

AN OLD CONFED

WITH AN EMPTY LEG TO PLEAD

HIS CASE BEFORE THE SUPREME COURT

Mr. Jesse Robson, of Sandersville, in Atlanta to Ask for a New Trial in a Case of Embezzlement in Which He Was Found Guilty.

A handsome man with a kindly face covered with soft brown whiskers sat in one corner of the supreme court room this morning, surrounded by numerous books and papers. He was dressed in a suit of blue flannel, one leg of the pants being empty.

A pair of crutches leaned against the wall close at hand, and the gentleman seemed to be deeply engrossed in searching out some important point of law contained in the books lying about him.

This man was Mr. Jesse Robson, formerly tax collector of Washington county.

He comes to Atlanta on a very important mission to himself, to secure, if possible, from the supreme court a new trial, in a case in which he was found guilty of embezzlement and sentenced to the penitentiary for three years.

One morning in February, 1887, while Mr. Robson was tax collector he went to his office and found the safe had been unlocked during the night and eighteen hundred dollars removed.

He did not know what to do about it at first, but went to a lawyer and consulted with him. On his advice Mr. Robson determined to keep the matter a secret until he had sold property and borrowed enough to make good the loss.

After some time he failed to get up the money, so he called his bondsmen together told them what had happened and made them a deed to 1,900 acres of land he owned.

The bondsmen made good the loss of \$1,800.

In the fall following the loss of the money Mr. Robson was indicted by the grand jury for embezzlement.

A largely signed petition was presented to the judge asking that no prosecution be made, which was refused.

Shortly afterwards he came to Atlanta in search of a detective to help him find who robbed the safe, as he suspected two tramps, who had been warming themselves in his office one night and saw him put away his money in the safe.

This theory was strengthened in Mr. Robson's mind, for shortly after his safe was opened without being broken open. The railroad safe was treated in a like manner and three thousand dollars in money stolen; and the safe in the post office not one hundred yards distant was blown open and \$500 removed.

When Robson was under bond he came to Atlanta and shortly after his arrival he was arrested on a telegram from Sandersville, and returned there in charge of the sheriff.

A year ago last March Mr. Robson was tried in court, found guilty and sentenced to two years in the penitentiary.

He was represented by Judge Twiggs and Mr. Gamble who made a motion for a new trial. The judge denied the motion and the case was appealed.

The case will be heard to-morrow.

Judge Twiggs and Mr. Gamble both being engaged in Emanuel court could not argue this case, so Mr. Robson determined to argue it himself, as he was a lawyer.

He is preparing the different points in the case to-day, and will appear before the court to-morrow.

Over one thousand citizens, including the jury that found Mr. Robson guilty, have signed a petition to the governor asking for a pardon.

Mr. Robson says he does not want a pardon, as he is not guilty.

He is an old Confederate, having lost his leg at the battle of Hatcher's Run, on the 6th day of February, 1865.