

## DOMESTIC TROUBLES END IN TRAGEDY.

### B. Whitehurst, Foreman of Planing Mill at Tillman Lumber Co's Plant is Shot to Death by Morris Blum.

J. B. Whitehurst, foreman of the planing mill at Tillman Lumber Co's plant at Sellers was shot and instantly killed by Morris Blum at Sellers Monday night. The shooting occurred at the store of Blum & Goldstien and the only witnesses to the tragedy were Mrs. Goldstien and Mr. Blum.

The shooting is the result of some trouble between the family of the dead man and Mr. Goldstien's wife who is a sister of Mr. Blum. It is alleged that Mrs. Goldstien had offered an insult to Mrs. Whitehurst and Monday afternoon when Whitehurst left his work at the mill he went to the store of Blum & Goldstien. Here he saw Mrs. Goldstien who was sitting on a trunk in the doorway with Mr. Blum. Mrs. Goldstien's testimony before the coroner's jury is that Whitehurst came up and asked her why she had insulted his wife. Mrs. Goldstien said she had not offered any insult to Mrs. Whitehurst, whereupon Whitehurst addressed an epithet to her and told her she had. At this moment he struck her blow in the breast that felled her to the ground. Mr. Blum arose and grappled with Whitehurst at the same time drawing his pistol, a .32 calibre revolver. Reaching around Whitehurst's body he fired and the bullet entered below the left shoulder blade and ranged upward, passing through the heart and inflicting a wound that produced instant death.

The altercation and the shooting occurred so quickly that near bystanders were scarcely aware that a tragedy had taken place. Whitehurst staggered backward and fell upon the sidewalk where he expired before any one reached his side.

It seems that there also been some previous trouble between Mr. Blum and Mr. Whitehurst and it is alleged that Whitehurst had made threats against Blum which had caused him some uneasiness.

Mr. Blum is a brother of Mr. Isaac Blum of Dillon and bears an excellent reputation. He is a young man about 25 years of age. He deceased was 30 years of age and leaves a wife and several children. He was a native of Norfolk and the body was carried to that city Tuesday for interment.

Mr. Blum surrendered to the authorities soon after the shooting and is now in the custody of the sheriff. His attorneys will make application for bail immediately.

The Wilmington Star tells of a remarkable and peculiar incident which occurred while President Taft and party were sailing down the Cape Fear last Tuesday on the revenue cutter Seminole as the guests of the city. As the cutter was passing Orton plantation a magnificent bald eagle suddenly appeared, coming from the jungles on the river side, and sailed over the cutter, making a complete circle and disappearing in the swamps from which it came. The splendid specimen of the American nation bird flew low enough to be recognized by all on board before it took its flight back to its home in the almost impenetrable growth of the lowlands. The President should have taken this as a happy augury. The American eagle welcomed him to the land of the long leaf pine—Charlotte Observer.

## LITTLE ROCK WANTS COURT HOUSE.

Mr. Jas. W. Hamer and others have filed with Mr. E. R. Hamer a check for \$25,000 and articles of agreement whereby they pledge themselves to contribute that amount toward building a court house and jail at Little Rock provided the people vote to locate the county seat at that enterprising town. The check is made payable to the Dillon Loan & Trust Co., and Mr. Hamer and his associates agree to put \$5,000 additional if the county commissioners find that \$25,000 will not put up suitable buildings. The following correspondence from Little Rock appeared in Sunday's State.

Little Rock, Nov. 13.—The election soon to be held upon the question of a new county to be established out of the upper portion of Marion, to be called Pee Dee, is now the all-absorbing subject in the area to be affected. There is practically perfect unanimity among the citizens and electors in favor of the scheme, and the only real contention is the selection of the county seat. Dillon, Latta and Little Rock are the contestants for this honor and dignity, and as each is a thriving business town, with live, energetic business men, it is not surprising that all honorable means will be used to advance the claims of each. A step forward was made today and Little Rock got the jump on its rivals when J. W. Hamer handed to E. R. Hamer, the manager on behalf of the advocates of the establishment of the new county, the following communication, accompanied by the check therein referred to:

