

The Sumter Banner.

DEVOTED TO SOUTHERN RIGHTS, DEMOCRACY, NEWS, LITERATURE, AGRICULTURE, SCIENCE AND THE ARTS.

W. J. FRANCIS, PROPRIETOR.

"God—and our Native Land."

{TERMS—\$2 IN ADVANCE.

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THE SUMTER BANNER.

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TERMS.

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For the Banner.
SUMTER AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.

SUMTERVILLE, Jan 25, 1852.

At a meeting of the Sumterville Association held this day, Col. W. Nettles was called to the Chair, the President and Vice-President being absent.

This being the regular time for the election of Officers, a Committee was appointed to nominate Officers for the ensuing year.

The committee having consulted, reported the following names:

For President:
J. M. PITTS.
For Vice Presidents:
Wm. Nettles,
J. J. Knox,
J. M. Nelson,
T. M. Briggs,
G. W. Cooper,
R. L. Heriot.

For Secretary:
J. D. Blanding.
For Treasurer:
G. W. Bradford.

The report of the Committee was unanimously adopted.

Dr. Pitts took the Chair, and returned his thanks for the compliment paid him, and announced the Association ready for business.

J. D. Blanding, as Chairman of the Committee to revise Constitution and a premium list, reported that the Committee had agreed upon the following Constitution and Premium List, which were considered, discussed, and adopted by the Association:

PREAMBLE.

Regarding Agriculture as the prime interest of the State, and aware that as a science is best cultivated by a free interchange of views, and that mental activity and practical energy are stimulated by friendly intercourse and competition, we the undersigned do hereby form ourselves into an Association for the purpose above specified, and adopt the following Laws and Regulations for our government:

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I.

This Society shall be called the "Sumter Agricultural Association."

ARTICLE II.

All persons, by signing the Constitution, paying the initiation fee, and the annual contribution hereinafter specified, shall become members, and be entitled to all the privileges of this Association.

ARTICLE III.

The Officers of this Association shall consist of a President, six Vice Presidents, and a secretary and Treasurer, who shall be elected (by ballot) annually, at the regular fall meeting.

ARTICLE IV.

It shall be the duty of the President to take the Chair at all meetings of this Association; to preserve order; to enforce such parliamentary rules and regulations as govern deliberative bodies; to call extra meetings, when necessary, and to appoint all Committees.

ARTICLE V.

It shall be the duty of the Vice President, highest on the list, to assume and discharge all the duties of the President, in his absence.

ARTICLE VI.

It shall be the duty of the Secretary to enroll the names of members, to make a correct minute of all proceedings; to file and preserve all papers; to furnish a list of all articles on exhibition, to the umpires or Judges

and to perform all other duties appertaining to his office.

It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive all contributions to the society; to collect all monies due, and to expend the same as directed, by the Society, and to make an annual return of same, at the annual meeting of this Association.

BY-LAWS.

ARTICLE I.

Each member shall pay into the Treasury annually the sum of two dollars, said payment to be made at time of application for membership, or by the first day of June, in each year; and upon his refusing to do so, his name shall be stricken from the roll.

ARTICLE II.

At each annual meeting, the Association shall elect, or choose, some individual, to deliver an appropriate Address, at their next annual meeting.

ARTICLE III.

At each annual meeting, the Association shall, through their president, appoint Committees of three, of its members, upon the following products of our soil, to wit: Cotton, Corn, small grain, (including Wheat, Rye, Oats, and Rice,) Potatoes and Root crops, vegetables, fruits and grasses. The duties of said Committees shall be to report, in writing, to this Association, at its next annual meeting, the most approved varieties of seeds, time and manner of planting, quality and quantity of manure best adapted to their growth, most economical method of application of manures, most improved method or system of cultivation of each class, together with other information which they may deem of interest or profit to the members of this Association.

ARTICLE IV.

At each annual meeting, the Association shall, through their president, appoint a Committee of five, of its members, whose duty it shall be, (as soon after as possible,) to classify all stock and Produce, and to award premiums for the different classes, and grades in each department, that should receive premiums or awards at the next annual meeting. The said Committee shall also be empowered to appoint committees of three, to act as judges or umpires, on all stock or Produce put on exhibition.

At each annual meeting, the Association shall, through their President, appoint a Committee, who shall make suitable arrangements for holding our next annual meeting, and shall provide a suitable building for the reception and safe keeping of articles on exhibition, and shall have erected suitable and convenient stalls or enclosure, for all stock &c., and shall keep order on the day of exhibition.

ARTICLE V.

