

# The Newberry Herald and News.

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TWICE A WEEK, \$1.50 A YEAR

## On Monday December 9th, THE 5 AND 10 CENT STORE BEGINS THEIR BIG HOLIDAY SALE!

We appreciate the fact that money is scarce this fall, cotton short and prices low. So we have brought you people Toys for the little folks, Big Toys, Toys you have been paying from 25c. to 50c. for, and put the price down in the reach of all.

**DOLLS**

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We have 'em, and none over 10c. Every imaginable Toy that could be imported and sold for 10c. Also, one solid car of crockery. Big lot of those 50c. covered dishes for 10c. China, Glass and thousands of novelties to delight the old as well as the young folks. We will only be with you for a very short time now, and avail yourselves of this last chance to buy stuff cheap. Our seven big stores are crowded and packed with goods and must be sold before Xmas.

## FIVE AND TEN CENT STORE,

SUMMER BLOCK, Next West's Furniture Store.

### MR. McLAURIN'S POSITION

#### A NORTHERN VIEW OF HIS POLITICAL ATTITUDE.

Mr. Henry Loomis Nelson says that the Junior Senator from South Carolina is simply a southern Spoils Politician "Seeking Political Position for Himself by a Real Alliance with the Republican Party, While Holding on to the Name of Democrat for his Own Selfish Ends."

[Boston Herald.]

There is nothing new at all in the attitude of the Democratic Senators toward Mr. McLaurin, of South Carolina. Mr. McLaurin has not been counted as a Democrat for the last two years, and in some respects this has been greatly to his credit. So far as he opposed free silver and the various Socialistic theories which found their way into the Democratic ranks upon which Mr. Bryan stood, he was in agreement with a good many other members of the Democratic party who were out of the Senate, and with some who were in. Mr. McLaurin was not read out of the party, however, because he believed in the gold standard and was opposed to Bryan. If this were a persecution on account of those differences of opinion which exist between the thousands of Democrats who refused to vote for Mr. Bryan and those who voted for him, there would be very little hope, indeed, of the two wings of the party ever getting together.

But the country knows pretty well by this time that the strongest of the Bryan Democrats, or those who have been the strongest, are not averse to the return of those who abandoned the organization in 1896; on the contrary, they are quite inclined to welcome them. Senator Jones himself, who is the Democratic leader on the floor of the Senate, is not bigoted in this respect, and he would be the last to recommend the reading out of McLaurin or anybody else simply because he had been opposed to Bryan and was in favor of the single gold standard.

The differences between Mr. McLaurin and the remainder of his party are of larger importance than this, and they go to the very essentials. Mr. McLaurin differs in opinion from every faction of the Democratic party, and is no mere a Democrat in principle than Mr. Gorman himself. It is one of the strongest proofs of the enduring value of a mere name that, if Mr. McLaurin had continued to call himself a Democrat, and to support his assertion by attendance on Democratic caucuses, no one would have dreamed of reading him out of the party.

If Democracy means anything at all; if the Democratic party has any essential principle whatever, and if it stands for anything, in other words, that is opposed to the Republican party, Mr. Gorman ought to go with Mr. McLaurin. Perhaps, on the whole, it may be said, that Mr. McLaurin is taking a manlier course than Mr. Gorman has taken, or will take, by declining to participate in the consultations of fellow Senators whose final action he is bound to antagonize on the floor of the Senate.

Both Mr. McLaurin and Mr. Gorman are high protectionists; but while Mr. Gorman will undertake to defeat the pledges and purposes of his party in the caucus and by subterranean methods, Mr. McLaurin frankly announces that he is with the Republicans, and will support them in debate, and with his vote. Mr. McLaurin is also in favor of ship subsidies, as Mr. Gorman will probably be when he returns to the Senate. Mr. McLaurin also approved of the imperialistic and colonial policy of the McKinley Administration, and on every question on which a party issue could be made he sides with the Republicans.

