

Wm. Gurley on Trial on the Charge of Murdering Thomas Franklin.

of Pensacola, Fla., Feb. 2.—(Special Correspondence.)—The trial of Wm. Gurley, colored, charged with the murder of Thomas Franklin in this city last August, was begun in the circuit court here yesterday morning and lasted until midnight at which time the case went to the jury and after being out all night they brought in a verdict for manslaughter. It was generally thought he would be found guilty as charged and but for his being so ably represented by R. P. Reese and Dennis Eagan, Jr., his counsel, he probably would.

The case of State vs. Colyer Hall, for murder, said to have been committed twenty-seven years ago, will be taken up on Feb. 3. He is represented by Blount & Blount, of this city, and Hon. Leslie Sheldon, of Mobile, Ala.

Quite a large business is being done from this port at present in shipment of lumber and timber and the exports by the Gulf Transit company of grain, pig iron and coal are also very heavy, and the tonnage in the port at present is greater than for some time. Business consequently is very good. The government is pushing the improvements on the fortifications at the mouth of the harbor and they will soon be finished, and when completed Pensacola harbor will rank with the best fortified seaport cities in the United States.