

THE GREENVILLE ENTERPRISE.

Devoted to News, Politics, Intelligence, and the Improvement of the State and Country.

JOHN C. BAILEY, EDITOR & PROP.

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POETRY.

Only Across the River.

There's a beautiful land where angels dwell, And our loved ones are garnered forever; Where songs of deliverance in sweet anthems swell...

It is only across the river

There are mansions prepared for the holy and pure, When from earth, death their spirits shall sever, When those who in Christ to the end, shall endure...

It is only across the river

There's a robe and a crown in that beautiful land; Which Jesus, the glorious giver, Shall bestow upon those who are worthy to stand...

It is only across the river

Then we'll fear not the gloom that hides the bright shore, For Christ shall be there to deliver, And guide us in safety, though billows may roar...

It is only across the river

Reminiscences of Public Men.

BY EX-GOVERNOR B. F. FERRY.

Continued from last week.

ANDREW W. THOMSON.

This gentleman was, at the time of his death, the oldest practicing lawyer in the State.

He seemed to be, when I last saw him, in a ripe old age, with body and mind well preserved, and as full of life and spirit as he ever was.

His death was very sudden. I knew Wallace Thomson, as he was generally called, about forty years, and had a great deal of intercourse with him on the circuit, and in Columbia, attending the Court of Appeals, and the sessions of the Legislature.

He was a member of the Legislature, with the exception of a few terms, from 1824, up to the period of his death, a few years since. We have passed many pleasant hours together, and had a great many jokes on each other.

He was a genial, sociable and warm-hearted gentleman. He was kind and generous, and hospitable. I had for him through out our whole acquaintance, a very sincere regard; and nothing ever occurred, at the Bar, or in the Legislature, or in our private intercourse to mar or interrupt for a moment, our kind feelings and regard for each other.

Mr. Thomson was born in Maryland, but brought up and educated in South Carolina. I have heard it said, as a remarkable fact, that all of the Marylanders who have figured in South Carolina, were some what eccentric or had singular traits of character.

In illustration of the truth of this assertion, reference was made to Judge Gantt, Caleb Clark, for many years Solicitor of the middle circuit, Major Smart, a practicing lawyer at Camden, and A. Wallace Thomson. Mr. Thomson was, in some respects, different from ordinary men, and superior to ordinary men. He was the most pertinacious man in clinging to his opinions that I ever met, and some of his notions were very crude and outworn.

At the Bar he could see and make more points in his case than any other lawyer. The opposite counsel, and the court too, thought frequently the points made, were no points at all. But if his Honor decided against him, he was sure to take an appeal. I once knew him to appeal in a case when the Judge had decided every thing in his favor.

Mr. Thomson was a well read lawyer, and a good lawyer. He had a very extensive practice at Union, York, Chester, Spartanburg and Laurens, in his younger days, but as age crept on him, I noticed that his practice fell off. Clients generally think that a young lawyer has more energy and zeal in conducting a case, than an old one, and they are not far from being correct. Shortly after the termination of the war, I attended

Union court, which is out of my circuit, to attend to an important case there, and was surprised to see that my friend Thomson was nearly out of practice in the equity court. Younger lawyers had monopolized the business. There is a time for all things, was told in the Bible, and after being at the Bar for more than half a century, it is time for a lawyer to quit practice, and prepare for his appearance at the other Bar, where there is no appeal for him or his client.

The first time I ever saw Wallace Thomson, was the spring of my admission to the Bar, at Spartanburg. He was defending Delila Land for stealing feathers. The court was sitting in the old jail, and Judge James was presiding. The old Court House had been torn down, and the present building was being erected. I reached Spartanburg late Monday morning, in company with my old friend, Benjamin Saxon. We went immediately to the Court House, or jail, where the court was sitting, and as I stepped in, Mr. Thomson was in the midst of his argument. I was greatly amused at his speech, the character of the case, and the appearance of the court and its surroundings. I had read, in Blackstone, of "Piepoudre Courts," the lowest courts mentioned by the learned commentator, as existing in England, and I was reminded of this humble court. But business was not despatched so quickly. Blackstone says, if I remember correct; "the court was so called, because it despatched business as quick as one could shake dust from his feet. Delila was convicted of petty larceny, by a jury of her peers, and Mr. Thomson took an appeal. The law then, was the Court or Appeals would hear no criminal case unless the defendant was present in court at the argument of the appeal. Delila had to go to Columbia, and she walked all the way, about a hundred miles. The next fall, Mr. Thomson, moved by the hardship of his client, introduced a bill to dispense with the necessity of the defendant being present in the Appeal Court, except in cases of capital felonies.

