

VIGILANT COMMITTEE.

The communication published elsewhere by Mr. Geo. C. Lanham, over his own signature, having reference to the vigilance question, came to us first through an article in last week's issue of the Times from the pen of our esteemed correspondent, "Summertown."

We were not aware of the existence of such a condition of affairs as is thus set forth necessitating the organization of a body of this kind. It is a deplorable state in which to be placed, where the feeble administration of the law would suggest the propriety of calling in such aid. Though the purpose be a good one, and the designs of those who inaugurated the attempt be entirely for the enforcement of good order and general benefit to society, by keeping watch and ward over the evil workings of lawless men, yet would not the experiment be attended with more or less danger?

In forming such a committee, men of the best character and standing in the neighborhood are, sometimes, from peculiar characteristics, utterly unfitted for discharging such a delicate undertaking. Some men are so constituted, as in moments of excitement to find themselves, once on the track, plunging with the madness of a war horse, and indulging in such excesses as would astound themselves, in their moments of calm deliberation.

WE COUNTRY PEOPLE.

Mr. Editor: For the last time probably I shall appear in your paper, and if I transgress the limits of a single communication, pardon me—it is necessary that I should go beyond a half column, not to reply to "Ox Farmer," but to make a "resumé" as it were of the cause of his bellying, and the kind of his bellying.

As is well known by now, my first paper commenced with the old adage "There is many a slip betwixt the cup and the lip, &c." and showed how the hopes of farmers are frequently dashed, and then I showed how much it cost a farmer to borrow \$300 from a cotton factor. In this latter statement I simply published a fact, as to their going to the Springs, &c. I simply published a fact as regarded the majority of them. The above is the sum and substance of my offending, in the eyes of "Ox Farmer."

Now what does he do? He first accuses me personally of grossly abusing my factor, after receiving benefits from him and sitting up in the shade all summer, spending his money and not making any effort to reimburse him, thus dishonestly defrauding him of his just dues; and he goes further and makes a sweeping charge to the effect, that 99 out of 100 of the farmers of Clarendon spend their advances in indulgences and extravagances, that is, that 99 out of 100 of his friends, neighbors, compatriots and fellow citizens spend their substance in riotous living like I, "Meipse."

My second paper—I took it in good part and replied in general terms, but I replied and challenged him to disprove the statement, and denied any intention of abuse. All this time, I never for a moment questioned his right to attack me personally, for a statement he had nothing in the world to do with, unless it was a false one, and he was commissioned to disprove it by a committee of factors appointed to wait upon him for that purpose. It was therefore confidently looked for, that the challenge would be taken up, and that "Ox Farmer" would bring out facts and figures certified to by the great body of factors whom he has publicly assumed to represent, and with whose business affairs he seems to be so intimately acquainted. But nothing of the kind happened. He only begs a small space to reply to "Meipse." And ye Gods what a reply, simply another personal tirade against myself, recussing me of riotous living and of abusing my factor. Thus it is with certain minds, who having nothing else to fall back upon, descend to abuse, vituperation, and Billingsgate. He clothed his in as decent language as he could, but twas Billingsgate all the same.

Now, Mr. Editor, it is not my intention to say or do any thing in this paper, but to take a cautious farewell of "Ox Farmer," not even to offer advice, for his two replies show conclusively, that he is above advice. For these "replies," as he calls them, have in naught but self praise and self gratulation on the one hand, and accusations of his fellow citizens and myself of all that is unjust, deceitful, mean and fraudulent. He stands just thus:

God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican (Meipse). I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all I possess. -- Luke 18-11-12

He is one man out of 100, by his own assertion. "He pays as he goes," 99 devilish, riotous publicans surround him, he alone is pure. In conclusion let me say, that the most vainglorious proceeding in the whole matter is, that this "Ox Farmer" should voluntarily and without any authority from the Great Money Kings who care no more for him or me, than the very dust under their golden feet and the knowledge of whose death would not turn a curl of their hair, that this "Ox Farmer" should take it upon himself to defend this great body of moneyed men and to call me to task, for making a statement with which he had no personal interest whatever. I never troubled him, and yet he sits in judgment upon me, and 99 out of every 100 of his fellow citizens. It is written, "He that exalteth himself shall be abased." MEIPSE.

A Break for Freedom.

(From the Columbus Record.) This morning (Nov. 12th) about 6 o'clock, immediately after the guard had been stationed and the convicts turned out of their cells for the day, three lifetime convicts—Pleasant Miller, Sherman Smith and Sam Jackson—made their way to a secluded part of the prison grounds and with a previously prepared ladder and rope scaled the wall and started off. The guard were promptly in pursuit and captured Miller and Smith within a few minutes. Jackson succeeded in getting off, although he left a bloody trail, being evidently wounded by one of the guard. Up to this time his capture is unaffected.

ANNUAL REPORT

Of the Board of County Commissioners for Clarendon County, of County claims approved for the fiscal year commencing Nov. 1st, 1884.

Table with 2 columns: Item description and Amount in Dollars. Includes items like 'D. M. Brailsford, bridge repairs', 'Rivers Richardson, Trial Justice Constable', etc.

Table with 2 columns: Item description and Amount in Dollars. Includes items like 'J. J. Barfield, Supt. Poor House', 'J. J. Conyers, School Commissioner postage stamps', etc.

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