

People who have pledged themselves to reduce their cotton acreage should carry out their obligation, because they have made it. We have no information to indicate that anybody who signed the pledge intends to violate the same. We are quite satisfied however, that the generally expressed determination to reduce the acreage has had much, if not everything to do with holding prices up to present figures. If the cotton planters insist on planting as much cotton as they think they can work, prices will certainly decline. The man who reduces his acreage is the man who is coming out on top. If prices rule higher, he will get the benefit, and if they rule lower, he will not have so much to lose. Corn is a good price now. There is more clear profit in it at present prices than there in 8 cents cotton. As a business proposition, therefore, it is safe to plant corn almost without limit. If cotton is high, corn will necessarily be high also, and if cotton is low, corn will be even more valuable in proportion.—Yorkville Enquirer.

News and Courier Enterprise
---A Big New Press Ordered and New Building Erected.

It is understood that the News and Courier company has closed a contract for a new Hoe Press, which will print, when occasion demands, twenty four pages at once, folding and counting each paper at the same time. This necessitated the purchase of far more extensive stereotyping outfit, and in addition to this, the company is tearing down the old and building a new story building to give more room in the composition and make up room.

Work on the new building began this week, and a contract with the Hoe company was completed Saturday. The press will be shipped at once, and it is to be hoped to get it in operation within about 60 days.—The Florence Daily Times.

Mills Adopt 10-Hour day.

Union, S. C., March 13.—At a meeting today of the directors of the Union Cotton Mills and Buffalo Cotton Mills, of Union, it was voluntarily decided to reduce working time to ten hours a day.

This action was taken on belief that there will be increased and better production. The Union Mill is capitalized at \$1,106,000, and has 69,500 spindles, while the Buffalo Mill has a capital stock of \$60,000, with 40,000 spindles.

The Charlotte Observer is of the opinion that, while the crime committed in Darlington by the white murderers of a negro was apparently unprovoked the law will probably not be allowed to take its course. Judging the future by the past, that is not an unreasonable supposition, but can we be properly so judged? Has not a change come over the State? Is there not a strong sentiment, and a growing sentiment, demanding that justice once more be recognized as dominating? There are four white men now on their sentence of death in South Carolina and we believe that if one of them escapes the gallows there must be potent power exercised in his behalf than sympathy or technical pleading.—The State.

Happenings in the State.

As Chronicled by the Alert Correspondents of The Columbia State and the Charleston News and Courier.

(Specials to The State)

True Bill Against Geo Carnes.
Chesterfield, March 13.—Court convened today with his honor Judge Dantzler on the bench. A true bill was found in the case of George Carnes for the killing of Dr B H Trueman and the case has been set for trial on Thursday.

True Bill Against L B Croxton
Chesterfield, March 13.—The grand jury brought in a true bill against L B Croxton of Oberaw, who on Christmas eve night shot one Hamp Wright, colored, in the store of Montgomery & Croxton, from which he died in a few hours. The shooting was reported at the time as being very probably accidental.

Accidentally Shot Himself.
Anderson, March 13.—S. J. Davis, the county jailor, was accidentally shot through the leg yesterday, receiving a very painful wound. He was doing extra police duty for the city when the accident occurred. His pistol was in the pocket of his overcoat, which he drew off and and threw over a chair. As he did so the pistol exploded, the ball passing through his leg just above the ankle and breaking both bones. It is feared that amputation may be necessary.

Killed on Reedy River Trestle.
Greenville, March 13.—James Burgess, watchman at the Carolina mills, was run over and instantly killed on the Reedy river trestle by Southern railway train No 36, arriving from Atlanta today. Mr Burgess lives at the American Spinning company's village and was on his way home from his work.

The scalp was torn on both sides of the head and the bones of the head crushed to a pulp and the brains issuing. The left leg was broken above the ankle, the thigh punctured to the bone, and the foot was nearly severed at the ankle joint. The left hand was cut off and many other bruises were found on the body. The wounds on the head undoubtedly caused instant death.

Hand and Leg Mashed to Pulp.
Denmark, March 13.—A tramp who was known to be under the influence of whiskey was seen Saturday afternoon playing the part of a mute. No one gave him coming and going any more thought until Sunday morning, when he was discovered near the Seaboard track with his left hand and right leg crushed to a pulp. The unfortunate man had evidently gone under the car on the side for shelter from the rain and being stupefied by drink or possibly overcome by sleep, he lay there undisturbed until the cars were shifted over him some time during the night. Doctors Wyman and Matthews were called and after consultation both limbs were amputated. The doctors attending say the chances for life are favorable. Today the tramp gave his name as Frank A Brooks of Richmond, Va. He says he has a daughter in Richmond.