During our political excitement, Mr. Thomson was, in the beginning, inclined to be a Union man, but the popular current in favor of Nullification and disunion, set in too strong for him to resist it. I have frequently thought that he was like the converted Jew in Spain, mentioned by Barrow, in his interesting book on Spain. He said the inquisition had converted them outwardly, but at heart they were still Jews, and secretly kept up their ancient mode of worship. Mr. Thomson sailed under the Nullification flag, but he long entertained a tender feeling for the Stars and Stripes. In 1851 and 1852, when the whole State was going, as Judge Evans said, for Secession by default, we started the Southern Patriot at Greenville, as a Union paper. Mr. Thomson enquired of me when we met at Spartanburg court that spring, if I had a copy of the Patriot with me?—He took it and read it through, and eagerly sought for the subsequent numbers. Judge Dawkins was a subscriber, and in this way Thomson had access to the paper without incurring the odium of being a subscriber and patron of such heresies. That summer I met my friend Thomson at a regimental muster in Greenville, and he proposed to introduce me to Judge Farmer, and said "he was one of our sort." I replied that I should be very glad to see Farmer, for he was an old acquaintance of mine. That fall, Governor Manning and Thomson were in company with a parcel of five cats in Columbia, who were cursing the Southern Patriot in very strong terms, and some one of the company appealed to Thomson for his opinion, as to the character of the paper. The Governor saw that he was in a tight place, and excused himself by saying that he did not take the paper, and knew very little about it. When Governor Manning told me this, I repeated what Thomson had said at the regimental muster, and his anxiety at all times to see the Patriot. This was too good a joke for me to keep, and I told it frequently in Thomson's presence.

As a member of the Legislature, Mr. Thomson took a very active part in all the discussions of the house. He was good in making suggestions, and capital in taking exceptions. All his associates in the Legislature, and they were very many, during forty years he served there, had great respect for him. He had his hobbies, and crude notions at which we all laughed heartily. He was often fractious too, but we all took it in good part, knowing as we did his really good qualities. He manifested

the same deportment at the Bar, and on one occasion, he and Col. Herndon got into a regular fist-cuff in open court. A terrible tumult ensued, and the court was instantly converted into a great mob. Judge Gantt was presiding. He called in the sheriff to keep order. But there was so much excitement no one heeded the Judge. All were taking sides for Thomson or Herndon, and shouting for one or the other. The Judge picked up a constable's staff, and seemed to be standing on the defensive. This excited the sympathies of a huge bully who was in court, and whilst others were espousing one side or the other of the combatants, he tried out at the top of his voice, that he took sides with the Judge. Herndon order was restored, the art fined both of the gentlemen a hundred dollars each, and took their names from the roll of Attorneys. But the case was up to the Court of Appeals, and was adjusted in some way.—Thomson and Herndon became good friends afterwards, and I know that when the Colonel died, Thomson felt his death very much.

The credit of Mr. Thomson, it may be said, that during all the time he was a member of the Legislature never was a candidate for office, or sought to be a candidate for any office within the gift of the Legislature. He was satisfied with being "the member from Union" whilst his associates were scrambling for honors and office. Mr. Thomson was in possession of a large property before the war, and his honest industry, and devoted to his profession.

In range for the joke about the ignorant ignorance of the character of the Southern Patriot, Mr. Thomson went to my friend Janney said to him, that he saw this paper on file in his reading room, that he, Janney himself suspected of being a Unionist, and if he permitted this to remain on file, it would be an infirmation of the said Unionist. He further said this would damage his hotel, and advised as a friend to remove the paper of the reading room. It was immediately done. Soon afterwards one called for the Southern Patriot, and found it was missing. Thomson sent word to me, that he doubt some Secessionist had taken it off and burnt it, and thought to enquire of Janney about it. I thought it a matter of consequence, and said nothing at all. Thomson, a day or two afterwards, told me the trick he had played off on my friend Janney and had hoped to interest me in the matter.

Continued next week.

Honest Greeley.

