

got the same fine, \$25.

Tom Welch and Jim Graves were given a year each, yesterday, for stealing 144 bottles from Curtis Gover's stable. T. J. Culton and Hon. Fontaine F. Bobbitt defended them and the latter among other things, said in his speech: "Now, gentlemen of the jury, one of these defendants is of noble blood. His mother was a Bobbitt, his daddy a **Hubble**, akin to "Horn Took," his step-daddy was a Welch. If that Negro has any bad blood in him, it comes from his step daddy."

Yesterday Robert Bowling was fined \$50 for cutting Ed Brockman recently at Mrs. Crabtree's, detailed in this paper. Mrs. M

3/9/1900-IJ

In Memory of Surrelda Welch.

CRAB ORCHARD, July 20th, 1907. — Another of the worthy blacks of the Crab Orchard population has "gone to that boon from whence no traveler ever returns." Surrelda Welch, who was an Owsley, belonging in the times of (what is sometimes called the days of servitude) to Hon. John Samuel Owsley. She entered upon the service of my sister, Catherine McAlister, in 1875, at the poor farm of Lincoln county and a more devoted, loyal servant never carried the keys of smoke-house or pantry. Poor Relda had three great, prominent traits: Truth, honesty and virtue. She would enter into no joke if funny fibs had to be told. She was as pure as the Tennyson monument of Baysoft in the solitude of the frozen zone—a monument erected by nature alone, unaided by man. Relda was one of those true, faithful and honest servants that never had to hunt a place. After living with my sister for years and waiting on my dear old mother for years, she then found a most hospitable home at Mr. and Mrs. Robert Collier's and for years she followed the flag of fidelity wherever they went. Brodhead or Crab Orchard, she staid with this excellent family, and never were man and woman better pleased with a servant nor servant more devoted to those whom she served. Mr. Collier and I in talking about Relda since death, agreed that for truth, honesty and virtue, she was a monument in ebony. It was true, but no monument of purest Parisian marble ever gleamed more stately and pure! What more could be said of white or black? These are certainly the three great cardinal virtues that shine in the casket of male and female character.

Although Relda married a Welch, yet Tom's mother was a Bobbitt, now Nancy Welch. Tom's mother was twice married. In 1858, when brother Jim I and were slaves and our slaves all free and without a care, the great wedding ceremony between Nancy Bobbitt and **Andrew Hubble** took place in the "big house." White folks were there from all around and the colored folks from the McAlisters', Owens' and Evans' were represented. It was the event of the year, and Tom, who afterward went by the name of his step-father, "Billy Welch," **was the second son born of that union of the house of Bobbitt and Hubble.** And Relda marrying into the family and living with us so long always seemed like kinfolks. Whenever one like Relda leaves the earth she is entitled to a notice recounting her virtues, her truth, her honesty and fidelity more extended than I can devote to her here. Relda, you have fought a good fight, finished your course, and when you were seen approaching, no doubt heaven opened wide her eternal gates with harmonious sound on golden hinges turning.

FONTAINE FOX BOBBITT.

Was In Poor Health For Years.

Ira W. Kelley, of M 7/26/1907 a., writes: "I was in poor h two years, suffering from kidney and