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Charles T. Connors, Editor.

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Obituaries, Tributes of respect, cards of thanks and all matter of a personal or political nature to be charged for.

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Brief correspondence on subjects of general interest invited. Not responsible for views of correspondents.

R. E. WYLIE, PRESIDENT.
JNO. A. COOK, SEC'Y. and TREAS.
J. M. RIDDLE, JR., BUSINESS MANAGER.

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Wednesday, December 6, 1905.

ANOTHER OF LANCASTER'S NEEDS AGAIN.

The effort recently made in these columns to show that one of Lancaster's needs is the elevation of our moral standard of citizenship has been so generally commended that we are encouraged to say a word or two more along the same line.

It will be recalled that we undertook to demonstrate that, while Lancaster compares favorably with many communities in commercial, educational and industrial progress, it is noticeably lacking in anything akin to unanimity of public sentiment in matters pertaining to the general welfare. In other words, that when a movement is started for the upbuilding of the town there is always more or less opposition—opposition, too, by those from whom it is least expected.

This regrettable condition we attributed to too much individual selfishness, and, as a remedy, advised the raising of our standard of morality, which can be done by a united effort on the part of the preachers and the press.

The selfishness to which we refer, strange to say, is most pronounced in some of the educated and wealthiest citizens—men who of all others should be shining examples of patriotism, liberality of views and public spirit. Some of the men in question are selfish to the core. Their sole aim in life seems to be to accumulate money—to add to their already large possessions. They take no interest in public affairs and turn a deaf ear to all appeals made to them to lend a helping hand to undertakings designed to promote the general welfare of the community. They are intensely suspicious of every thing and everybody. They not only do not put money in public enterprises, but they occasionally try to discourage others from doing so. About all the public gets out of these men is what taxes they pay.

The only way to reach this class of citizens is through their barricaded hearts. They are not naturally bad—not at all. They

have simply fostered their own selfish interests so long that they have become oblivious to the welfare of others—have forgotten their obligations to mankind and to their country. To bring them to a realization of these obligations is no easy task, but it can be done if undertaken in the right way, and that is by persistent appeals to their better natures, by awakening in their hearts a desire for broader and better things, by encouraging them in an effort to cultivate higher ideals of morality.

THE ASSESSMENT OF PROPERTY FOR TAXATION.

Comptroller General Jones is evidently going to make a determined effort to have property returned for taxation next year at its "true value." Will he succeed? We doubt it. He may, and most likely will, cause assessments to be considerably increased, but this thing of raising property to its "true value" for the purposes of taxation is altogether another proposition. The taxpayers themselves are not going to put it up that high.

There is no doubt about the fact that ordinarily property is returned ridiculously low—so low that the average taxpayer would be ashamed to have his valuations published to the world. A case accidentally came under our observation a few days ago where a house and lot in Lancaster is returned by its owner for taxation at \$40 which rents for \$30 a year, payable in advance. There are doubtless many such cases.

As long as the taxpayer is allowed under the law to place his own valuation on his property, however much that valuation may be subsequently changed by township or county boards, the general run of assessments will be measurably low.

Auditor Cook, in an interview two or three years ago with the Lancaster correspondent of the News and Courier, outlined what appeared to be a feasible plan for securing reasonably fair and accurate property valuation for taxation. He suggested, if we mistake not, that a board of assessors be appointed in each township to make a house to house canvass, so to speak, personally inspecting each taxpayer's property, both real and personal, and placing a fair valuation thereon for taxation.

But whether assessments be high or low, a matter of still more importance is their equalization. It would be manifestly unfair for a man to pay taxes on his property at its true or market value when his neighbor owning similar property pays on a 40 or 60 per cent basis.

Mr. G. B. Barron, of Bennettsville, has been spending a few days in Lancaster, his old home. He left yesterday on a brief visit to Norfolk, Va.

Messrs. Beauregard Cunningham, W. S. Langley, S. B. Taylor and J. F. Hunter have returned from their trip to Oklahoma. They express themselves as being delighted with that country and with their recent lot purchases out there.

Professional Cards

JOHN E. WELSH,
DENTIST,
Lancaster, S. C.
Office Up-stairs in Masonic Building.

DENTISTRY.
DR. R. M. GALLOWAY,
Surgeon Dentist.
Office Up-stairs in Ganson Building.

DR. R. G. ELLIOTT,
Lancaster, S. C.

Residence 'phone, No. 1187. Office, Davis Building, cor. Main and Dunlap streets; 'phone No. 72.
Will practice in both town and country. All calls, day or night, will receive prompt attention.

Christmas Goods

We beg to call your attention to the fact that we have the most complete line of goods for the holiday trade ever exhibited in Lancaster. Time and space forbid the mention of all the many nice things we have to show you, so come and see for yourself. Our line of Jewelry, Silverware, Cut Glass and Fancy Goods cannot be surpassed anywhere in the Carolinas, and our prices are right. See our

5 and 10c Counters

where we have an endless pile of bargains. Don't forget to ask to see the Graded School Building Souvenir Chinaware when you come to our store.

