

NICHOLS, FRIEND OF BLEASE, TALKS TOO FREELY

Nichols, Sims and Blease to Get \$5,000 Each for Pardon of DeFord, Notorious Yeggman. Dictagraph Gives Nichols Away.

Augusta, Ga., July 13.—Five thousand dollars for Cole L. Blease, the governor of South Carolina; \$5,000 for Sam J. Nichols, attorney of Spartanburg and friend of Governor Blease; \$5,000 for C. P. Sims, attorney of Spartanburg—that these amounts were to be paid to the persons named was sworn to by E. S. Reed, chief lieutenant of William J. Burns, detective, and substantiated by thousands of words of dictagraph, for the pardon of Gus DeFord, one of the most notorious prisoners in the South Carolina penitentiary, who was convicted in Spartanburg county in 1902 on the charge of blowing the safe of the Enoree Manufacturing Co., when over \$8,000 was secured, and sentenced to serve a term of ten years. Detective Reed was on the stand before the legislative committee for several hours this afternoon and he, under oath, gave the above testimony. The final act of the alleged gigantic pardon deal was to have been reached to-day with the "O. K." telegram from Sam J. Nichols to the effect that the pardon had been granted. The telegram was not received.

Gets Admission to the "Pen."
Several years ago on the charge of blowing the safe of the Enoree Mfg. Co. over \$8,000 was secured by the work and the Spartanburg county court, after a long and tedious trial, sent DeFord to the State penitentiary for ten years. Porter said that Sam J. Nichols gave him a letter of introduction to Capt. Sondley of the State penitentiary. Felder said that this letter would be later introduced in evidence. Porter said that he went to the penitentiary and presented the letter of introduction to Capt. Sondley and was well received. "I asked to see several prisoners," said Porter, "and was given admission to the prison. I called for DeFord. I talked with him and told him that I was interested in his case. I gave him to understand that I was to act as his attorney."

Goes to Spartanburg.
Porter said that after the conference at the penitentiary with DeFord he went to Spartanburg and met Sam J. Nichols. He said that he gave Nichols to understand that he was looking for a certain convict and that he was unable to locate him. He said that he told Nichols that it was very necessary to find this convict, as the settlement of a big estate depended on his freedom. The convict was one of the beneficiaries and his restoration of citizenship was necessary. Porter told Nichols of the man DeFord and said that he was satisfied he was the man. Porter said that Nichols questioned him as to the amount involved and that he told him that it was very necessary to secure the pardon for DeFord.

Would Not Be Hard.
Porter said that Nichols told him that it would not be difficult to get DeFord out of the penitentiary. Porter told of depositing a letter of credit for \$2,500 with the Bank of Commerce.

Drafts in Evidence.
T. B. Felder placed in evidence his draft for \$2,500, drawn on the Fourth National bank, Atlanta, to be deposited in the Bank of Commerce, of Spartanburg, for financing the deal whereby evidence was to be secured that Governor Blease had been guilty of selling pardons. "E. S. Reed, one of the best detectives in the United States and head of the Burns forces, was selected to carry out the work under the name of 'Henry N. Porter, attorney, of Chicago, Ill.'" Direct testimony was given that Sam J. Nichols had been given a check for \$500 as a retainer's fee to secure the pardon of DeFord and that the check was on deposit in the Bank of Commerce in Spartanburg.

Checks Given.
Direct testimony was given by Reed and Felder that an additional check for \$500 had been placed at the disposal of Nichols for work in buying a pardon for DeFord. Direct testimony was given that \$15,000 was deposited in a Chicago bank to be paid to Sam J. Nichols upon the word that DeFord had been released from the State penitentiary.

Over 25,000 Words Testimony.
The checks, Felder said, will be placed in evidence before the committee. Over 25,000 words in testimony from the dictagraph was placed in evidence with reference to the pardon deal the conversations between Sam J. Nichols and "Henry N. Porter," the detective were given. This testimony was taken by expert stenographers. The principal statement taken in a Washington hotel was taken by the private secretary of Postmaster General Hitchcock.

Should the case ever be brought to court these stenographers will be put up as witnesses. The testimony was sworn to by Detective "Henry N. Porter."

