found to-day he was in his bed clothes. The man who committed the deed very probably called for sardines and crackers, for on the counter were found two boxes of sardines, which had been opened, and in the arms of Mr. Hutto was found a bag of crackers. The cracker box was sitting near the cot and the first blow must have been dealt from his rear, as he was leaning over the box in the act of placing the crackers in the bag.

Inquest Resumed Monday.

Mr. Hutto's body was removed to Tolly's morgue, where Coroner Beasley began an inquest this afternoon. The inquest was adjourned to-night until Monday, when the taking of testimony will be resumed. The officers expect to gather something tangible by that time. At the inquest this afternoon two negro children testified that they saw two young white men go up to the store door about 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon and write the sign which was found tacked on the door to-day. It is believed by the officers that the young men intended this as a joke, having no idea that the information given in the notice was correct. This clue is being followed, however, but developments incriminating other parties are expected to occur soon. Mr. Hutto is survived by his widow and several children.

OLD HOMES DISAPPEARING.

Southern Mansions Giving Way to Modern Structures.

The grand old "before the war" homes, steeped in romance and dear to the heart of the children of the old South, are fast going. Set in a grove of oaks, the big house with its imposing columns, ample verandas and its air of hospitality and cheer, soon will be no more. Some of those old mansions have fallen into wreck and ruin; hundreds have been burned. The surviving ones are relics of an age that is past.

For several years there has been a movement in the South for smaller farms. This movement has been constantly accelerated. And it means much for the welfare of this section. The old plantations were manageable only when labor could be relied upon—and when one person was willing to pass his life in the employ of another.

The South is becoming more utilitarian. Descendants of those cavaliers who charged Rupert and melted their plate to support the tottering throne of an unworthy Stuart have scanned their lesson well. Life is activity, hurry and turmoil. It still would be an elysian existence forever to loiter in the shade and yell to Pompey for another julep—but it is no longer practicable.

This month will see two of the fine old plantation homes of Barbour county go under the hammer. Historic Roselands and the splendid Pugh estate alike are to be sold. Some of these days when the South gets enormously wealthy again the grand old times may be revived.—Birmingham, Ala., News.

RESENTED WITH SHOTGUN.

Reprimanded Employee Wounds Superintendent of Dillio Oil Mill.

Dillon, Dec. 30.—Mr. Frank Nurnsee, superintendent of the Dillio Oil Mill, was shot this afternoon about 4 o'clock by Joe Hagins, a negro employee, in the mill. The negro had been drinking and losing his temper upon being reprimanded by Mr. Nurnsee he left the mill, returning a few minutes afterwards with a double barrel shotgun, and, without a word, emptied the contents of one barrel into the person of Mr. Nurnsee, the whole load taking effect in the fleshy part of the left hip. Fortunately, the shot were small, No. 8 bird shot, and it is hoped that the cavity has not been penetrated.

The wound is a serious one, however, from possible infection, but his vigorous constitution and fine health are elements in his favor. The negro was promptly arrested and confined in the guard house. Great excitement prevailed here for a while until the populace was assured that Mr. Nurnsee was not fatally shot.

The South is All Right.

Those who are farming well and in a good rotation and are getting good cotton crops are never the men who are always inquiring about the growing of crops they know nothing about, and which are better suited to other sections. We have the best money-making crops in the South of any section of the country in cotton, cowpeas, winter oats, and corn. We can, of course, beat the world in cotton. We can beat the West in corn if we farm right. We can beat the whole country in oats sowed in the fall, and we can grow more stock feed of high quality with cowpeas and soy beans and velvet beans than any other part of the country, and we do not need to monkey with broom corn or sunflowers.

We can raise hogs cheaper than they can in the West because of the abundant food we grow for them to eat and harvest for themselves, and we can feed beef and dairy cattle more cheaply than the North or West. A Northern dairyman who went to Georgia wrote to me: "I find that I can make as good butter here as in Vermont; I can make it cheaper and can get more for it than in the North." Corn grows larger here than in the North, and we can make more ensilage on an acre than can be grown on similar soil in the North. Mr. Tufts made 31 tons an acre of ensilage on poor sand-hills after a few years of improvement, fully equal in feeding value to ten tons of hay, which no one can grow on an acre. We need more silos, more pea and soy bean and velvet bean hay, and more cattle to eat them and to enrich the soil to make more corn and cotton and oats. In short, we need more farming and less planting of cotton only.—Progressive Farmer.

The number of passengers transferred from the immigration station on Ellis island in New York harbor to the mainland averages now about 2,500,000 each year.

POLICE INVADE TAMPA CHURCH

Make Six Arrests, Preventing Rough Handling of Pastor.

Tampa, Fla., Dec. 31.—At the conclusion of services this morning, the Rev. R. E. Kirkland, pastor of the First Congregational church, was the storm centre in a near-riot, in which the police interfered, arresting six persons. The Rev. Kirkland spent this afternoon in bed. In a written statement he declared he had been kicked by some of the women.

The cause of the outburst was an attack made by the Rev. Kirkland, in his sermon, on a former pastor in connection with alleged misappropriation of church funds. The Rev. Kirkland's subject was "In Christ Led To-day, Would He Be a Socialist?" His text was, "My Father's house is a house of prayer, but ye have made it a den of thieves." Strained relations have existed between the Rev. Kirkland and members of his congregation for some months.

POOR SUFFERING WITH POISON.

High Act of Prominent Citizen of Lake City Section.

Lake City, Dec. 31.—Mr. Anson A. Brown, one of the most widely known and highly respected citizens of this section, committed suicide early this morning by taking about two ounces of opium.

For several years he suffered from chronic dyspepsia, which at times made him very despondent, and it is thought that in a moment of extreme suffering and depression he took the fatal dose. No one saw the man act and the first intimation of anything unusual was when his heavy bathing attracted the attention of Mr. Brown, about midnight, after which he lived about two hours.

His home, where he died, is at Lake City. He was about 60 years of age and leaves his wife and three children: One son, Mr. R. A. Brown, of this place, and two daughters, Mrs. J. E. Hemmingway, of Lambert, and Mrs. Elise Brown.

Killed and Body Burned.

Memphis, Tenn., Dec. 31.—The story of a bloody conflict Christmas day, between three white men and three negroes, at Centennial Island, in the Mississippi river, was reported to-day by two men, who, badly wounded, had made their way here in a shanty boat.

The men, Charles Young and Jas. Milloy, of Lambethville, Ark., stated that together with William Hardedy, they were attacked by the mob of negroes and Hardedy was killed and his body burned while they both were wounded. They also told of a narrow escape from the negroes to the shanty boat, in which they managed to reach this city.

The trouble is said to have arisen because of the anger of the negroes at the white men for the alleged opposition to the sale of liquor, traffic in which the negroes are said to have been conducting on a large scale.

Legal blanks at Herald Book Store

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THE CARR-CARLTON CO., Box 60, Meggetts, S. C.

A SCRAP

Two of our prominent citizens met in deadly combat on our streets this morning. Blood flowed and profane language was freely scattered around for the rising generation to absorb. This disgraceful encounter would never have occurred but for a disputed account. You don't have disputed accounts when you pay by bank check. Deposit your money with us and pay all your accounts by check and you will keep all your business associates your friends. Deposit with us and save trouble. We pay 4 per cent. interest, compounded quarterly, in our savings department.

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