### The Cash Offer.

"Little Rock, Nov. 11, 1909.  
"Mr. E. R. Hamer, Manager New County Election, Dillon, S. C.  
"Dear Sir: On behalf of myself and associates I herewith hand to you a check, certified by Dillon Building, Loan and Trust company, for twenty five thousand (\$25,000.00) dollars, payable to the order of the commission, or board of commissioners, when appointed, for the establishment of the proposed new county of Pee Dee, when and in the event Little Rock is selected as the county seat of such new county. The money represented by this check is to be applied to the building of a court house and jail at Little Rock, and such other legal and legitimate expenses as the commission or commissioners may determine were necessarily incurred in securing the establishment of Pee Dee county—the only condition being that a majority of the qualified electors residing within the territory of the proposed new county shall vote for and Little Rock shall legally be declared the county seat thereof. We put up the cash, so that the money may speak for itself, rather than make promises which may or may not be performed. Upon the happening of the only contingency above mentioned, therefore, all that the commission or commissioners will have to do in the event a two-thirds majority of the qualified electors vote for the establishment of the new county, and Little Rock is legally declared the new county seat, is to select the site, determine upon plans, give out the contract and draw the money to pay for the court house and jail. In such contingency, too, the tax-payers will not be called upon to pay one cent, but the people of the county of Pee Dee will have all necessary county public buildings without one cent's cost to themselves. For myself, and I am authorized by my associates, to say further, that if any other place has a better offer to make, or if your committee think the sum represented by the check is not sufficient for the purpose, a further sum not exceeding five thousand (\$5,000) dollars will be forthcoming.

"In addition to the foregoing, I personally obligate and bind myself hereby to convey to the county, without charge or expense, at any point, or wherever the commission or commissioners select, the same out of my lands at Little Rock, an area of not less than four acres, as a public square, and on which to erect the court house and jail; this obligation to be irrevocable, and extend to and be binding upon my heirs and assigns.

"Assuring you of my deep in-

terest in the success of the new county, and that my services are at your command at all times and in any way that they may be used, I remain,

"James W. Hamer."

### Others to Hear From.

What the next step will be, it is not hard to prophesy. Doubtless Dillon will come forward and will see Little Rock one better, when Latta will then put up its amount and call both places. We will see what we will see, however and in the meantime the agitation and rivalry can but inure to the advantage of the establishment of the new county in bringing out the voters, etc. That is necessarily a condition precedent to the election of any place for the county seat.

### A COURT-HOUSE THE PRIZE.

Columbia State.  
According to signs, omens and predictions, South Carolina's forty-third county will come into being before a great while and will be named Pee Dee—fitting designation for a county in the heart of the Pee Dee section. But what will be the name of the courthouse of the new county? Dillon, Latta and Little Rock are the candidates and they are worthy rivals for the honor. Those unfamiliar with that section and its strength imagine them to be villages, but each is the centre of splendid agricultural territory, and their names have been more familiar to the newspaper reading public since the tobacco industry began developing in that quarter of the State.

And each of those towns has its little circle of men with means and a great deal of local spirit who are constantly pressing forward. They are pulling for their towns. What marvelous impetus would be given to some larger towns if their leading business men worked together with similar public spirit?

On "behalf of myself and associates" James W. Hamer of Little Rock sent the "manager of new county election" a certified check for \$25,000 to cover the cost of a court-house and jail, if Little Rock is made the county seat. Dillon and Latta will doubtless show their interest substantially. Only one can win, but the public spirit displayed is typical of the section, and all will be benefitted.

"Pulling together" helps, whether or not some especial object for which a particular pull is made is attained.

### Married in Fayetteville.

The parlor of the LaFayette Hotel at Fayetteville was the scene of a marriage ceremony of much interest to Dillonites on last Thursday at 3 p. m. when Mr. A. B. Watson was married to Miss Lucy Humphrey of Lumberton. The ceremony was a very quiet affair, the bride being accompanied by a friend and the groom being accompanied by Mr. Jas. Carmichael. After a brief honeymoon Mr. and Mrs. Watson returned to Dillon and are at home to their friends at the residence of the groom's father, Mr. J. R. Watson, on First avenue. The bride is a daughter of Clerk of Court Humphrey of Robeson county and is very popular among a large circle of friends. The groom is a popular salesman at the Dillon Wholesale Grocery and numbers his friends by the score.

There is no telling how much produce can be grown on an acre of Marion county land if the land is properly prepared and the crop is intelligently cultivated. Mr. Jno. B. Richardson told a Herald man a few days ago that on nine-sixteenths of an acre he had raised 800 pounds of oats, 645 pounds of fodder, 50 bushels of corn and 2 bushels of peanuts. Mr. Richardson was experimenting on the intensive plan and he prepared his land thoroughly before he planted the crops. He worked the crops thoroughly at times when he thought they needed it and the result was an unprecedented yield of food-stuffs. Mr. Richardson's success at the intensive plan of farming is evidence of the fact that the south is still laud poor.