The Interrurban Deal.
The dictagraph testimony further showed how Sam J. Nichols secured a charter for the Piedmont Northern railway. According to the testimony he had a row with Governor Blease and threatened to desert him unless he signed the bill. The testimony shows that Nichols said that the signing of the bill meant \$10,000 a year to him. According to the testimony, Nichols told Blease that his hatred for Lewis W. Parker and "Smyth" or the money paid by the Southern Railway was keeping him from signing the bill. Governor Blease signed the bill and the dictagraph relates a stormy scene. This conversation, setting out the statements, was between Sam J. Nichols and "Henry N. Porter," the detective.

Felder on Stand.
Felder occupied the witness stand for several hours this afternoon and read excerpts from the dictagraph testimony relative to the conversation between Nichols and Detective Porter. The conversation of "Porter" bristled with fine humor and sarcasm when it was read.

Reed Takes Stand.
Taking the stand this afternoon, E. S. Reed, who was known as "Henry Porter," the Chicago attorney, said that he had been engaged in the detective business for 22 years. He said that when W. J. Burns undertook the graft investigation in South Carolina that he was assigned to Columbia and the western section of the State and that "Balle," the other Burns man, known as "the fascinating Mr. Wilson," had been detailed to work in Charleston. Porter handed the committee one of his cards—used in making the investigation. This gave the information that he was "a Chicago lawyer." In answer to questions by Felder, Porter said that he had used the dictagraph to gather the testimony in connection with the sale of pardons.

Selected Worst Criminal.
"We selected," said Porter, "the worst criminal in the South Carolina penitentiary for our investigation. This man was known as Gus DeFord, alias James Johnson, alias Edward Murphy, alias Edward Holloway, alias G. W. DeFord, alias G. M. DeFord and other aliases. This man was a yeggman and a safe blower. He had just served a sentence of five years in the federal prison in Atlanta when he was convicted in South Carolina. "DeFord was convicted in Spartanburg county."

Telegrams in Evidence.
Porter read several telegrams that he exchanged with Nichols. The telegrams were introduced in evidence. Porter declared that after he had talked over the matter of securing a pardon for DeFord he paid Sam J. Nichols a check for \$500. This check he said was deposited in the Bank of Commerce of Spartanburg to the credit of Sam J. Nichols and that the check would be later placed in evidence. Another check was drawn for \$500, subject to the order of Nichols, said the witness. This money was turned loose to aid Nichols in securing the pardon. Here Porter told of the injection of the dictagraph in the investigation. The dictagraph was used in the Finch hotel in Spartanburg and in the New Willard hotel in Washington.

First Meeting June 23.
The first meeting between Nichols and Porter occurred on June 23. Porter said that he, after arriving in Spartanburg and installing himself in room 48 of the Finch hotel, he sent a note to Sam J. Nichols, asking that he call and talk over the securing of a pardon for DeFord. Nichols sent back a note saying that he was going out of town and that it would be impossible to talk over the matter. A second note was sent to Nichols by Porter. A second reply was received. The reply of Nichols will be submitted to the committee by Porter. The witness said that an expert stenographer by the name of S. Teitelbaum was located in the room next to number 48.

Dictagraph in Finch Hotel.
The dictagraph was placed in the room with Porter. Later in the day Porter said that Nichols called and that they held a conference for five hours, during which time the DeFord pardon was freely discussed. A transcript of the testimony, covering more than 10,000 words was introduced in evidence. Felder said at this point that the stenographer will be called to testify should prosecution be necessary.

Next at Washington.
The next conference, Porter said, was held in the New Willard hotel, in Washington, in room 541. The official stenographer in Washington, Porter said, was George W. Reik, the private secretary to Postmaster General Hitchcock. As in Spartanburg, the conversation between Nichols and Porter was taken. This transcribed testimony was introduced in evidence this afternoon and made a part of the official record. The discussion continued with reference to the DeFord pardon and the manner in which it was to be secured. Porter said that Nichols came to his room in Washington with a man by the name of Paslay, from Spartanburg. Nichols, he said, asked Paslay to leave the room, as he had some important business to talk over with Porter. It was stated by Porter that Nichols promised to close up the pardon deal within two weeks.

Went to Baltimore.
According to the witness, Sam J. Nichols left Washington and went to Baltimore. He was followed by Porter and they both went to the Altamont hotel, where the South Carolina delegation to the national convention was registered. At this point in the testimony the members of the committee questioned Porter as to the correctness of the testimony by the dictagraph. A technical explanation of the working of the instrument was given and the witness declared that from experience it had been shown that it was impossible to "fake" testimony from the dictagraph. He said that the stenographers' notes would show whether it was genuine or not.

