

The Dispensary Law.

The Case Argued Before the United States Supreme Court.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 31.—Somewhat unexpectedly to the officers of the court and to the attorneys engaged, the argument upon what are known as the South Carolina dispensary law cases was begun in the Supreme court of the United States today. In the enforcement of the law the State officials came into conflict with the federal officers, which resulted in bringing the law to the attention of the supreme court upon some collateral questions, but the cases at the bar, the validity of the law, as far as it relates to the seizure of liquors imported into the State by private citizens for their own consumption, is at stake. Liquors so imported has been seized by the constables appointed to enforce the dispensary law, and James Donald, a citizen, brought suit against four of the constables for injunction to restrain them from seizing in the future any ales, wines or liquors imported into the State by him for his personal use and consumption. The case was filed in the United States court, and after a hearing the court granted the injunction asked for.

From that decree the constables appealed to the supreme court of the United States. Attorney General W. A. Barber appealed on behalf of the constables in support of the law. In connection with the papers in the case, he submitted to the court a suggestion that an act passed March 6 last by the legislature of South Carolina supercedes and repeals part of the original dispensary law, and he moved "that the said act be considered by the court in the determination of the appeal in this case."

Mr. J. P. K. Bryan appeared for Donald. The court adjourned before he had concluded his argument.

Mr. Barber contended that the suit instituted by Donald was, in effect, a suit against the State; that the federal court had no jurisdiction of the case, presenting no question arising under the laws or Constitution of the United States, and that the law, insofar as it prohibits persons from importing alcoholic liquors in the State for personal use and consumption, is in the lawful exercise of the police power of the State, and is not in conflict with the Constitution and interstate commerce laws of the United States.

Replying to the argument of Attorney General Barber, Mr. J. P. K. Bryan, counsel for Donald, contended that so much of the dispensary law as forbids a citizen of South Carolina to purchase in other States, and to import into that State, alcoholic liquors for his own use and consumption, the products of other States, discriminates against the products and citizens of other States, and also against the citizens of that State, and is to that extent null and void, being in violation of the Constitution and the inter-state commerce law. He denied that the law was in any sense an inspection law, and therefore a legitimate exercise of the police power. He spoke of the magnitude and far-reaching consequence of the principles here at stake. A new political theory was involved, as stated by Governor Tillman in his message of 1893, in which he summarized these words: "It is not difficult to locate the school of political thought that announces as a new principle in our form of government that the State should supply what the people want."

"If the State could supply what the people want in the liquor trade," said Mr. Bryan, "it could in every trade in which the exercise of police power in the State could make regulations and thus practically the whole business trade and commerce of the State could be constitutionally turned into a system of official conduct of business with an army of officers and State agents; and thus instead of the individual citizen conducting trade with private enterprise, under the protection and restraints and regulations of the government, the State would be conducting trade with public funds through official employees. To state this result is to demonstrate the falsity of the principle, for this result is simply socialism and paternalism and communism, and destroys the very purposes and transgresses all the bounds of 'civil government' in the history of the Anglo-Saxon race and as contemplated by the founders of these Americans commonwealths."

It is related in the newspapers that Henry M. Stanley, the famous African explorer, is gradually turning black. Here is the story. Stanley was aware of the fact that the African natives of the fever infested districts enjoyed immunity from the disease. He had been told by scientific men that he could also secure immunity by submitting to a transfusion of blood from a native. He took the advice of these scientific men and submitted to transfusion on as many as five different occasions. During each of his expeditions the white men with his party died of fever in large numbers. He, however, escaped. But now he is paying up for it all. It is claimed that his complexion, once fair, now looks like that of a dark mulatto, and continues to grow blacker and blacker.

Cotton Seeds Worth Many Thousand Dollars.

South Georgia Planters Seek to Exterminate a Marvelous African Cotton Plant

If an imaginative novelist, in writing a romance of unknown Africa, should a year ago have incorporated in his story the statement that cotton grew there to a height of twenty feet and that there was from four to six pounds of the fleecy staple to each stalk, the entire South would have risen up and called him the romancer of the age, but now they are quite willing to accept almost any cotton story that can be told. And thereby hangs a tale.

A cotton planter by the name of Jackson, living just outside of Atlanta, Ga., was introduced to an African explorer a little over two years ago. The returned traveler told him of the enormous height to which cotton grew in Central Africa. It reached as high as twenty feet, and the stalks were peculiar in that they were bare of leaves when the matured cotton was ready for gathering. It differed from the ordinary cotton plant also in the fact that it did not require as good land as its civilized prototype, but would grow in the most barren regions and give an enormous crop. Before parting he gave Jackson some seeds of the African product which he had brought with him.

That was two years ago. Last week a committee representing the planters of South Georgia called on Jackson to prepare to offer him \$18,000 for the twenty bushels of seed of the new cotton which he has as the result of the season's crop. And the peculiar part of the story is that they did not want the seed for planting purposes, but if the purchase could be consummated they intended burning every seed.