No Clue as to Smith's Slayer.
Williston, March 13.—Although ten days have passed since the murder of J T Smith, Jr., no light has yet been thrown on the case. The close relatives of the deceased who were called here by his unfortunate demise stated

to your correspondent today that notwithstanding all the efforts they had set in motion to apprehend the guilty parties, they had not discovered a single clue. They have exhausted every means at their disposal only to find themselves as baffled as when they began.

The public unrest has been still further increased by the burning of several barns in the community in the past few weeks. There is no doubt as to the fact that the fires were of incendiary origin. Mr P H Loud, Jr., was the last to suffer in this way. During the middle of last week he lost his barn containing about \$1,100 worth of live stock and forage.

Official Washington's Views

Despite Strenuous Denials by the Russian Ambassador, the Diplomats Are Convinced That Russia Will Ask for Peace.

Washington, March 13.—When the Czar calls his war council tomorrow, he will be able to inform them that Japan will welcome peace on reasonable terms, and will promptly name her conditions, provided she receives trustworthy assurance that they will be seriously considered. This the Emperor has learned from friendly chancelleries in Europe, as well as the general terms acceptable to Japan. These, it is said, will be retention by Japan of Port Arthur, a Japanese protectorate over Korea, and an indemnity. A high official states that Russia has recalled her second Pacific squadron. An attache of a Russian embassy in Europe is quoted as expressing the belief that Kuropatkin's recent defeat will force Russia to ask for peace. Briefly, these were the reports current in the diplomatic corps today, and, as a result of this important information, official Washington believes tonight that Russia and Japan are on the verge of peace. If the squadron has been recalled, even the most optimistic of Russia's friends admit that this is a strong indication that Oyama's mighty blow has made for peace.

Columbia Female College.

The work on the new buildings of the Columbia Female College, at Hyatt's is getting along surprisingly well. One of the large dormitories is half finished and by the first of April it will be under roof. The expectation is that by the 1st of April dormitories to accommodate 175 pupils will be under cover and the work can then be rushed. The contractors have from 100 to 125 workmen on the buildings and are ahead of their agreement in the progress of the work.—Columbia Cor. News and Courier.

First in Fifty Years.

Bangor Me, March 13.—For the first time in fifty years the Democratic party today elected a mayor at the municipal election held in the State today, electing mayors in Augusta, Biddford, Belfast and Brewer.

Booker Washington and Bishop Clinton Get Library for Colored College.

New York, March 13.—Booker T. Washington called upon Andrew Carnegie tonight in company with Bishop Clinton, one of the trustees, and Dr. W. H. Goslet, the president of Livingstone college for colored people at Salisbury, N. C., under the auspices of the African M E Zion church. They suggested to Mr. Carnegie that he present the college with a library building. This Mr. Carnegie consented to do. The amount of the gift was not made public.

Eyes Open, Everybody!

A great reduction in prices

For The Next Thirty Days

in all Winter weights, so govern yourselves accordingly. Everyone come and take advantage of these slaughtering prices.

THE HEATH-JONES COMPANY.

We will offer to the trade for the next month the following goods at cost, as we want to make a clean clearance of Winter wear in order to make room for Spring goods. So come at once and inspect our stock, even if you don't wish to buy, for it is a pleasure to show our customers what startling values we have in store for them

All Winter weights in Clothing---Suits, Pants and Overcoats, at actual cost. Also Capes, Jackets, Furs and Muffs accordingly. Blankets, Comforts and Lap Robes, the same way. A big assortment of Knit Skirts at your price.

We have 150 pairs of Shoes to offer very cheap and which are of the very best that is manufactured. But, after breaking the boxes in removing from one store to the other, have decided to place them on the Bargain Counter and let them go at a great sacrifice. Our entire line of Shoes will be knifed to the core, as we have entirely too many.

Remember, these Prices are for the SPOT CASH, and no charging will be listened to. Come everybody and bring your purse, and we will give you the cheapest and best merchandise that has EVER been offered YOU.

We have just received a pretty lot of Spring Goods such as Gingham, Nainsooks, Swisses, Piques, and lots of other styles.

We have the largest and best selected stock of Ladies' Collars that has ever been shown on this market. A pretty line of Mohair tailor made Skirts in all the leading shades. Also a large assortment of black mercerized Satene Petticoats very cheap.

We have the swellest and nobbiest line of Spring Silks in all the up-to-date shades, so come at once and take a look and you will be pleased with prices, pattern, and quality.

Laces and Embroideries! Knowing that ladies have a perfect mania for such, we have bought extensively the best and cheapest that money could buy, and feel assured that we can please the most fastidious.

The most up-to-date line of CRAVATS, in all colors. Ascot's Four-in-hand and string ties. International and United Shirts and Collars, the very best to be had. and also our fifty cent line can't be duplicated.

Several dozen HATS to be turned loose, name 20 Dozen Soiled Linen Collars, the price and let your cranium be covered. the very best, 5 cents each.

We have several rolls of CARPET that we will close out at cost. Also a small stock of Furniture that we will sell at cost.

THE HEATH-JONES COMPANY.