In no case shall the award or premium exceed in value ten dollars. There shall be no second class premiums offered by this Association, and in no instance shall an award be extended to specimens of Stock or Produce in the same class or grade which have taken a prize at a previous exhibition.

ARTICLE VI.

All Stock or Produce, on exhibition for a premium, shall be the bona fide property of members of this Association.

ARTICLE VII.

Members competing for premiums on the greatest yield per acre, of the various productions of our soil, are required to furnish the Secretary, ten days previous to the annual meeting, a certificate of same, stating fully, kind of seed, when and how planted, quantity and kind of manure used, how and when applied, how, when and how often worked, condition of ground before planting, how long in previous cultivation, &c.

ARTICLE VIII.

Members competing for premiums on stock, are required to furnish the Secretary, ten days previous to the annual meeting, a certificate of the same, stating fully as possible, their pedigree, age, when put on good keeping, and articles of food principally used.

ARTICLE X.

Members intending to exhibit any article at the annual meeting, are required to register the same with the Secretary ten days previous to day of exhibition.

ARTICLE XI.

In awarding premiums, the product of swamp or river lands shall not be compared with the product of pine or bluff lands, but comparison shall be made of the product of each class of lands respectively.

ARTICLE XII.

The President, Vice President, or Secretary shall call an extra meeting upon the written application of any five members of this Association.

ARTICLE XIII.

This Association shall hold its annual meeting at or near Sumterville, on Tuesday and Wednesday after the 4th Monday in October.

ARTICLE XV.

The above Constitution and By-Laws shall not be altered or amended but by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

The following named gentlemen have been appointed, as committees, to Report to the Agricultural Association at its next annual meeting, on the various products assigned each Committee, as specified in Article 3d, of the Constitution:

Committee on Cotton.—H. D. Green, J. E. Rembert, F. L. Kennedy.

Committee on Corn.—W. A. Muldrow, G. W. Cooper, J. E. Witherspoon.

Committee on Small Grain, including Wheat, Rye Rice and Oats.—Dr. H. Abbot, J. J. Knox, H. Spain.

Committee on Root Crop, including Potatoes, Turnips, &c.—M. M. Lembow, T. D. Briggs, J. C. Blackwell.

Committee on Fruit and their Culture.—J. S. Richardson, Senr., R. B. Cain, Sam'l Mayrantr.

Committee on Vegetables and their Culture.—Rev. D. McQueen, L. Frazier, J. S. G. Richardson.

Committee on Grass, Native and Foreign.—W. E. Mills, J. O. Durant, J. S. Bradley.

The following gentlemen have been appointed to act as umpires of judges, on all articles on exhibition, at the regular annual meetings of the Association, and report their decision, to the Secretary, during the exhibition.

Committee on Horses and Mules.—Dr. J. E. Dennis, Henry Coleclough, and W. H. Burgess.

Committee on Cows, Sheep and Hogs.—Sydney McFadden, F. M. Mellett and E. Pringle.

Committee on Poultry, Products of Dairy, Kitchen &c.—P. H. Nelson, D. A. Foxworth and J. W. Rembert.

Committee on products of Loom, Needle &c.—H. H. Wells, J. B. White and Wesley Stuevey.

Committee on Implements of Husbandry &c.—W. S. Hudson, H. Brunson and W. J. Crosswell.

Committee on Fields of Cotton, Potatoes, Root Crop &c.—R. L. McLeod, and Maj. A. Brailford.

Committee on Fields of Corn, Wheat, Rice, Rye, Oats and Hay.—R. B. Muldrow, J. J. Chandler, and T. Muldrow.

Committee on Specimens of Small grain &c.—W. E. Richardson, J. M. Jennings and W. J. Singleton.

Committee on Fruits, Vegetables and Flowers &c.—A. C. Spain, Dr. M. S. Moore and Dr. J. J. Ingram.

The Executive Committee to consist of the following gentlemen.—Capt. G. W. Lee, L. P. Loving, J. H. Dingle, T. D. Friserson, A. J. Moses, Noah Crane and O. P. McRay.

Premium List.