## NO DRINK FOR TILLMAN.

From the New York Sun.  
Columbia, S. C., November 6.—Taft Day in this city inconvenienced Senator Tillman. The Governor of South Carolina has the power to suspend the sale of liquor whenever he deems it advisable. A large crowd was gathered in this city yesterday for Taft Day, and the governor ordered the dispensaries to close for two days.

Along about this time Benjamin R. Tillman hit the town. He had run over from Trenton, his home, to get two bottles of champagne. He was going to have company at home and he wanted the champagne badly. He tried two or three dispensaries, but they were closed. Then the Senator hustled up to the governor's office and appealed to his private secretary. The secretary allowed there was nothing he could do.

"Well couldn't I get two bottles on a doctor's prescription?" begged the Senator.

The secretary said the only way would be for the Senator to find some friend and perhaps this friend would give him two bottles. It would be against the law for him to sell them. For the Senator to look for a champagne cellar friend in Columbia was a hopeless proposition. Hadn't the Senator just had a big row with the Columbia Taft Day reception committee because they wanted to tax him \$10 for his seat at the Taft luncheon?

The Senator had told Columbia to go to blazes with its luncheon, or words to that effect. Finally the Governor's secretary referred the Senator to a friend of his and from him Mr. Tillman got his two quarts.

The senator was a framer of the South Carolina dispensary law, and thus was getting a good taste of his own medicine.

## REPENTANCE MEETING.

Atlanta Constitution.

The following was posted on the board at the local Cotton Exchange yesterday, and attracted quite a little attention:

"The man who can extract sunbeams from a cucumber is a genius. Capt. W. H. Johnson is a genius. He is one of the 'ten-centers' for October delivery of cotton. The other day he issued a call for a meeting to be held in Greenville. This is the call:

"A repentance meeting of all persons who sold cotton for October, November and December delivery will be held Saturday evening at the Masonic Hall. The 10-cent idiots will meet at 7 o'clock sharp. The 11-cent imbeciles will be received at 7.30 and the 12-cent invalids promptly at 8. Urgent business will come before the Octobers; prophetic talks will be made by the Novembers, and the Decembers will sing something appropriate. A "Never Again" resolution will be introduced early in the evening. The meeting will be closed by singing that grand old hymn: 'Show Pity, Lord; Oh, Lord, Forgive.'"

Installation services will be held in the Presbyterian church next Sabbath afternoon at half past three o'clock. At this service Dr. Buckner will be installed as pastor by a commission of Pee Dee Presbytery, pastor and people assuming mutual vows. A charge will be delivered to each by a member of the commission, the charge to the pastor by Rev. Mr. Viehe, of Bennettsville, that to the people by Hon. J. P. McNeill of Florence. The installation at the Presbyterian church Sunday afternoon will be preceded by communion, Sunday morning, and preparatory service at 3.30 p. m. Saturday. At each service the sermon will be by some member of the commission.

## THE SPLIT-LOG DRAG.

Mr. Editor: Mr. Winslow, road making expert from the Department at Washington, in his address at the Pee Dee Convention at Florence, is quoted as believing in the split-log drag and as saying "If the road overseers of South Carolina will see to it that these drags are provided and every road in the various townships throughout the State is thoroughly dragged once every six months there will be better roads and an easier haul for every man's team. The drag simply levels the road and leaves no rut whatsoever."

It is astonishing that our county supervisors have not adopted this simple device in the improvement of our public roads long ago, or if they will not do it, why some wide-awake road overseers does not try it. Several years ago, when Mr. I. P. Stackhouse was supervisor, the writer took the pains to give him a cut accompanied by a descriptive article of one of these drags asking that he have one made and try it, but for some reason it was never done. It is simple, inexpensive and the work it is claimed to do in filling ruts, shaping roads by pulling dirt to the middle of the road and smoothing it over, is said to be marvelous. My recollection is that at least four miles of roadway can thus be put in good shape with three mules and one hand in a day. If so each road overseer could afford to have one and go over a joint of road monthly. I presume if it was a costly machine, like a road scraper sold by some energetic agent who received a large commission upon each sale, they would be dumped upon the tax payers in large numbers. Is it possible to inject a little common sense into our road building, thus saving the travelling public from the jolts of road ruts, to say nothing of the wear and tear of vehicles and work animals?

