

Fight For Life Of Caleb Powers, Alleged Murderer



EX-GOVERNOR FRANK S. BLACK.

THE coming trial of Caleb Powers on the charge of being implicated in the murder of the late Governor William Goebel of Kentucky promises to excite an extraordinary degree of interest, for it will be his fourth trial on this charge and will enlist the efforts of several of the greatest lawyers in the country. The leading counsel for Powers are former executive of two of the foremost states in the Union, ex-Governor Frank S. Black of New York and ex-Governor Richard Yates of Illinois Powers, who in 1900 was the Republican secretary of state under the Republican executive of Kentucky, William S. Taylor, was charged with being an accessory to the murder of Governor Goebel, which occurred Jan. 30, 1900. He has been tried three times, twice sentenced to life imprisonment and once to death. Each time that the case has been appealed the verdict of the lower court has been reversed and a new trial ordered. Though stoutly maintaining his innocence, Powers has been confined in jail for over five years. His counsel contend that the reason for his conviction on the three previous trials was the preponderance of his political opponents on the jury. On this ground they have made application to have the case transferred from the state to the federal courts. In support of this claim two main points are cited, as follows:

"First, that the courts refused to recognize a pardon issued in legal form



CALEB POWERS.

by the then legally constituted governor of Kentucky; second, that in all

three of his trials before the Scott circuit court the juries have been solidly packed with Goebel Democrats, the political opponents of the defendant and that under the Kentucky code this selection of Democratic juries is permissible."

The campaign of 1899, when Goebel and Taylor ran against each other for governor of Kentucky, was exciting. Partisans of Taylor claimed his election, but the result was contested, and charges of fraud were made on both sides. Taylor and his colleagues on the Republican ticket were inducted into office, and the contest was carried before the state legislature. While that body was engaged in consideration of the case Goebel was shot. He was approaching the courthouse in Frankfort, a few minutes before the argument in his contest, and his assassin was said to have fired from a window in the courthouse over the offices of the governor and secretary of state. Frankfort had been filled with armed men for several days. The doctors told Goebel he had been fatally wounded, but he declared he would live to be governor, and he did. The legislature decided the contest in his favor, and he was sworn in, but died on Feb. 3, 1900.

J. W. C. Beckham, the candidate for lieutenant governor on the Goebel ticket, was sworn in as governor, and Kentucky had two rival executives from that time until April 5, 1900, when the Kentucky court of appeals declared Beckham the rightful one, and Taylor appealed to the United States supreme court. Its decision was against him. In the meantime it had been charged that Taylor, Powers and others were in a conspiracy to kill Goebel, and indictments against them were found. Taylor fled from the state and has since lived in Indiana, whose governor has refused to permit of his extradition.

In the three trials through which he has already passed Powers has expended all the money in his own possession and that of his family. In order to enable him to continue his fight for life and liberty a fund was raised by his friends. Both of the ex-governors who will defend him are noted as criminal lawyers. Ex-Governor Black was the predecessor of Theodore Roosevelt as executive of the state of New York, serving from 1897 to 1899, and ex-Governor Yates was governor of Illinois from 1901 to 1905.

STORY OF SACAJAWEA.

Indian Girl Who Will Be Honored at Lewis and Clark Fair.

A statue of the great Iroquois warrior and statesman Thayendangea, or Captain Joseph Brant, stands in the public park of Brantford, in the province of Ontario, Canada, and in Buffalo there is a statue of Sagoyewatha, or Red Jacket, the Iroquois chief so noted for his eloquence. Pocahontas has been a favorite theme with both sculptor and painter, and her baptism is the subject of a famous painting in the capitol at Washington. But until recently the services of Sacajawea, who guided the explorers Lewis and Clark to the shores of the Pacific a century ago, have been forgotten, and no work of art existed to remind the public of her self sacrifice and heroism. In view of this neglect she is to receive special honor at the Lewis and Clark exposition which opens at Portland, Ore., on June 1 and celebrates the one hundredth anniversary of the coming of the white man to the shores of the Pacific. On June 6, Sacajawea day, a



STATUE OF SACAJAWEA AND CHILD.

bronze statue of the heroine by Miss Alice Cooper of Denver will be unveiled with appropriate ceremonies. It will stand in the center of Columbia court, the central plaza of the exposition, and shows the Indian woman, with papoose on her back, striding forward and pointing toward the Pacific. Sacajawea was one of the three slave wives of Toussaint Charbonneau, a French Canadian voyager who acted as interpreter for the Lewis and Clark expedition. She was a Shoshone Indian and had been captured by enemies of her tribe, who sold her to Charbonneau. Her knowledge of the way to the coast proved invaluable, and she braved every hardship and saved the explorers from disaster on numerous

occasions. In a time of distress she gave Captain Lewis a crust of bread he had saved for her babe. At the risk of losing her own life and that of her child she saved the papers and scientific instruments of the expedition when a canoe capsized in some dangerous rapids. When the explorers on their march toward the coast reached the country of the Shoshones there was a conference with the tribe, and Sacajawea was called in as interpreter. She recognized the chief, Camewait, as her brother and jumped up and ran and embraced him, throwing over him her blanket and weeping profusely. This relation won the friendship of the Shoshones, who were of great assistance to the exploring party. Of the fate of Sacajawea after the Lewis and Clark expedition little is known.

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ELINOR GLYN.

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