What elapsed in the course of the two years does not seem remarkable; it is the beginning and the result that is startling. Jackson believed the traveler's tale and planted the seed. The first crop was small, but it more than fulfilled his anticipations. He carefully treasured the seed from the crop, and last year planted it on the west hills of his plantations. As every one familiar with cotton culture knows, this part of the land is the poorest in the world for raising the staple, and unless it is very heavily fertilized an attempt to raise anything there is time and money uselessly expended. But Jackson wanted to give it the severest possible test, so he planted the crop on the west hills of his lands and did not add a pound of fertilizer to enrich the earth. The result was marvellous. Some of the stalks grew to seven feet, and the average height of all of them was very close to that figure. The number of bolls on the stalks were in proportion to the other stupendous measurements. As high as twenty bolls to a single stalk were counted. On the ordinary cotton stalk four bolls is considered a good yield. The product of the African seed is equal to the best grade of the staple known. Jackson has been offered ten cents a pound for his entire crop of the new cotton, but he is holding it for a rise. One of the peculiarities of this cotton is the fact that the stalks are leafless. When the stalk grows up leaves begin to sprout on it, and after they have grown out for some distance the fruit comes out from the stem of the leaf. After the fruit has partially matured the leaves drop off, leaving the stalk perfectly barren except the bolls and bursting fruit.

The news of Jackson's find soon became noised about, and letters asking what price the seed could be purchased for began to pour in. The New Orleans Cotton Exchange wired Jackson that they would take his entire lot of seed at his own price. He sent them a sample stalk and fixed his price at \$500 per bushel. He has about twenty bushels, and the South Georgia farmers want the New Orleans Exchange one better and offered \$18,000 for the entire lot. They claim that unless it is destroyed cotton will soon become a drug on the market and on account of overproduction they will not be able to make a living. Jackson does not feel inclined to sell the seed to be destroyed. He argues that if the farmers will plant it they will be able to raise larger crops on less ground, and the omission of fertilizers will be a big saving in the season's expenses. Again, it can be planted on the poorest part of the ground, and the rest of the land can be devoted to some other crop.

A comparative table showing the results of the two kinds of cotton seeds would be startling in the extreme. Where the planter now counts himself in luck if he gets a bale of cotton from every two acres, with the new plants he will get at least two bales to the acre, and Mr. Jackson thinks that in course of time, when the plant gets thoroughly acclimated to our soil, it will yield four bales to an acre. It means a revolution in the cotton industry, from the farmer to the merchant who sells the manufactured cloth.—N. Y. Journal.

[Dr. P. M. Badger, of Summerton, Clarendon County, has received a letter from his half brother, Mr. Gaston Furse, of Georgia, stating that he had thoroughly investigated this new and wonderful cotton and after inspecting the growing cotton and the staple is convinced that it is all that has been claimed for it. He says, also, that the accounts published in the papers are not at all exaggerated.]

Wheat Goes Down.

CHICAGO, Oct. 22.—December wheat took another big tumble on the board of trade today and the wild excitement on 'change which accompanied the collapse bordered on a panic. There was a fall of 4 1/2 cents from yesterday's closing price, exceeding the advance for any day since the sensational upward movement began in this country and abroad. Late in the day there was a recovery. The highest point during the morning session was 74 1/2 cents. The closing price was 70 1/2 cents. Towards the closing hour, the slump was so rapid that drops of a cent and more found no bidders. The price went from 73 to 71 1/2 cents in five minutes. The scenes in the pit were such as board of trade history is made of. There was a frantic rush of sellers on the strength of a rumor that Cudahy had joined Armour in unloading his holdings. Thousands of bushels were dumped on the market, but there were no buyers who could keep pace with the quantity offered. There were some heavy losses. The main cause of the decline was said to be failure to secure advances from the banks for buying cash wheat.

Within half an hour after the opening the price of December went down 2 1/2 cents, and the inexorable banker was blamed for refusing to lend money on any terms. The demand for money overshadowed all talk of foreign shortage, of shipments to India or news from Australia and Russia. Cash wheat sold below futures, and the price of the former declined from 6 to 7 cents before traders were allowed a breathing spell.

Armour said that the key to the situation was the scarcity of money and that the price of cash wheat was pulling future wheat down. The curb last night prepared the way for the slaughtering of the market price to day. Wheat sold at 74 in the street and this added to the cry of distress from the cash market, threw the pit into hysterics at the opening. Houses were swamped with country orders to sell at a certain price if the decline continued. Most of them wanted the deal stopped at 74 to 74 1/2 cents, but before they could as much as shout "sold," the expert in the box had marked the price down from 75 1/2 to 72 1/2.

Then pandemonium broke loose in all its fury, and the bravest speculator was filled with a dread of what might come. Bulls with big lines of December wheat, who have been busy unloading during the last few days, surrendered some more to the tottering market. They sold at prices which brought them fortunes, and took their chances of buying back again at a lower price. The bulls who have been crying "dollar wheat," have been silenced by the trouble of the last two days. The bankers said that the election uncertainty made it imperative for conservative banks to decline loans for speculation in large sums. Armour's grain department stated the money market was becoming more closely allied to the wheat market, and that the election was the only relief in sight.