CLYBURN & ROBINSON

Resolutions of Respect.

The Angel of Death has again entered our Lodge and we are called on to mourn for one of the most distinguished Masons in South Carolina. Bro. B. J. Witherspoon was born in Lancaster on the 12th day of Dec. 1832, and was called from labor to eternal rest on the 11th day of August, 1905.

Bro. Witherspoon was initiated as an entered apprentice in this Lodge in Jan., 1856, advanced to the degree of a Fellow Craft in April of that year and raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason in the following October. He was elected to the office of Worshipful Master in the year 1860 and held that high office during the following years: 1860, 1866, 1868, 1869, 1874, 1881, 1882, 1883, 1884, 1885, 1889, 1890, 1891, 1897, 1898, 1900, 1901, and 1903. He was District Deputy Grand Master of the Third Masonic District from the year 1882 to the year 1889, inclusive, and also in the year 1892. He was Junior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge during the years 1893 and 1894, Senior Grand Warden during the years 1895 and 1896, Deputy Grand Master during the years 1897 and 1898, and Grand Master from Dec. 12th, 1898, to Dec. 12th, 1899.

Such in brief is the Masonic history of Bro. Witherspoon as a Master Mason, but such brief mention wholly fails to do justice to his faithfulness and love to the cause of Masonry and the zeal and fervency of his devotion to the fraternity. He was at all times ready and anxious to do everything in his power to advance the interests of Masonry in general and to contribute to the prosperity of Jackson Lodge in particular. Faithful to his vows, he was always a true and tried brother Mason.

Bro. Witherspoon, during his long and useful life, occupied numerous public positions, the duties of which he discharged to the satisfaction of his constituents.

In private life Bro. Witherspoon was a good citizen and faithful friend and his loss will be long felt in this community. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That in the death of Bro. B. J. Witherspoon, Jackson Lodge has lost a faithful and efficient member and that a distinguished ornament of Masonry has fallen.

Resolved, further, That this Lodge tenders its most heartfelt sympathy to the surviving members of his family.

Resolved, further, That a page of our minute book be devoted to the memory of our distinguished brother, that a copy of these resolutions be published in the Lancaster News, and that a copy be sent to the family of our brother by the secretary.

HORSES!
Horses, Mules, Mules!

Our Mr. Hood has just closed another deal for six car loads of Mules and Horses—180 head. Two of these cars come here, one of horses and one of mules. Think of it, 60 head to arrive in a few days, and Mr. Hood wires they are the best we have bought this season. Some closely matched teams of extra fine mare mules that weigh from 1100 to 1250 each. This is a grand opportunity to buy brood mares. Have some with extra finish and family broke.

Buggies, Buggies.

Two solid cars to arrive this week, all kinds and styles.

Wagons, Wagons.

Have just closed a deal for 100 more, and we have stacks of them on hand of all sizes—one, two, three and four horse with regular or broad tire. Come one, come all. Those who do not feel able or willing to buy a new vehicle can buy a second hand, as we have at least 100 second hand buggies, carriages and wagons on hand that we are going to sell regardless of the price. Don't fail to

Come and See Us

for we are far ahead of any retail stock and vehicle dealers east of the Mississippi river. Remember our harness department. We manufacture all of our harness and have no competition.

Remember, we buy as well as sell.

Gregory-Hood Live Stock Co.

GREAT Bargains

At McCardell & Allison Bros.

GREAT ANTE-REMOVABLE SALE

As we are going to move into the Moore block soon, we are determined to move as little of our stock as possible. Therefore we offer to the purchasing public our entire stock of Clothing and Pants at actual cost, and all other lines of merchandise, at prices that defy competition. When we say cost, we mean what we say. We have been long enough before the public to gain a part of their confidence, and they know when we say cost and low prices, we mean business. Our stock is complete, and embraces everything kept in a firstclass general merchandise store. The sale will last during December and January. So come early, and come late, and keep a coming, and partake of the rare bargains we are

McCardell & Allison Bros.

Nov. 28, 1905.

Another Car Load

OF FINE MULES and HORSES

just received. If you do not believe that they are the very best ever put on the Lancaster market, call and see for yourself. Come, too, before they are all gone, for we are selling them rapidly. And when you come we want to show you some of the nicest

Wagons and Buggies

that ever turned a wheel.

HEATH-ELLIOTT MULE CO.

Nov. 28, 1905.

ANNOUNCEMENT.

We have a few odds and ends to work off in SHOES, some the boxes got torn up from moving, others we are closing out to handle better lines. All are

Brand New Goods.

We now offer them at cost in order to open up in our new store a good, clean stock.

CHERRY & CO.

Notice to Debtors & Creditors

All persons indebted to the estate of the late E. D. Bowers are hereby notified to make payment to the undersigned, and all persons having claims against said estate are requested to present same, duly attested.

J. A. Bowers, Adm'r.

11-29-05-37.