

South Carolina College Students and Police Fight.

Both Sides Make Statements, Though General Watts, Who Was Present, REFUSES TO SAY ANYTHING.

The usually brilliant, splendid and imposing inspection exercises in this city were deprived of their peacefulness and general good military discipline yesterday by a series of fracas on the inspection ground, in which a policeman was badly beaten up by college students, and Prof. Davis received a severe contusion on the head while attempting to prevent further trouble.

About how it all started there is a difference of opinion, but the fact is that there was a baseball game going on on the college grounds between the South Carolina students and the Independents of this city, when the military, consisting of the Governor's Guards and the Richland Volunteers marched on the college green for inspection, the place they have been inspected for years. They were under the command of Col. Willie Jones with Adjutant Michael Brennan, Gen. Watts and his staff, consisting of Lieut. Stokes of the United States army and Major B. B. Evans were present for the purpose of inspecting the troops. The usual inspection was made, and nothing happened to indicate that anything unusual was going to take place. The boys went on playing ball, unmindful of the inspection, being much more interested in the game.

After the inspection was all over, Col. Jones took charge of the troops and there was a drill. Some order brought the troops near the third base and their further progress was prevented by the ball players and spectators blocking up the way. Gen. Watts ordered them to move away, but they refused. He then ordered Col. Jones to advance his troops, which he did.

Previously, General Watts had ordered the policeman there, officer Dowie, to disperse the crowd. It was started to do so, but as soon as it was seen that one policeman could not move them, Gen. Watts ordered Col. Jones to advance. The crowd broke away considerably, but some of them were in a belligerent attitude. They broke into the ranks, but so strong was the impetus that they were practically swept away.

The next thing the officers of the military knew there was a fight in their rear, and the greatest excitement prevailed among the spectators and militiamen. Even some of the men broke ranks, not being able to withstand the temptation and excitement. They were soon quieted however.

It developed that the row was between a number of South Carolina College boys and Policeman Dowie. They were beating him all over the head with base ball bats and pummeling him generally.

He blew his whistle and his fellow policemen fled to his rescue. There was a bloody fight between the two and the students. Bats and police clubs flew thick and fast through the air, and it was evident that the policemen must soon succumb by reason of superior numbers. In the meantime Prof. Sloan, acting president of the college, Prof. Davis and others, military and civilians, were rushing in to prevent further bloodshed, for there were bloody heads and faces without number.

In trying to quiet the students Prof. Davis received a severe blow across the head by a bat or some thing else. In the general melee it is impossible to tell who struck him, but, however, it was not intended for him. Nevertheless the blood streamed from the wound all over his face, and it was at first thought that he was most seriously wounded.

Policeman Dowie, in the meantime, was one mass of clotted blood about his hair and face. Finally he pulled his pistol and shot to the ground, not wishing to wound anyone. This, with the effort of others, had a desirable effect, and the row ended. Policeman Dowie displayed a bravery in the face of overwhelming odds that was truly commendable and heroic. As soon as all was quieted he went to the police station, where he had his wounds dressed. It was found that the skin of his skull had been split from the forehead to the crown. It was a deep and painful wound, but is not fatal.

Prof. Davis is the only other one seriously hurt. As already stated, he was hit in the head and went to the college infirmary last night, but his physician stated that his injuries were more painful than serious. There were a number of students banged up, but none of them so far as can be learned are seriously injured. As soon as the row was quelled the troops marched back to their armories and were dismissed.

GENERAL WATTS.

About the row there can be no doubt and its results are certain, but how it all occurred is a question about which there are doubts. Gen. Watts was asked to make a statement last night, but he declined to say anything further than that he

was right in all his orders and actions. He said that a military commander should not go into explanations, especially as the whole thing might result in a court-martial. Beyond that he would express no opinion or make any statement.

COL JONES' STATEMENT

Col. Willie Jones made the following statement last night. "Dr. Jas. Woodrow, president of the South Carolina College, gave me written permission to parade on the college grounds last Wednesday, May 26. General Watts had an affliction in his family and the parade was postponed until this evening out of respect to him. I did not think it necessary to get further permission from Dr. Woodrow, so I did not write to him again, but I supposed the first permission would suffice. He asked me to use the Eastern part of the grounds as much as possible, 'so as to keep from roughing the part specially used by the ball players.' I marched on that Eastern portion of the ground as much as possible, and kept off the ball ground which has been smoothed off.