The N. Y. Tribune speaks of the Hon. Horace Greeley in this way: "The melancholy death of the editor and founder of the Tribune, though for a few days it has not been unexpected, family and intimate friends, upon us with all the shock and sudden calamity. He had indeed a ripe old age, but had not laid his withering hand upon him. His splendid command of language, his mind was as fresh, strong and suggestive as in the prime of life; his generous impulses were unchilled by disheartening experience. Through the trying campaign which has just closed, physical vigor, his tact, and intellectual activity surprised those who knew him best, and seemed to promise many years of usefulness.

It is certain that no of the most critical period of national life can be written in a more noble career in his life than which is given to him. The successful life that which is worn out with wrong and woe. The ambition worth following was to alleviate human suffering and leave the world a better than he found it. The better than he found it. The better than he found it.

The following additions were made to the Board of Directors: Rev. J. H. C. McKenny, Spartanburg; Joseph Lathun, Fairmount; Henry H. Blease, Newberry; J. M. Burgess, Clarendon; The chairman read letters of commendation of the peace movement from George W. Williams, Charleston; J. M. Burgess and lived in vain. It is not for us G. Benbow, of Clarendon; Mrs. the first hour of our loss to P. M. Mendenhall, of North Carolina; and John Hemmenway, of South Carolina. J. H. Kinsler offered the following resolution, which was wisely counsel, his spirit has moved to cease to animate those chosen to continue his work, and the clove of sympathy between them circumstances may warring chief and his assistants, has never taken such measures as they been broken. We leave his praise proper for the organization to the poor whom he secured auxiliary Peace Societies to the lowly whom he lifted up; to the slave whose back he saved from the lash! to the oppressed whose wrong he made his own.

Organisation of the South Carolina Peace Society.

Some time since a call was issued in the Christian Neighbor of Columbia, for such persons as felt interested in organizing a State Peace Society, to assemble in that city on October 22nd, for that purpose. On the assembling of the Delegates, Rev. Sidi H. Brown was called to the chair, and Mr. John A. Ekins was appointed Secretary. Mr. Joseph Lathun opened the proceedings with prayer.

The chairman stated the object of the convention was to promote the cause of peace, and thereby to reduce and abolish war. After several of the delegates present had given their views on the subject, a motion was carried to proceed with the organization, and a committee was appointed to draft a constitution. The convention then adjourned till the next day.

After the preliminary business of the next morning was completed, and Revs. E. A. Bolles and Manning Brown received as members, the report of the committee on constitution was read and adopted. The report was as follows: We, the subscribers, knowing that war causes a vast amount of expense, cruelty, suffering, destruction of property and life, vice and crime, and believing war to be directly contrary to the gentle, meek, compassionate and peaceful spirit and gospel of our Divine Saviour, the Prince of Peace, and that it is His will that war should cease throughout the world, and also believing that it is the immediate duty of all men to be co-workers with God in extending the kingdom of peace among men, do, therefore, form ourselves into a Society for the Promotion of Peace, and accept the following CONSTITUTION.

Article I. This Society shall be called "The South Carolina Peace Society."

Article II. The officers of this Society shall be a President, a Vice President, Second Vice President, a Recording Secretary, a Corresponding Secretary, and a Treasurer, who shall constitute a Board of Directors. In conjunction with whom shall be added one member from each county represented in this Society, to be elected by the officers in the intervals of the annual session.

Article III. It shall be the duty of this Society, according to its opportunity and ability, to obtain and circulate tracts and books in favor of peace and against war, among the people at large; to hold meetings from time to time, as often as the President may think desirable, for prayers, singing and sermons, or addresses or discussions, for the purpose of showing that peace is agreeable to Christianity and war not; and it shall be the duty of this Society as a body, and its members as individuals, to endeavor to promote peace in, between and among nations and all mankind.

Article IV. Any person, male or female, may become a member of this Society by signing its constitution.

Article V. This Society shall elect its officers annually.

Article VI. The President, Vice President, or a Director, shall have power to organize, in person or by another, Peace Societies among the colored people.

Article VII. This constitution may be amended by a vote of two-thirds of the members present, above the age of twenty-one years, at any regular annual meeting.

The convention then proceeded to ballot for officers which resulted as follows: President, Rev. Sidi H. Brown; First Vice President, John H. Kinsler; Second Vice President, Rev. E. A. Bolles; Recording Secretary, John A. Ekins; Corresponding Secretary, H. Bascom Brown; Treasurer, Chas. D. Standley.