The following is the list of premiums to be awarded at the next annual exhibition of the Sumter Agricultural Association, which is to take place in or near Sumterville, on the Tuesday and Wednesday after the fourth Monday in October next:

Greatest yield of Cotton per acre, on swamp land, (cup.) \$10 00

Greatest yield of Cotton per acre, pine land, (cup.) 10 00

Greatest yield of Corn per acre, swamp land, (cup.) 10 00

Greatest yield of Corn per acre, pine land, (cup.) 10 00

Greatest yield of Wheat per acre, swamp land, 5 00

Greatest yield of Wheat per acre, pine land, 5 00

Greatest yield of Rice per acre, swamp land, 5 00

Greatest yield of Rice per acre, pine land, 5 00

Greatest yield of Rye per acre, 5 00

Greatest yield of Oats per acre, 5 00

Largest amount of Hay from 1-2 acre ground, native grass, 5 00

Largest amount of Hay from 1-2 acre ground, pea vine, 5 00

Largest and best collection of garden Vegetables, by one individual, 3 00

Largest and best collection of Flowers by one individual, 3 00

Best specimens of Cotton in the bolls on the stalk, 1 00

Best specimen of Sweet Potatoes, 1 00

Best specimen Seed Corn, two bushels, in ears, white variety, 1 00

Best specimen Seed Corn, two bushels, in ears, yellow, 1 00

Best specimen Seed Wheat, one bushel, 1 00

Best specimen Seed Rice, one bushel, 1 00

Best specimen Seed Oats, one bushel, 1 00

Best specimens Seed Peas, 50 cents for each half bushel exhibited, 1 00

Best brood Mare with sucking colt by her side, (cup.) 10 00

Best Colt one year old, 5 00

Best Colt two years old, 5 00

Best brood Mare with sucking mule colt by her side, (cup.) 10 00

Best one year old mule Colt, 5 00

Best two year old mule Colt, 5 00

Best milk Cow, with sucking calf by her side, full blood, 8 00

Best milk Cow with sucking calf by her side, common or mixed breed, 6 00

Best one year old heifer Calf, 4 00

Best one year old bull Calf, 4 00

Best two year old heifer Calf, 5 00

Best two year old bull Calf, 5 00

Best Ram of any breed, 3 00

Best Ewe of any breed, 3 00

Best pair of Lambs, 3 00

Best Suffolk Sow with litter of pigs, not less than five, 3 00

Best common brood Sow, with litter of pigs, not less than five, 1 00

Best pair Suffolk pigs, 3 00

Best pair under two years of age, 3 00

Largest and fatest Hog upon exhibition raised in the District, 3 00

Best pair full blood Shanghai Fowls, 1 00

Best pair of full blood Cochon China Fowls, 1 00

Best pair full blood Dorkings, 1 00

Best pair Bantams, 1 00

Best pair full blood Game Fowls, 1 00

Best pair Turkeys, 2 00

Best pair Muscovy Ducks, 1 00

Best lot Butter 5 lbs, 1 00

Best lard made Soap, 1 00

Best half gallon Jar of Preserves, 1 00

Best half gallon Jar of jelly, 1 00

Best half gallon Jar of Jam, 1 00

Best half gallon Jar Brandy Peaches, 1 00

Best half gallon Jar Pickles, 1 00

Best Cotten Counterpane, 2 00

Best Cotten Counterpane, 2 00

Best patch-work Quilt, 2 00

Best Comfort, 2 00

Best woven Rag Carpet, 2 00

Best health Bug, 2 00

Best twenty yards Negro Cloth, 2 00

Best wrought iron Plough, 2 00

Best wrought iron Sub-soil Plough, 2 00

Best wrought iron Cotton scraper, 2 00

Best wrought iron Sweep, 2 00

Best wrought iron toothed Harrow, 2 00

Best Wheelbarrow, 1 00

Best plantation Cart, 3 00

Best single horse Buggy, 5 00

Best Cotton Gin, 5 00

A Memorial in favor of the Sabbath.

The following memorial from "The Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in South Carolina" was presented to the late meeting of the Stockholders of the "South Carolina Rail Road Company" by the Chairman of the Committee appointed for that purpose, and read by him. We commend it to all the Railroads in the State:

To the Officers, Directors and Stockholders of the South Carolina Rail Road Company:

The memorial of the undersigned respectfully sheweth, That at the annual meeting of the Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Diocese of South Carolina, held in May last, they were appointed a Committee to (&c. &c.) quoting the resolutions under which we act.

The Committee enter upon this duty, convinced of the plain and adequate obligation to do the Will of God, wherever it is clearly made known:—Obedience to the divine law, is not only an obvious duty, but no more safe and certain rule than its observance can be arrived at, for advancing the interests and happiness of society. No

human mind is competent to devise laws so certain of advancing the welfare of mankind as those enacted by Him by whom the earth was made, and under whose Providence all systems have sprung into existence. Discarding all speculative philosophy, we see in clear and unequivocal testimony, the revealed will of God for the government of his creatures. His teachings and his example have made known the clear expression of his authority, that one day in seven is to be set apart from all secular labors and toil, for rest to the minds and bodies of men, that both may be devoted to his service. This duty is recognized by all who live under the Gospel. The only difference among any such people is in regard to the day to be set apart. The first of the week is recognised as that day in the faith and practice of the great body of the American people. The exercise of private judgment, and the practice of religious faith, are guaranteed by the Constitution. But the public tribunals have in more than one instance, recognised us as a christian people. Hence laws have been enacted which look to the observance of Sunday as a day of rest, with penalties attached to their violation.