There is nothing against Mr. McLaurin in all this. He has as good a right to change his mind as anyone else, if his reason leads him to the conclusion that the policy advocated and put in practice by the Republican party is the right one. Every honest man will agree not only that he has the right to his changed

opinion, as much right as he had to former views, but that it is his duty to act upon his convictions and to change his party affiliations with his change of view.

Mr. McLaurin represents a very large element in his own State and throughout the South, and there can be no doubt that it would be greatly to the advantage of the country if men of his way of thinking would come out of the Democratic party and join the Republicans. But when we have said all this and have explained Mr. McLaurin's principles, we have said about all there is to say that is good of Mr. McLaurin.

The South Carolina Senator, whatever may be said of his colleague, does not possess the courage of his convictions. He is not only a Republican in principle, but without much nicety of concealment he is acting with that party, although he is posing at the same time in South Carolina as a Democrat.

Although he says that he is convinced the people of South Carolina agree with him and will sustain him when the case is presented to them in his attitude toward the war, toward the new possessions, on the tariff, on subsidies and the vague thing which he calls "constructive statesmanship," he does not seem inclined to risk the trial, and is evidently afraid of what would follow his confession that he is no longer a Democrat.

There can be no other explanation of his persistence of remaining on the Democratic side of the chamber, and of taking Democratic places on committees, while, at the same time, refusing to attend Democratic caucuses, and announcing at every opportunity and concerning every measure of importance that arises that he is going to vote with Republicans.

A year ago, when the ship subsidy bill was before the Senate, Mr. McLaurin was not invited to attend the caucus on the subject, and Senator Jones then said that he would no more think of inviting him to a Democratic caucus than he would Senator Lodge or any other pronounced

Republican. His vote was always at the service of the Republicans, which, as I have said, constitutes no offense, and it is true that there is no concealment of his Republican disposition to either side of the chamber. It seems as though he remains a Democrat in name merely for home consumption and because he fears that the time has not yet arrived when a Republican in name as well as in principles can be elected Senator from South Carolina.

In a word, Mr. McLaurin's attitude has not been that of a very high-minded man. It is also the fact that he has made use of his attitude for the purpose of controlling patronage, while it is generally believed on the Democratic side of the Senate that he has said that Mr. McKinley promised to make him a United States Judge at the end of his term in the Senate.

Whether Mr. Roosevelt will carry out such a promise, if it existed, is doubtful. Roosevelt has a way of finding out a man of McLaurin's character before he is through with him, and he is not very likely to be deceived much longer, if, indeed, he has not already been deceived. How far he has found him out it would be difficult, if not impossible, to say, because McLaurin is still a distributor of patronage for South Carolina. He stands for the Republican organization there, and the President is dependent upon him for advice.

Those who know the history of McLaurin's recommendations are aware that they have generally been of such a character as might have been expected from a thoroughgoing Southern Republican organization man. In short, they have been about as bad a lot as could be picked up in that unfortunate section of the country.

The first appointment which Mr. McLaurin recommended for an internal collectorship was that of a man who fortunately was in Washington at the time of his selection. When told that he was about to receive the appointment he celebrated

his triumph by getting uproariously drunk and making a scandalous exhibition of himself on the streets. When this came to the ear of the President he promptly changed his mind, and asked McLaurin for another man.

McLaurin recommended another objectionable character and it was impossible apparently to convince him that what the President wanted was a good officer and not a man to devote his time to securing Roosevelt delegates in the Convention of 1904, until the President told him frankly that if he couldn't find any decent Republicans in South Carolina he would better name him a Gold Democrat, which he proceeded to do.