I was forming my battalion for dress parade, when General Watts ordered me to march my command forward and clear the ground, which I did. I saw quite a crowd around General Watts when he ordered me to march forward. As I marched forward, followed by my battalion, the crowd receded and offered us no formidable resistance. When the command reached a point near the stand (baseball), I halted it, and about that time a row took place in our rear, and I saw only one man from my command who took any part in the row. My men stood in line as I ordered them to do and used no violence on anyone that I saw."

Prof. Sloan, who is acting president, in the absence of Dr. Woodrow, was on the scene, but notwithstanding efforts to see him he could not be found. Dr. Flinn, who was also present, and familiar with all the circumstances, made the following statement:

"Dr. Woodrow being absent, Prof. Sloan is acting in his stead as president. A few days ago permission was given the military to have their inspection on the athletic field of the college. Acting President Sloan did not know that such permission had been given and pending a match game of baseball between the Independents and the college team, the military inspection was ordered on the field. When the troops came up, Prof. Sloan had an interview with General Watts, informing him of the match game.

General Watts intimated that the grounds belonged to the State and the troops had a right to use any portion of them they wished.

Prof. Sloan replied: "Yes, they belong to the State but are for the uses of the college," but that the grounds were ample.

General Watts replied that he did not wish to interfere but would take the troops to the eastern portion of the grounds.

"After this amiable arrangement and interview, Prof. Sloan thought the whole thing settled, but the troops were later formed on the South side of the field, in line with the ball grounds, about third base.

"General Watts and staff took position near the third base, and while the inspection and game were in progress a ball struck Maj. Evans' horse. The students immediately apologized, assuring the officers that it was all accidental. While this explanation was being made, Gen. Watts angrily ordered the policeman in front to clear the way. He then ordered the military to advance, which they did and the crowd got back. Then came the row with the policeman in the rear, with which you are familiar."

OTHER FACTS.

These are the facts from either side, but it must be said that whoever is at fault, the affair was a most disgraceful one to the State.

Prof. Sloan called at the police station last night and had a short conversation with Acting Mayor Brennan. He expressed the deepest regret at the occurrence.

Mr. Brennan said that the probabilities were that no trial would take place to-day, as it was certain that Policeman Dowie would not be able to be present for several days yet.

No arrests had been made last night, but the Chief of Police was working on the case and arrests will follow.—Register May 29.

The account published by The State differs from the above, being longer and giving fuller details. From it the following is taken, giving an account of the fight, and the injury to student McColl, (which is not contained in the Register's account, and who is the worst hurt of all the participants)

After General Watts' order had been executed and the troops had marched across the base ball grounds, the State goes on to say:

The ground was almost cleared. At that moment a student armed with a bat darted between the two companies. Policemen Dowie and McColl seized him. In an instant the students in mass came to the aid of their comrade. Armed with bats they charged the policemen, who released the student and began to guard themselves against the blows leveled at them. The students thoroughly infuriated, seem-

ed regardless of the consequences to life and limb. They struggled together in their eagerness to get at the policemen.

Completely surrounded Policeman Dowie began to use his club. Up to that time he had shown reluctance to use violence. All his hesitancy seemed to leave him in an instant and he became a man on the alert ready to return blow for blow so long as it protected him from injury. Surrounded on all sides, he struck out wildly with his club. One well directed blow struck Student McColl in the forehead just over the eyes. It crushed his skull, but undaunted he pressed on. Aiding him were several other students.

Professor Davis, who had just arrived on the ground, ran forward to stop the fight. With outstretched arms, indifferent to the waving bats, he ran between the students and policeman, imploring them to desist. Before he was fairly recognized he was struck in the forehead.

When Dowie arose he seemed dazed. The blood was streaming from wounds on his head and he was half choked with dust. No one was close at hand, but he pulled his pistol and fired it in the air. Cool heads prevailed on him to return the pistol to his belt.

The militia during all this disturbance stood firm. Not a man save Mr. James Dunning left the rank. Mr. Dunning is bellman and has to aid the police force in an emergency. He did so but received no severe hurt.

During the disturbance General Watts sat upon his horse and watched the fight's progress.

Mr. D. D. McColl, the young student who was hit in the melee, is considered by his physicians to be dangerously wounded. They say he may recover, but such wounds are always considered extremely dangerous on account of the liability to brain trouble. The young man was removed soon after he was hit to the college infirmary. He remained conscious until last evening when the physicians came to perform a difficult operation. When the young man was examined it was found that his skull had been fractured about the lower portion of his forehead; the bone was crushed. It was necessary to elevate the broken bone. It was indicated as if it had been struck by the end of some heavy club or billet.