Local History Proves Truth.
Porter said that the record of the dictagraph was full of local history that would show the absolute correctness of the testimony. Smiling confidently, Porter told of his conversations with Sam J. Nichols in Baltimore. The dictagraph gave in detail the conversations. National politics was among the subjects discussed by the two.

Felder Again on the Stand.
At this point Porter left the stand and T. B. Felder resumed his testimony. He read certain sections of the dictagraph testimony. He branded as a lie statements made by members of the old State dispensary board of control that he had been guilty of grafting. He gave some interesting testimony concerning his relations with L. W. Boykin, John Bell Towill and others.

Felder Defends Himself.
In answer to the previous testimony given the committee to the effect that he, Felder, had been guilty of grafting, he said: "I was connected with the dispensary investigations in South Carolina for three or four years before these charges were preferred against me. If they had had anything on me they would have brought it out. They would have snatched at the chance so," said Felder, "that it would not have made your head swim, but would have made it go around like a whirlpool." "Did you ever try to bribe H. H. Evans with \$50?" asked the committee.

Would Have Succeeded.
"If I had tried I would have succeeded," snapped back Felder. Felder said that the necessity of adding rebates in South Carolina was well known. He illustrated the statement by referring to an Augusta man who was unable to do business with the South Carolina dispensary until he had paid the necessary money. Felder said that John Bell Towill had followed him around to make a confession. He said that he would have secured a confession from many of the "grafter" if the present governor had not been elected.

Blease's Election Stopped Them.
"With the election of Cole L. Blease the views of the grafters changed as to confessions," said Felder. "Did you ever make a proposition to Boykin, Towill and Evans to form a whiskey corporation in South Carolina?" asked the committee. "Never," he replied. "Anybody that says that I received a graft in connection with the South Carolina dispensary," said Felder, "tells an absolute, unmitigated and infamous lie." Excerpts from the dictagraph testimony with reference to the signing of the Piedmont Northern charter by Blease was read by Felder and the document was placed in evidence and sworn to by Porter. It was brought out by Felder that detectives had kept in touch with Sam J. Nichols and that he had left Spartanburg Thursday afternoon for Columbia. He went from Columbia to Barnwell. It was stated that Nichols held a conference with Governor Blease at Blackville last night or that they were together.

Next Meeting Upon Call.
The committee held a long executive session to-night and adjourned at 11 o'clock. No statement was made by members of the committee as to the matters to be discussed. The next meeting was left subject to the call of the chairman, Senator Howard B. Carlisle, of Spartanburg.

CHICAGO'S WOMAN JUDGE.

Miss Bartelme Will Preside Over Trials of Delinquent Girls.
Her honor, Judge Mary M. Bartelme has just taken her place on the bench of the Chicago juvenile court, the first woman judge Chicago has ever had.
Miss Bartelme accepted the position of assistant judge of the juvenile court which was offered her by the circuit court judges. But the fact that she is to be an assistant judge does not mean that she is not to have a court of her own. She is to sit in a separate part devoted to the trial of girls and young women charged with minor offenses and delinquency.
Miss Bartelme, who is a former school teacher, a lawyer and a public guardian in Cook county, owes her elevation to the bench to a suggestion made by President Harry Pratt Judson of the University of Chicago and Jane Addams of Hull House.
It is the highest judicial place any woman has ever attained in Illinois, the next highest position ever held by a woman in the State being that of a justice of the peace.

Treasure Trove.
A young man recently got married and took a cottage, determined to grow enough vegetables to keep the household going. He started to dig up the garden, and, after half an hour's hard work, was astonished to find a sovereign at his feet. Then he dug with a renewed ardor. Several pennies, a sixpence and a half crown rewarded his efforts.
"Blow me! If this ain't a bloomin' gold mine!" he said, digging away for all he was worth. "I wonder what I'll find next?"

Passing of the Full Blood Indian.
The American Indian is doomed to disappear in a few decades. He is merging into the white race rapidly. His fate as a full blood Indian is already sealed and there seems to be nothing that will save him. He can not keep pace with the march of progress. He could live and thrive in a wigwam and lope over the lonely forest trails for hours at a time without fatigue. He can not exist in a modern house and pines and wilts like a captive wild bird. His children to-day are far different from the healthy papooses of more than a century ago. His wife has a very meagre supply of vitality compared to the rugged squaw who used to do all the work for his great-grandfather.