It is reported that some of the hangers-on of the State Government in Columbia, who are steeped to the eyelids in the slough of official sin, are organizing a legislative revolt, whose object is to browbeat the incoming administration and compel them to backdown from their position as the defenders of the people against the Shylocks and the Rings. The movements of these mutineers are known. Let them remember that only he who is without fault may cast the first stone!

Messrs. John T. Shaw and R. A. McCorkle have been bailed by Judge Mackey in \$1,000 each, for their appearance at the March term of Court for York County, to answer to a charge of killing a man in that County in 1871.

The commission which has been investigating the outrages on the Rio Grande border, has reported at length, and the amount of damage which it finds to have been done is rated at \$30,000,000.

An English funeral lately, one of the six bearers slipped and fell, the others dropped the coffin, and it fell upon the prostrate man in such a manner as to inflict injuries of which he died in less than a week.

F. Stobo Farrow, Esq., formerly of Spartanburg, was an independent candidate for Mayor of Atlanta, Geo.

FARM AND HOME

Natural and Artificial Manure.

The American Rural Home publishes a communication from F. P. Root, one of the best farmers of the country, on the subject of manures, in which he makes the following statement, showing the superiority of raising and plowing in heavy crops of manure over a system of negligence called manuring in a natural way: Two adjoining fields, divided by a rail fence, have been long under cultivation, and clover was often plowed in as a manure for a succeeding wheat crop. The fence was taken away, and the whole, as one field, summer followed and sown with wheat. The strip where the fence had stood, and where the grass had so long grown and decayed on the surface, did not produce near the crop which grew on the other side where the clover had been plowed under.

There were strong reasons for this difference. The grass which grew and decayed on the surface afforded little else than vegetable mould. This could not enrich the soil several inches down, and did not possess in itself the fertilizing character of clover. The clover was plowed in, and was intimately mixed and diffused all through the soil, where the roots of growing plants were to penetrate. The vegetable mould remained only on the surface, and could only operate as a mulch.

We have heard such facts as this cited in proof of the folly of the practice of spreading yard manure on the surface, and never plowing in. The truth is, this mode of manuring would be of little use if it were practicable on cultivated fields. But fortunately, the very act of cultivating works in the manure, and it cannot, as a matter of course, remain at the surface, which the plow is throwing under. It is an excellent practice to allow spread manure to remain on the surface for a time, especially through autumn and winter, until the water of rains and melting snows, diffuse the soluble parts intimately with the earth. When this is done, then is the time to plow under this enriched top stratum, and it will be worth double the same manure in lumps unmixed with the soil.

Top-dressing without plowing under the manure is an exception, because the fibrous character of the roots serve to carry down the manure in solution, which could not penetrate the compact layers of bare soil. But turning under the manure is often of great benefit even on grass—more especially on such land, although beneficial to a certain degree, will not give it the power to grow heavy grass and withstand severe droughts. Men are apt to run to extremes, and having discovered the successful results of surface applications in certain cases, they may carry the practice too far, and omit the deep, thorough plowing, which can alone supply a rich and mellow bed of earth for the extension of the roots of the crop.

Ashes and Gypsum as a Top-Dressing for Wheat.

Mr. Errore—I have seen recently in a Northern paper (I think it was the Sun) a piece in which a mixture of wood-ashes and land plaster (gypsum) was recommended as a top-dressing for wheat. The recommendation is good. I have used the mixture frequently, and always found most excellent effects from it, both in the vigor of the growth and the size and quality of the grain. I carefully gather up every year all the ashes that are made on my own farm, and all that I can get from my neighbors, and I mix with them about one-third of their bulk of land plaster. After the wheat is well up I scatter the mixture over it at the rate of sixty or seventy pounds to the acre, choosing a day when it is likely to rain. I find that the top-dressing gives the wheat a good start, makes it grow stronger and quicker, and imparts to it that green color which indicates healthy growth. This stimulant seems to last all the growing season until harvest. I think, too, that the mixture is a preventive against rust, but of this I am not as positive as I am that it is a good fertilizer. I believe, however, that if I could give the crop a second top-dressing of the mixture, when it takes its start in the spring, it would prevent rust and increase the yield. I mean to try it next spring.

Last year I had not quite enough ashes to top-dress all my wheat, and nothing could be more marked than the difference between

Cultivating the Grasses at the South.

