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Special Courts
 (From the Newberry Observer.)
 The matter of special terms of court has come to be a public nuisance. The News and Courier says, "special terms are now being held at the rate of about two a month."

If there is any necessity for that sort of thing then the State needs about double the amount of judges. But we don't believe there is any necessity for all, or one half, of these special terms.
 There will be a determined effort made before the Legislature for an increase in the number of judges. We do not believe any more than eight judges are needed for the circuit courts in South Carolina. The population has increased, of course, and there are more damage suits against railroads and other corporations, but on the contrary, the State is older and the rights of property are more settled and the homestead law has cut off thousands of suits.

We believe the real cause of congested dockets and therefore for the special terms of court—aside from the temporary disability of some of the judges—is the great waste of time in the courts. If private individuals or corporations should transact business in the slipshod and unsystematic and haphazard and dilatory way of the courts they would meet with speedy bankruptcy, and yet courts should be held down to as methodical a system and to as hard work and to as little loss of time as private or public enterprises. That they are not so held is perfectly apparent to anyone who sees anything of the average circuit court.

It is possible we may be mistaken as to the need of more judges; but we insist before their number is increased the Legislature should require a full and detailed report from every clerk of court in the State for the past year, so that they may see just what has been done and how much it has cost to do so little. Then the present judges should be required to enforce the rules relative to delays and continuances and the number and length of speeches, and in every other particular. If after a fair and square effort is made by the courts to clear the dockets it shall be found that they cannot do it without increasing the number of judges, then it will be incumbent on the Legislature to make the increase.

So long as it takes a court a week to try two or three petty cases the dockets are going to be "congested."

Orangeburg Murderer Arrested in Florida.

Sheriff Jno. H. Duke of Orangeburg has forwarded to the governor's office a request for a requisition for John Williams, who is in jail in Inverness, Citrus county, Florida. The negro is charged with murder in Orangeburg county in 1893.—The State.

South Carolina's Official Vote.

Columbia, Dec. 5.—The official vote of South Carolina for President follows: Parker, 52,853; Roosevelt, 2,271; Dale, 22; Watson, 1.

Not After Dispensary

Grand Jury states Sensational Report in Spartanburg

Special to Greenville News.
 Spartanburg, Dec. 3.—The interesting incident attending the final hours of the sessions Court this morning was the presentation of the grand jury. In its report, the following paragraph, which has created something of a local sensation, says:

"We have examined the complaint made to us by the individuals concerning default of the dispensary constabulary force in the performance of their duties, and find that there are some grave and serious matters that need and demand immediate investigation and correction, and earnestly recommend that the chief State constable make immediate inquiry into and concerning the accusations and remove the parties who are accused of being so grossly and maliciously in error, if the accusations upon perfect ventilation are found to be true and correct inasmuch as we believe it injurious and detrimental to a proper and wholesome enforcement of the dispensary law and the welfare of the law and the general good of society."

Russia is Prepared for the Inevitable.

Ships in Harbor Disarmed. When the Fortages Falls the Russian Ships Will be Taken Outside and Sunk.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 2.—With the confirmation of the news that the Japanese have occupied Two Hundred and Three Metre hill and the report that the Russians unsuccessfully attempted its recapture, officials at the war office are beginning to prepare themselves for the inevitable. Golden hill and Dicket hill are higher and dominate Two Hundred and Three Metre hill, but the officials say that if the Japanese succeed in mounting heavy guns upon the latter it probably will be only a question of days or weeks before the fortress falls. Still there is not the slightest idea among Gen Stoesel's friends that he will surrender.

The ships in the harbor, it can now be stated on high authority, are in no condition to attempt to break through the investing squadron. The guns of the warships were long ago landed, and the marines and sailors have been participating in the land defense. Some of the ships have been injured by shells. If the fortress falls, it is understood, they will be taken outside and sunk in deep water in order to prevent the possibility of their ever being of service to the enemy.

Fatal Accident in Sumter.

Sumter, December 3.—Fred McKeller, about fifteen years old, was instantly killed about 5 o'clock this afternoon, while returning from hunting. He was riding a bicycle and his gun was accidentally discharged, the lead taking effect in the side of his head.