According to the census of 1910, the total number of Indians in the United States is 265,683 and 150,000 of these are full-blooded. There are nearly as many tribes as in the old Colonial days, but six of them are represented by only a single member and 30 have less than 10 members each. Indians are found in every State, but Oklahoma contains the largest number, 74,825.
Official investigation shows that sterility is more common among full-blooded than among mixed blood Indian women and the birth rate is steadily declining. The number of children born increases in proportion to the amount of white blood. Not only that but the vitality of the offspring as shown by the proportion of surviving children follows the same rule. These conditions will tend to increase the proportion of mixed bloods among the Indians of the United States and as a result the full blood Indian is doomed to disappearance at an early date.

A Bold Bet.
In Thomas E. Farish's book, "Gold Hunters of California," is a yarn about the biggest gambling Mr. Farish knew of in that time of big betting: "A man of the name of Moore had been betting and lost over and over sums aggregating several thousand dollars on the game of faro. Finally, as he turned to leave, the dealer asked: 'Are you through?' Moore halted, hesitated, then, turning and taking from his pocket a key, held it up and said, 'I will bet you everything in my safe, which this key unlocks, on the ten.' 'How much is in your safe?' inquired the dealer: 'I do not know, but it is a large sum. If you will take the key, open the safe and secure all the money you find there. If I win we will go to the safe together, count the money, and you must cover the amount,' was the answer. The challenge was accepted, the bet made and Moore won something over \$47,000."

\$25.00 up, suits to order of fine woolsens, fit perfect; also ready-made clothes, all wool, from \$10.00 up; wash suits \$4.00 up. Write F. G. MERTINS, Augusta, Ga.

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To The Public:
In the course of business a bill is sometimes presented for collection where it has already been paid.
This may have happened to you as it has to so many. Such an occurrence is annoying and requires explanations and sometimes the receipt.
You need never pay a bill twice if you pay by check. The check is a positive proof that you have paid the money, and your cancelled checks are receipts for the bills you have paid.
Our bank offers prompt and efficient service in handling your account.
Yours very truly,
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NOT THE BEST

We don't claim to have the best Horses and Mules ever brought to this market in our stables at this time, for we have had some mighty good ones heretofore, but we do claim these to be just as good as any we have ever handled, and if you will come and look we know we can please you. See ours before buying is all we ask.

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A few Snowflakes do not make any impression, but a sufficient number of them will stop a locomotive. Your small change may seem unimportant to you, but if you open a savings account here, and constantly add to the amount, the accumulation will surprise you and prove a great help to you when WANT tries to run you down. We pay 4 per cent. on Savings Deposits.
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A GREAT RECORD

Hard to Duplicate It in Bamberg.

Scores of representative citizens of Bamberg are testifying for Doan's Kidney Pills. Such a record of local endorsement is unequalled in modern times. This public statement made by a citizen is but one of the many that have preceded it and the hundreds that will follow. Read it:
Mrs. L. B. Fowler, Elm, St., Bamberg, S. C., says: "My little daughter suffered from weak kidneys for several years and she had practically no control over the kidney secretions. She often complained of her back hurting her and her health was poor. Finally I got a box of Doan's Kidney Pills from the Peoples Drug Co., as they had previously been used in our family with good results. In a few weeks after my daughter began taking them, the trouble with her kidneys was corrected and her health improved. I shall always recommend Doan's Kidney Pills." (Statement given in March, 1908.)
A PERMANENT CURE.
On January 26, 1911, Mrs. Fowler was interviewed and she said: "It gives me pleasure to again endorse Doan's Kidney Pills, for the cure they made in my family has been lasting. You may continue to use my statement."
For sale by all dealers. Price 50 cents. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, New York, sole agents for the United States.
Remember the name—Doan's—and take no other.
5 or 6 doses 666 will break any case of Chills and Fever; it acts on the liver better than Calomel, and does not gripe or sicken. 25c.
NOTICE.—Automobile rain proof dusters \$5.00; also gloves and caps, a full line. Write F. G. MERTINS, Augusta, Ga.

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