In our last we noticed the fact that considerable interest is being aroused in the Southern States, in regard to the cultivation of clover and the grasses, and referred to a remark of Mr. Whitherspoon, of S. C., that one of his neighbors had cut eleven tons of hay from five acres. We have since received orders from several others, who have been equally successful, for supplies of seed—and Mr. Witherspoon has duplicated another order for seed. * * * Mr. Witherspoon says: "One of my friends is now sowing 30 acres in clover and grass. I believe if we ever get laws to protect our property, we will sow grass extensively, and become stock raisers to a much larger extent than we now are. There are thousands of acres of land on our rivers, now uncultivated, which no doubt would bring clover finely. Our labor is becoming more unreliable every year, and we will be forced to try some other crop than cotton. With our short, mild winters, stock raising would be a profitable business, and many of us would be glad to engage in it—but at present we are almost without law. I hope to give you a good account of the seed you send me. I have given my land a pretty thorough preparation I think for the seed. I plowed it well with a bull-tongue or a scotcher with two mules, crossed with Murtee's subsoil plow, and then crossed with the bull tongue again, then threw into ten foot lands with two horse Watt plow, after harrowing it—followed by Watt plow with Thomas' smoothing harrow. Will this do? [We should think it would—Ed]—This was a piece of our stiffest bottom land, which had been resting five years. I burnt it off in September, and it was so dry that a heavy growth of weeds and briars were burned green as they stood, leaving a considerable covering of ashes. Land that was planted in corn in June, and in September perfectly clean, I propose plowing with a Watt two horse plow, running the Thomas' harrow, and sowing the grass and clover seed."

Swallowing a Man.

John Thomas was a man of keen wit and strongly tintured with love of the humorous. He had been down to Concord, and had seen the Fakir of Ava perform his wonderful tricks of legerdemain. He was relating his experience in the bar-room of the Conway house, and among other things, declared that he had gained an insight into many of the most wonderful tricks he could perform himself.

"For instance," said he, "I can swallow a man whole."

"Bah!" cried Tom Stables, a red faced woodman, weighing at least two hundred; "perhaps you could swallow me?"

"Yes."

"I'd like to see you do it."

"I can do it."

"I'll bet you fifty dollars you can't."

"Then let's see you begin."

"Not now. I have just eaten my supper. I will do it to-morrow morning, in the presence of as many witnesses as you may choose, and it shall be done in the square in front of the hotel."

This was agreed to, and the money was put up. By the following morning the news that John Thomas was to swallow Tom Stables whole, had become widespread, and a vast concourse, embracing men, women and children, had assembled to witness the wonderful feat.

At the appointed time the chief actors appeared in the square.—John Thomas was smiling confidently, as though sure of success, while Tom Stables looked timid and uneasy, as though not quite at rest concerning what was to become of him.

"Are you ready?" asked John.

"All ready," answered Tom; "begin as soon as you please."

"Will you have the goodness to take off your hat?"

"Sertainly."

"Now your boots."

Tom removed his boots.

"Next you will remove your coat. Those big brass buttons might stick in my throat."

Tom took off his coat, and as he threw it upon the ground one of the cooks came out from the hotel with a pail of melted lard and a whitewash brush which he deposited by the side of John Thomas.

"Now," pursued John, "you will take off your stockings, and then remove your pantaloons and shirt."

"Oh! D'ye mean for me to strip stark naked?" queried Tom, agitated.

"Of course I do. The agreement was that I should swallow you. You are meat, but your clothes are not, nor were they in the bond. If you will strip I will give you a thorough greasing, and double the bet if you wish; I know I can swallow you—or, at all events, can try!"

Tom gave up the bet, and invited his friends into the hotel.

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The Grand Lodge of Ancient Free Masons, of South Carolina, will convene in the city of Charleston, on Tuesday, the 10th of December inst.

Reidville Female College, Spartanburg County, S. C., is said to be the cheapest, healthiest and most retired institution in the South.

Mr. Daniel S. Hart, late of the firm of Hart & Co., Charleston hardware merchants, has recently been appointed a traveling agent of the South Carolina Railroad.

There are now fifty-three students at the Theological Seminary in Columbia, S. C. Four more are expected soon.

The town of Marion has been gerrymandered—one mile added all round the edge—and it now has a Republican majority of twenty-eight.

The corps of engineers began their labors on Monday, 25th ult. in locating the Greenwood and Augusta Railroad.