W. J. Montgomery.

It is a little late because it happened at the State Fair but the story is too good to keep and here it is: A well-known farmer of upper Marion went to the Fair with a well-filled wallet to have a good time. He spent the week "seeing the sights" and having decided to return home Saturday on the early morning train he left a call with his land-lady for 5 o'clock a. m.

The land-lady, no doubt, was overwhelmed with the many cares incident to Fair week and failed to arouse the Marion visitor at the appointed time and when he awoke it lacked only 20 minutes before the hour his train was scheduled to leave. The room was dark but he remembered distinctly where he had placed his shirt before retiring and reaching out he seized that article of wearing apparel and plunged into it in less time than it would take to count two. Next his hand came in contact with a collar and tie and he donned these articles also like a flash. His socks he stuffed into his pocket and plunged his bare feet into a pair of shoes that "fit like the paper on the wall." Rushing down to the station he boarded the train, but imagine his surprise at daylight when he discovered that he had on two shirts; was wearing another man's collar and tie and was the possessor of a pair of shoes that not only looked, but felt, strangely uncomfortable. Nothing has been heard from the room-mate who awoke next morning to find himself minus a shirt and the possessor of another man's collar, tie, shoes and socks, but if he made any comments on the situation his remarks would not do to go in print. But the strangest part of it all is there were no dispensaries open the day before.

## YOU CAN'T MAKE MEN MORAL BY LAW.

Legislating morals into men is such a pretty theory that statesmen love to talk about it when they want to catch the public ear, but every attempt to put the theory to a practical test has always been met with failure. The "Great Moral Institution" which launched Senator Tillman into public life and carried him to the United States Senate is an example of the folly of legislating morals into men. Every phase of the question has been discussed from every conceivable point of view, but the following from the Louisville (Ky.) Argus is worth reading:

Some papers seem to think they have made a very wise and statesmanlike remark when they have succeeded in getting off this stale, much abused platitude. It is a favorite argument used by some against laws prohibiting the liquor traffic—as if the prime object of such laws is to make men moral.

There are, roughly speaking three men against whom the prohibitory laws are directed—the drinker, the drink-maker and the drunkard-maker; the buyer, the manufacturer and the seller. Now it would be a fine thing for society if all three of these classes would be made securely moral, by legislation or otherwise. But laws are not primarily designated to foster morality, as desirable as morality always is, and as necessary, if society is to endure and be strong. Laws are enacted to protect individuals and society from injurious persons and practices. Laws are intended for self-preservation. And, therefore, whenever a state or community finds growing up in the midst of it persons or practices, customs or traffic which have proved to be injurious to society or to impose unjust hardships upon individuals—more particularly the defenseless and the weak—it not only has the right, but the positive duty to step in and say to the offender, be he individual or an organized trade, "Thou shalt not." In other words it is not immorality that the law takes cognizance of, but injury. The law isn't primarily a gospel, though it may be a God-send. It is primarily a protection. Its representative is the policeman, not the preacher. Hence to claim: "You can't legislate men into morality," as an argument against liquor enactments or any other similar laws, is simply to misconstrue the prime function of civil and criminal law.

Of course all good laws do aid morality and all bad laws tend to foster immorality. This, however, is incidental and not primary.

On next Saturday, Nov. 20th, at 11 o'clock, Dr. S. C. Mitchell, President of the University of South Carolina, and Prof. D. W. Daniel, Clemson College, will make addresses in the Dillon High School auditorium. The trustees and teachers of the county are expected to be present to hear these distinguished speakers. The people of the town of Dillon also are especially invited to be present at this meeting of teachers and trustees.

A writer in a popular magazine says the life of the criminal is simply an unpoised life. If a person were perfectly poised wrongdoing would be so repugnant that it would be unthinkable. It is the one-sided, the unpoised mind that goes wrong. It is just as normal for the balanced mind to choose the right, the good, as for the magnet to draw to itself whatever is kindred. Just as the needle in the mariner's compass always points to the north star, no matter how thick the fog or how the tempest rages there is a needle within every human being which always points to the north star of rectitude, of right, of truth, no matter what storms of discord, of weakness or of crime may be raging in the individual mind. Nothing can prevent this little indicator from pointing to right, no matter how far the individual may drift from it, how low he may sink in vicious living.—Ches-terfield Advertiser.