The physicians also had to take several stitches in the wound in the head of Professor Davis; he is not seriously hurt. His head was cut by a glancing chance blow it seems.

A Court of Inquiry.

Public Opinion Against Gen. Watts, Though He Hasn't Given His Story.

From the State, May 30.

PROF. DAVIS' STORY.

The following is a personal statement from Prof. Davis:

"Yesterday evening when visited by a reporter, before my wound was dressed, I declined to make any statement at that time. Since then, hearing conflicting reports of the difficulty, I give the following statement of facts: After the policeman had made an arrest of one of the young men, an excited crowd gathered and I went with some other members of the faculty to see if I could prevent a disturbance. There was a confused throng around a policeman and my impression is that he was grappling with a young man. I crowded in, calling for peace, when suddenly the crowd seemed to open and the policeman jumped back, facing us. As he jumped back, as well as I can remember, he began striking with his club. I heard several blows to the left of me, as if he was striking several in succession, then at full length he struck me in the forehead, splitting the rim of my hat and inflicting a flesh wound about an inch and one-half long on the left side of my forehead. Blood began to flow. Not knowing the extent of the injury, I went around immediately to the college infirmary and saw nothing more of the disturbance.

"As Mr. McColl was on my left, I think he must have been struck first. I saw no blood about the policeman's face at the time he struck me, and I was looking in his face while he was striking the blow, although he may have been struck before. He was probably injured in the rush that followed the clubbing of myself and others. I am not prepared to say whether the clubbing was culpable or not, as I cannot judge of his own estimate as to his danger. He was in a very unpleasant position in attempting to carry out orders which I think were unlawful and unjustified.

"I think it important that subordinates should be more thoroughly acquainted with the law that holds an inferior personally responsible for unlawful acts, even when acting in obedience to the orders of a superior.

"R. MEANS DAVIS.
"May 29, 1897."

From the State, May 31.

Up to the present time nothing has been said in the news columns of The State as to the public sentiment in regard to the responsibility for the unfortunate clash between the South Carolina college students, the militia and the police officers upon the college athletic grounds on Friday afternoon last. Those who saw the whole matter were many, very many, and they have been unabatingly and freely expressing their opinions to the effect that had it not been for

General Watts' action the difficulty would not have occurred. Of course General Watts has not yet made any statement and it is due him to call attention to this fact, but all others immediately interested have made their statements in the newspapers.

But those who have been most outspoken were men who saw the whole thing with their own eyes, and they represent all classes of people and all shades of political faith. It is considered not unlikely that a military court of inquiry will be asked for to investigate the whole thing and report on the facts. What the outcome of that will be remains to be seen. Nothing has been said heretofore in regard to the public feeling because it was the desire of The State that all parties be given a hearing before the people.

In the meantime the press of the State has been speaking in no uncertain tones, relying upon the statement of the parties participating which have already been published. All the papers yet heard from pay their compliments to General Watts and demand that the governor as commander-in-chief order a full investigation. Below will be found some of the comments referred to.

Yesterday the wounded student, Mr. McColl, was resting easy and was said to be getting along as well as could be expected. While his wound is a dangerous one, the best is hoped for. He has many friends in Columbia who sincerely hope that he will completely recover. It is as yet a little too early to tell what the result of his wound will be. Officer Dowie is out again with his head bandaged up, but is not on duty. He will be at his post again in a few days.

On Saturday Chief of Police Daly stated to a representative of The State that the names of several of the students who resisted the officers had been obtained and they would be summoned to appear before the mayor this morning. This was before Mayor Sloan arrived in the city. The mayor came in later, however, and the students have not yet been summoned. Mayor Sloan preferred to wait for a few days in order to look into the matter a little and in order to await the result of Mr. McColl's injuries. He said yesterday that the only feature of the unfortunate affair with which he will have to deal under any circumstances will be the action of the students in resisting the city officers.

It is ascertained that the faculty of the college has appointed a sub-committee which has been instructed to collect all the testimony and make a report which will be presented to the board of trustees.