While this recognition remains thus sanctioned by law, and approved by public opinion, the committee may be spared a fruitless discussion upon conceded and admitted points. They look simply to the facts as they find them, and deduce the conclusions, which, in their judgment, necessarily flow from them. One of these, and perhaps it is sufficient for the present purpose, is that no man can be held blameless for pursuing business on the Sabbath day, (unless demanded by necessity or mercy.) The exercise on that day of a calling by any man or body of men, which is not embraced under one or the other of these exceptions, furnishes to all others of the body politic just cause for objection and complaint. There is a maxim of the law which maintains that you are not to use your own, so as to injure another. "Sic utere tuo ut non alterum ledas." Surely such a rule may be applied with much more force to the feelings and conscience than to mere property. There is no sufficient reason known to your memorialists, why the shop-keeper in towns and cities may not expose his wares on Sunday, while Rail Road Companies should be excepted from similar prohibition.—The evils is infinitely greater in the latter case. Violations of law, either human or divine, are productive of evil consequences of greater or less extent, according to their relative influences. Thus it is held in moral philosophy that public offences are more pernicious than those enacted in secret. The running of trains of cars on Sunday is obnoxious to the evils of examples increased in pernicious influence by the elevation in society of those at the head of affairs. It is the experience of mankind that the habitual practice of even an admitted evil, begun, though it may have been in necessity, removes by familiarity the repugnance with which it is at first encountered.

Rail Road operations on Sunday are fully liable to this objection. The evils are not only positive but relative. There is a sin in the thing done, and there is much evil in the breaking up of good habits of thought and action, and the introduction of the contrary.—The operative or the traveller, sanctioned by the example of those who he supposes are more wise than he is, abandons himself to a destiny, he imagines to be overruling, and which is in truth, too powerful to be often resisted. The pursuits of any secular business on Sunday, must have an especially pernicious effect on those whose opinion and character are unformed. Rail Road operations are peculiarly liable to this objection. The trains traverse great distances, pass through many localities, attracting great attention and exciting curiosity wherever they go.—Thus the evils are not confined either to operatives or travellers; they extend to the eye-witnesses and observers, to the idlers who are attracted to the stations, and to others whose attention, whether voluntarily or otherwise, is disturbed and distracted by the noise and bustle and business, properly belonging only to the working days of the week.

But the evil is more direct and immediate, it extends with certain influence to the officers, agents and employees of the Company. The institution of one day in seven for rest and exemption from toil, is not only the divine command, and therefore entitled to implicit obedience, but as a utilitarian measure, nothing known to man can be more necessary and important. We may well profit by the experience of France in the reign of terror, when religion was dethroned and reason was proclaimed in ten days, speedily proved to that unhappy people, the folly of

man's attempts to change the order which providence had ordained for his guidance, and the nation who vainly imagined themselves wise, speedily acknowledged their folly and returned to the system they had vainly endeavored to explode. We may well pause to enquire whether the French people with one Sabbath in ten days, were less wise or less sinful than that portion of us who in practice postpone it indefinitely. The baneful effects of Sunday breaking could not be estimated, if it pervaded all classes of society, it would not be hazardous too much to say that the tendency would be a relapse into a condition of imperfect civilization. If such a state of society can be pictured in imagination, the evils of it could not be even conjectured.

It will not be questioned that there is wisdom as well as benevolence in that beautiful organization of man into the arrangement of the family. It might well be argued on a proper occasion, that that Society would approximate the nearest towards perfection as it resembled this beautiful economy of our system. Perhaps nothing can be imagined which is better calculated to preserve it in its purity than the observance of the Sabbath. The Committee, if time permitted, might well illustrate the beneficial influence of this day, in restoring the wasted powers, soothing and calming passions agitated by contact with men and business. And just in proportion to the exactions of secular duties, with the warring conflicts to which they give rise, is the happy influence of the day which restores the lost equilibrium in the minds of those compelled to daily toil. Can any influence be more palpable for evil than that which forbids the return of the laboring man on Sunday to the home of his family, his pleasure and his enjoyments. The practice of rail road travelling strikes at the very root of all such benefits, and defeats a wise and benevolent institution. It injures the head of the family by depriving him of that repose which is needed for the mind and for the soul. It deprives these committed to the care of his society, his conduct and his example, and it injures all who see him violating the Sabbath himself by recollecting them to similar departure.