Railroad Swindlers.

Swindles of the most improved kind, and crooks of the most unparalleled nerve, come to light every day or two in the newspapers, but seldom has there been equalled in this line the scheme of a pair of sharpers, brought to the notice of the public by the express companies of the city yesterday.

Superintendent Agee, of Mobile, was in the city yesterday en route to Hollendale, Miss., on the track of two crooks, and in connection with his visit to that town a Times-Democrat reporter learned the following story:

A person representing himself as a railroad traveling auditor alighted from a Georgia Pacific railroad train a few days ago, at Hollendale, Miss., a little station near Greenville, Miss. He had with him a man who called himself J. W. Healy, who was an expert telegraph operator, etc.

The assumed traveling auditor handed his card to the railroad agent in the way of an official introduction. He then proceeded to complain at the manner he had rendered his reports, and finally decided to relieve him under the charge of incompetency.

He proceeded to check up his accounts and to transfer the agency to his pal, J. W. Healy, both railroad and express accounts, inasmuch as it is a joint office. When this had been finished, the assumed traveling auditor boarded a train, left that place, and the office in charge of the pal, J. W. Healy.

This man Healy officiated some two or three days as the official representative of both railroad and express companies, until he had received money packages and collected money on account of the railroad company, and finally left, carrying with him all the cash on hand, together with a Southern Express money order book bearing the following numbers, 343, 115 to 343, 189, both inclusive, and it is supposed that he will undertake to negotiate these orders for the maximum amount of \$50 each.

Healy is known in New Orleans, as he lived here for some time, boarding on Wells street. He is an expert operator, and while here he had worked for the Illinois Central rail-

road at Sardis, Panola county, and Armita City, La. He is a man about 40 years of age, five feet two inches high, weighs about 120 pounds, wears a heavy mustache and when he was at Hollendale had on a dark suit with a black slouch hat.—New Orleans Times-Democrat, Oct. 10.

NEW YORK, Oct. 22.—J. & W. Seligman & Co. are advised by their San Francisco agents that they have this day received \$2,375,000 in gold from Australia and have ordered an additional \$2,375,000, to arrive about Nov. 19. The amount of gold received, ordered and now on the way from Europe and Australia since Aug. 28 last is about \$71,000,000.

HABANA, Oct. 22.—Captain General Weyler has issued a decree ordering the inhabitants of the country outside the fortifications of the towns in the province of Pinar del Rio to concentrate within the limits of the fortifications within eight days. Transportation of goods to or from the country towns by land or sea without permission is prohibited. At the expiration of the eight days all persons found outside the limits will be considered rebels and tried as such.

According to an official report the Pizarro regiment, under Major Flores, surprised the rebel bands commanded by Acosta and Delgado at Cocosolo, near Bejuco, province of Habana. The cavalrymen made a furious attack upon the insurgents, who were disconcerted by its suddenness and fled in disorder. Nineteen dead rebels were found upon the field including the leader, Acosta. The Spaniards had three men wounded.

FREDERICKSBURG, VA., Oct. 21.—W. H. Rambusch, the absconding banker from Juneau, Wis., killed himself here last night. Rambusch got here a week ago and registered at the hotel as C. T. Anderson. He has been visiting the battlefields since. He shot himself in the national cemetery here. The body was found in a sitting posture, the hand still grasping the pistol with which he had shot himself in the right temple. He left a note saying he wished to die among his comrades.

Those who believe chronic diarrhoea to be incurable should read what Mr. P. E. Gribbin, of Sears Mills, La., has to say on the subject, viz: "I have been a sufferer from chronic diarrhoea ever since the war and have tried all kinds of medicines for it. At last I found a remedy that effected a cure and that was Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy." This medicine can always be depended upon for colic, cholera morbus, dysentery and diarrhoea. It is pleasant to take and never fails to effect a cure. 25 and 50 cent size for sale by Dr. A. J. China.

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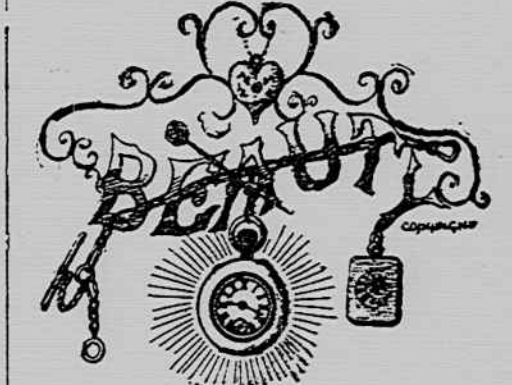
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JAMES E. COUSAR, JOHN E. COUSAR, JOHN R. COUSAR, Qualified Executors.
Bishopville, Sep. 10, 1896.
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