The Charleston Post has this to say:

"The riot on the college campus in Columbia yesterday was a disgraceful affair for the State of South Carolina. While we cannot altogether approve the action of the students in resisting the police authorities, our sympathies are entirely with them and we can readily excuse them for their violent outbreak. The State militia has been disgraced by its officers. The men are not to blame, since they only obeyed orders, but the officers should be court-martialed and if found to have acted without justification, they should be cashiered.

"The right appears to be with the students and they should press their case. The students certainly have the first claim to college campus and cannot be expected to vacate it on the order of any other than the officers of the college. The police have no right to interfere with them unless they are in disorder and a game of baseball is no disorder. The State militia have no right whatever to interfere with the students and no right of presence on the campus save through courtesy. We hope the matter will be examined into and that some one will be punished."

The Greenville News in concluding its editorial on the subject, says:

"The News does not place the blame. We do not wish to prejudice the case against students, military or police. The affair was most unfortunate, most deplorable. Lives have been endangered, serious injuries to person have been inflicted and the participants were the highest military officers of the State, two military companies, members of the Columbia police force, college students, the acting president of the college and college professors. It cannot be overlooked Governor Ellerbe is the man to act. He is commander-in-chief of the military forces of the State and the State's chief peace officer as well. He should instantly order an investigation. He has already waited too long. Somebody has been at fault, grievously at fault. W. H. Ellerbe, charged with preserving the peace and protecting dignity of the State and so sworn, should act. The responsibility is not one to be ignored."

Take JOHNSON'S

CHILL & FEVER

TONIC.

Washington, May 31.—Decoration Day was generally observed in Washington. The Senate adjourned over for the day and the House held only a fifteen minute session.

MUST MAKE CHARGES.

Some One Must Do So Before Gov. Ellerbe Will Act on a Court of Inquiry.

Governor Ellerbe was yesterday asked about the demands made upon him in several of the newspapers of the State as commander-in-chief of the militia forces of the State to order a court of inquiry in the matter of the conduct of Gen. John Gary Watts on Friday afternoon last.

Governor Ellerbe replied that so far as he was concerned, he could not order the court unless some one came to him and preferred charges against General Watts; this no one had done. If the trustees of the college or any individual who was present made the charges he would give them due consideration. The governor deprecates the unfortunate affair very much.

There is still much talk about the matter all over the city. Meanwhile Student McColl, who had his skull crushed, is still in the Columbia hospital, resting as easily as could be expected under the circumstances. His mother came yesterday to take her place by his bedside.

General Watts, who has maintained an unbroken silence concerning the clash between the college students and the militia since it occurred, was seen last night by a representative of The State and asked if he was yet ready to make a statement. "Not to night," he answered, "but I shall have a statement for the press to-morrow." General Watts went on to say that almost every one on the other side had given their versions of the affair, but that in the statement which he was preparing, the facts as they really occurred would be plainly set forth. This was all he cared to say last night. His statement to-day will give his position in the matter.—The State, June 1.

Gen. Watts published in the daily papers this morning, his version of the unfortunate affair with the college students. He endeavors to exonerate himself behind Col. Willie Jones and by accusing the students of bringing on the row.

CALHOUN IN CUBA.

Commissioner Denies a Spanish "Inspiration."

Habana, May 31.—W. J. Calhoun, the United States commissioner, who is investigating the death in the prison at Guanabacoa of Dr. Ricardo Ruiz, a naturalized American, was interviewed to-day with reference to the article in The Diario de la Marina making an indirect attack upon the commissioner by criticizing articles which have appeared in a Washington newspaper over the signature of Mr. Pepper, who accompanied Mr. Calhoun to Cuba.

Mr. Calhoun said: "Mr. Pepper is in no way connected with the commission. On the contrary, he came to Habana on his own account, as other correspondents might have come. No secrets of the commission have been divulged, nor has any special information been supplied to him which was not obtainable by other correspondents. I suppose Mr. Pepper's information was gathered from personal information or from hearsay."

G. W. Fishback, the secretary of Mr. Calhoun, was also interviewed and expressed opinions similar to those of the commissioner.

General Lee, the United States consul general, disclaims exercising any influence over newspaper reports sent from Habana to the United States and resents the insinuation of The Diario de la Marina that resident American correspondents draw their information from him.

Mr. Pepper says he is much amused by the attack of The Diario de la Marina. He returned last night from Guanajay, where, accompanied by Mr. Fishback, he had been on a visit yesterday. He says his trip was highly interesting. While returning to this city, the car in which he was traveling was derailed by a railroad accident, but all the passengers escaped without injury.