The committee desirous of not trespassing on your patience have put forth but one or two of the leading thoughts in the consideration of this important question: They assume that they address men acknowledging the laws and government of the Great and All-wise Ruler of the universe. Their arguments are predicated on the obligation acknowledged by all, however imperfectly they may be carried out, to obey Him who has the right to command the service of his creatures. But they are aware that many who admit these promises, avoid their conclusions on other grounds. The argument is that trains could not be stopped on Sunday without the greatest derangement to the profits of the road, the transportation of the mails and the commerce of the country. If this view was incontrovertible, which the Committee by no means admit—no sufficient reason would be furnished for the violation complained of. The obligation for the observance of Sunday being admitted, there can possibly be but two grounds already noticed, on one or the other of which it can alone be excused. These are either errands of mercy or works of necessity. The former has no application to the Rail roads except in such extreme cases that they scarcely be mentioned. The latter is of occurrence much more rare than the apologetics for Railroad or any other Sunday work are usually willing to admit. If we look around us to agriculture—to commerce—to all the busy pursuits of men, we meet with no such plea of necessity, as is made for Railroads. The planter or the farmer no matter how great the pressure of seasons and his crops, suspends his labor and rest from his toil. Commerce is still more engrossing—days follow rapidly and contracts approach maturity. Failure to meet engagements entails certain bluish on the reputation of the merchant, and the day and the hour, is often of countless value to him. And yet what would be thought of the planter, who would sow his seed or harvest his crop—of the merchant who would make the vain effort to collect his funds together, or even the bank which receive payment of its notes on the Sabbath.—Men in other pursuits and under other institutions, yield their pressing demands to the obligations of the moral law and the corresponding influence of the public sentiment. Are Railroads to constitute the almost solitary exception?

The Committee have seen elsewhere a satisfactory solution of the experiment; they have seen in Boston, with fifty or more rail roads and numer-

ous other public conveniences, an entire suspension of all labor on the Sabbath day. The Committee know that not a public conveyance of any description enters or departs from that city on that day. If the business of the South was as active as that of New England, which is well known not to be the climate of our region affords the advantages of continuous labor throughout the year denied to the extreme North. The Committee are well convinced that an experiment here would prove equally successful.

The Committee deem their duty performed by presenting to the Company the general and leading views which they have set forth. They are satisfied the body they represent have no desire to enter into details, or make suggestions which might be regarded as interference in what does not concern them. The Convention of the Episcopal Church, who have delegated this Committee, represent a large body of Christian people, many of whom are Stockholders of this Company, and many of whom are citizens of the State, whose welfare and prosperity have been vastly promoted by the South Carolina Railroad. The Committee confidently believe that if the able men who have so successfully managed the affairs of this Road will devote themselves to the attainment of the evil of Sunday labor, they will not fail to meet under the blessings of God with a success quite commensurate with that which in other departments has heretofore attended their labors.

T. B. CHICKSON,
W. E. MARTIN,
Min. Cleric. } Committee.

After this sterling appeal in behalf of "Gods own sacred day" Gen. J. H. Adams moved the following resolutions, which were adopted.— They are very good as far as they go, and our only objection to them is, that they are not strong enough. We think the meeting would have acted wiser to have met the issue at once and we fear the postponement of decisive action will but turn out to be "a put off" of the question altogether. We can see, too, no possible reason why there should be an "exception" in favor of "transmitting the mails."

Gen. J. H. Adams moved the following resolutions, which were adopted: Resolved, That this Meeting is pleased to learn that the Board of Directors of this Company have discontinued the ordinary work of loading and unloading, and forwarding merchandise at the various termini and Depots on the South Carolina Railroad on Sunday.

Resolved, That it likewise affords pleasure to the Company to know that the Board of Directors have in contemplation an early discontinuance of the starting out of freight trains on the road on Sunday, such being the wish of the Company, as expressed in the resolutions adopted at the last annual meeting.

Resolved, That this Company confide in the Board of Directors to effect as early as possible the discontinuance of all Sunday work on the Road, except so much as is connected with the transmission of the mails.

New York is called the Empire State; Connecticut, the Freestone State and sometimes the Land of Wooden Nutmegs; Massachusetts, the Bay State; Vermont, the Green Mountain State; New Hampshire, the Granite State; Pennsylvania, the Key-Stone State; Virginia, the Old Dominion; Delaware, the Diamond State; North Carolina, the Old North State; South Carolina, the Palmetto State; Louisiana, the Creole State; Texas, the Lone Star State; Mississippi, the Bayou State; California, the El Dorado State