McLaurin is simply the ordinary Southern spoils politician, seeking political position for himself by a real alliance with the Republican party, while holding on to the name of Democrat for his own selfish ends. It is well for all concerned that he should be smothered out. If he were a man of high character his accession to the Republican party, in South Carolina would be an advantage to the State and the country, and might be the beginning of the regeneration of the South Carolina Republican machine; but McLaurin will add nothing in the way of character to the organization as it exists, and has no higher idea of politics than the employment of such instrumentalities as are to be found in South Carolina and throughout the South for the simple purpose of getting and retaining office.

Henry Loomis Nelson.

#### FOUND DEAD IN BED.

Tronton Man Killed by Gas in Washington.

Washington, Dec. 16.—Samuel Pressley, of Tronton, was found dead in his bed this morning in his room in the house adjoining that of Mrs. Ada Gilbert Dennis. Pressley's death was caused by inhaling gas, but owing to the proximity of the two houses his death is being investigated, and Mrs. Dennis is in a precarious condition.

### COLLECTOR KOESTER.

HIS CONFIRMATION IS QUITE CERTAIN.

A Statement by Mr. Koester as to Conditions—The Futile Fight of Personal Enemies—McLaurin Cuts Off Tillman's Game.

(Columbia Record, 16th.)

Collector Geo. R. Koester returned yesterday from Washington, where he had spent a week. He expressed confidence that there would be no trouble over confirmation of his appointment by the senate, no serious opposition having been developed so far and there being no prospect of any.

On Friday, E. H. Deas, the colored State Republican chairman, filed a protest with the senate's finance committee, to which Mr. Koester's appointment was referred in the regular order of business. There was nothing substantial in the protest, which accused President Roosevelt of having railroaded Mr. Koester's appointment and alleged that Mr. Koester was not a suitable person for collector, as he had participated in a lynching at Gaston in 1893. Deas admitted that he had been unable to secure any affidavits to sustain that allegation. As his only substantiation of that allegation, Deas filed copies of The Columbia State and two or three other papers, charging Mr. Koester with being a lyncher. As the other papers got their information from The State's columns, what they say amounts to nothing. It is understood that Deas expected the editor of The State, N. G. Gonzales to furnish affidavits to sustain his charges against Mr. Koester, but these have not been produced and Deas has been left high and dry with nothing to support the newspaper lies and slanders which induced him to make a fight on Mr. Koester's appointment. He has been deserted.

On Saturday, Mr. Koester filed his answer, which contained more than thirty sworn affidavits from citizens of Richland, Lexington and Orangeburg counties, which prove:

1. That Mr. Koester was present at the Gaston lynching in the capacity of a reporter sent there by the Columbia Daily Register, the paper for which he was working.

2. That he took no part in the lynching.

3. That he did not fire a shot at the two negroes he saw lynched.

4. That he argued against burning Will Thompson.

5. That in capturing Tom Preston he simply did his duty in preventing the escape of a man guilty of a particularly atrocious crime.

6. That he protected Preston until his guilt was proven and was then powerless to save him from death.

7. That at the eminent risk of his own life he prevented the burning to death of Tom Preston, which a majority of the crowd favored, when a medical investigation proved him diseased.

Mr. Koester was assured his defense was complete and thereof did not stay in Washington to await action of the senate this week, which he is satisfied will be favorable.

South Carolinians in Washington were indignant over the indications of an alliance between Deas and The State to defeat Mr. Koester.

Mr. Koester heard Senator McLaurin's speech last Monday in defense of his Democracy and his right to act for himself and not to be bound by caucus action. The speech was given closest attention by both Democratic and Republican senators, and Mr. Koester pronounced it one of the most eloquent and logical ever delivered by Senator McLaurin. It made a profound impression, which was not all effaced by Senators Jones and Tillman, who alone attempted to reply to it.

Senator McLaurin saw through Tillman's game at once. The senior senator was trying to goad the junior senator upon the eve of assembling of a legislature which he believed he controlled sufficiently to ensure his own re-election and defeat his colleague. There would be no time for a campaign, as the legislature would have to elect on the second Tuesday of its session and could not be bound to support anybody.