Washington, May 31.—

There will be an effort on the part of some senators to have the senate committee on contingent expenses amend the Tillman resolution for an investigation of the charges that senators have been speculating in sugar stocks, so as to have the inquiry made by a standing committee rather than by a special committee, as provided in the resolution.

Johnstown, Pa., May 31.—The eighth anniversary of the Johnstown flood was appropriately observed in this city to-day, when thousands of people, many of them having lost relatives and near friends in the most appalling disaster of recent times, visited the beautiful cemetery of Grand View at top of the hill this morning and afternoon. The unknown plot that contains the unidentified bodies of over 800 victims of the disaster was literally covered with flowers, contributed mostly by persons who lost dear ones in the flood and whose bodies were never recovered.

Base ball goods at the Book Store.—H. G. Osten & Co.

Tillman on The Sugar Trust.

Aldrich Defends the Schedule.

Washington, May 28.—After a long period of silence Senator Tillman of South Carolina startled the senate to-day by a speech, no less dramatic in its delivery than sensational in its allegations. He preceded it by presenting a resolution for the appointment of a special committee of five senators to investigate charges of speculations by senators while the tariff bill was before the finance committee. In advocating the resolution Mr. Tillman threw aside the usual conventionalities of the senate and with a plainness of speech seldom heard about the halls of congress, called on his associates to investigate the published charges of senatorial speculation, and if found true of which purge the senate of those who debauched it. The senator had published articles read from the desk stating that senators had recently made large sums of money in speculating in sugar stock and in one instance the name of a senator was mentioned. Mr. Tillman spoke for nearly an hour, every line of his speech being punctuated with invective.

Mr. Aldrich, Republican member of the finance committee in charge of the tariff bill, took the floor as Mr. Tillman closed. He stepped forward from his rear seat and spoke calmly, deliberately, but with intense earnestness. He spoke of the task of any man seeking to frame a tariff bill and the proneness to question his motives. In view of the statements of the South Carolina senator, Mr. Aldrich said he felt it was incumbent on him to make a statement as to the circumstances surrounding the framing of the sugar trust dictated the sugar schedule.

"But I desire to say to the senate, to the senator (Tillman) and to every man in the United States, that no person connected with the sugar trust at any time or at any place influenced the framing of the sugar schedule, or received information as to its character. I desire to make the statement as broad as the English language can make it." Mr. Aldrich said that no living person outside of the members of the committee had any information as to the subject until two days before it was reported. Then the senator from Nevada (Jones) had been shown the schedule. This was only 36 hours before the report of the bill. No human being beyond this had received the slightest information.

"And any man who says so, or intimates so," added Mr. Aldrich, "deserves to be denounced in a way which would not be parliamentary here."

Mr. Tillman interrupted to say that he had not made the charges; he had merely submitted the statements now circulated before the public, with the author's name signed. These writers had the right to accuse the finance committee if they could prove their statements; "and will you submit to it?" he said addressing Mr. Aldrich.

The latter, proceeding said the fullest investigation was courted: there was nothing to conceal. In answer to a question by Mr. Chandler, Mr. Aldrich said he knew no more of Broker White, who had been referred to, than he did a native of Fiji Islands. He had never seen him that he knew of. No information ever went from that committee room over any telephone to anyone. The senator said he had never bought or sold a share of sugar stock. He resented and denied all such intimations. It was easy for correspondents to make such charges but he declared they were absolutely false. Without further debate the resolution was referred to the committee on contingent expenses and, on motion of Mr. Aldrich, the senate took up the tariff bill.

Almighty Voice Silenced.

Winnipeg, Man., May 31.—Almighty Voice and the two Indian murderers who have been holding Bellevue Bluff, near Duck Lake, for the past two days against the mounted police, were killed yesterday. It was found that Almighty Voice and another Indian had been killed by the shells fired earlier in the day. The rebellious Indians have been brought in. The father of Almighty Voice is under arrest here as an accomplice. No further trouble is anticipated.

The Irishman Scored.

Some years ago an Irish gentleman went into the British museum. While looking at a book one of the officials approached him saying:

"That book, sir, was once owned by Henry VIII."

"Pshaw!" replied the Irishman. "That's nothing! Why, in one of the Dublin museums we have the lead pencil which Noah used to check off the animals as they came out of the ark!"—London Answers.

Liver Ills

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