CASTORIA.
 Bears the Signature of *Chas. H. Stearns*
 THE KIND YOU HAVE ALWAYS BOUGHT

A FRIGHTENED HORSE.

Running like mad down the street dumping the occupants, or a hundred accidents, are every day occurrences. It behooves everybody to have a reliable Salvo bandy and there's none as good as Bucklen's Arnica Salvo. Burns, Cuts, Sores, Eczema and Piles, disappear quickly under its soothing effect. 25c, at Crawford Bros., J. F. Mackey & Co's, and Funderburk Pharmacy.

Franklin H. Mackey.

A Prominent Member of the District Of Columbia Bar and Native Of South Carolina

(From the Washington Star, November 25)

In the nature of a severe shock to members of the bar generally and to a large circle of friends was the announcement to-day of the death of Franklin H. Mackey, which occurred at 6 o'clock this morning in his apartments at the Olympian, 14th and Roanoke street. The news of the demise of MaMackey was a complete surprise in the neighborhood of the city hall, for the reason that he was at his office in the Columbia building attending to his business as late as last Monday. He had however, been in ill health for about a year past. Death was the result of stomach trouble, probably coupled with some affection of the heart. Arrangements for the funeral will not be made until information is received from one of Mr Mackeys brothers, who is a prominent attorney in Oklahoma. The funeral will very likely be held next Tuesday and the remains interred in Glenwood cemetery.

Franklin HubbleMackey was one of the best known members of the local bar. He was the author of "Mackey's Practice," was for years the reporter of the decisions of the courts of the district of Columbia and for a long time was editor of the law Reporter.

Mr. Mackey was born in Charleston, S. C., in 1813, and resided there until the outbreak of the civil war, when he enlisted as a private in company A, 5th South Carolina infantry volunteers. He served through the war as a private in the Confederate army, and participated in at least twenty six battles, serving most of the time under Gen Micha Jenkins. Among his other experiences was that of being captured by the enemy and held as a prisoner at Point Lock-out. He came to this city about twenty seven years ago. Prior to that he had studied law in Philadelphia and had served as a newspaper man in Chicago.

Upon taking up his residence here Mr. Mackey began the practice of law. He appeared before all the courts of the District, the Supreme Court of the United States, the Court of Claims, and of late years before the immigration bureau. At the time of his death he was attorney in from fifty to one hundred cases based on the Chinese exclusion Act. He was interested prominently, among others in the South Carolina dispensary case now before the Supreme Court of the United States.

In addition to his other accomplishments, Mr. Mackey was a linguist, being thoroughly versed in German, French, Latin, Greek and Spanish, and was a writer of poetry of marked ability. He published a volume of poems, entitled "Laus Infantum."

The deceased was a man of most lovable character, was charitably inclined, was always considerate of the feelings of others and was held in high esteem by all with whom he came in contact. His wife survives him.

[Mr. F. H. Mackey, whose death is chronicled above, was a kinsman of our townsman, Dr. J. F. Mackey, and on several occasions visited him at this place. He had many friends here who will regret to learn of his demise.—EDITOR]

A Kidney or bladder trouble can always be cured by using Foley's Cure in time. Sold by Funderburk Pharmacy.

WATCH OUT BARGAIN SEEKERS!

\$100 IN GOLD TO BE GIVEN AWAY.

XXXXXXXXXXXX

For the next 30 days we are going to slaughter prices Right and Left on dry goods, Clothing, Shoes, etc.

XXXXXXXXXXXX

Our object in cutting prices for the next month is to benefit the trade by giving them the best goods for the least money. Also to reduce our stock as much as possible by the 1st of Jan., as we are going to repair our building and make changes in stock by moving dry goods in lower part of building and groceries where dry goods are at present.

This will be an immense job to have to move

: : **SUCH A LARGE STOCK** : :

as we have at present and think it best to make such inducements to the public in order to make the goods walk about.

We mean business in what we say and all we ask is for you to come and inspect our stock and cut prices and you will be convinced that what we say is true.

So Come at Once and

Make Your Purchases

before the stock is greatly reduced and get the best advantage, for remember one month is a very short time.

THANKING EVERY ONE FOR PAST PARONAGE AND HOPING FOR MORE, WE ARE,

Yours to serve,

Heath Banking & Mercantile Co.

LANCASTER S. C.