

# GONZALES REPORTED BETTER; STATEMENT BY TILLMAN.

Lieutenant Governor Who Shot the Editor Declares the Reports of the  
Affair Are Inaccurate.

1-18-03-9 N.Y. TIMES  
COLUMBIA, S. C., Jan. 17.—The condition of N. G. Gonzales, editor of The State, who was shot on Thursday afternoon by Lieutenant Governor Tillman, was reported at the hospital to-night to be improved, although no assurance of the patient's recovery was given.

Tillman is still confined in jail, his cell being filled with flowers sent by friends. He made public this signed statement today:

I would like to correct the biased reports of this unfortunate affair, but when the public recalls that these reports were sent out either by The State, of which Mr. Gonzales is editor, or by his personal friends, they can readily see that I could scarcely hope for or expect a fair account. Those who know me know me too well to believe it. When the true facts are proved, my friends and the people of this country will know how grossly I have been misrepresented. Such will be shown by witnesses of the highest character. I am ready for trial by a jury of my countrymen.

Dr. W. Gill Wylie of New York, who was called into consultation in the case of Mr. Gonzales, left here this afternoon for Rock Hill, saying that he was better satisfied with the condition of the patient than at any time previous. The chief concern this afternoon was caused by an obstruction of the intestines, and it was considered at one time that the wound would have to be reopened.

It was practically determined to resort to that heroic treatment if improvement did not appear in a short time, but before the limit of waiting for favorable development had expired the physicians announced that the remedies they had applied were having effect, and if they completed the purpose of their administration, there would be a chance of saving the life of the patient. One of the most satisfactory features of the case is that after nearly sixty hours there has been not the least indication of peritonitis. Danger of this development will have passed practically after seventy-two hours.