

THE FREE CITIZEN.

PUBLISHED AT ORANCEBURG, S. C.

R. A. WEBSTER, Editor. A. WEBSTER, Publisher.

TERMS: ONE COPY, ONE YEAR, \$2.00

And I will come near to you to judgement...

NOTICE. We are not responsible for the views of our correspondents.

SAURDAY, APRIL 17, 1875.

Newspaper Law. We invite attention to the law concerning newspapers:

- 1. Subscribers who do not give express notice to the contrary are considered as wishing to continue their subscription.

5. The Courts have decided that refusing to take a paper or periodical from the office, or removing and leaving it uncollected, is prima facie evidence of intentional fraud.

STRIKES.

There has been too much of this business done in every part of the country, especially in the North it has been of late quite overdone.

We are in favor of strikes against the use of tobacco and whiskey, and all kinds of intemperance and extravagance.

The workingmen, if they wish to better their way of life, must do it as all others must—that is, begin at home.

Applause is the spur of noble minds; the end and aim of weak ones.

The Great Libel Suit.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, COUNTY OF ORANCEBURG, IS THE COMMON PLEAS.

[PRELUDE.] Barnabas Williamson, Plaintiff, vs. Alonzo Webster and Eugene A. Webster, Defendants.

The plaintiff, complaining of the defendants alleges:

First, For a First Cause of Action: I. That the plaintiff, prior to the time of the commission of the grievances hereinafter mentioned, had been engaged in business in the town and County of Orangeburg in the said State as clerk in the office of John L. Humbert, who was then the County Treasurer for the County as aforesaid.

II. That at the time of the commission of the said grievances, the plaintiff was engaged in business in the said town and county, as clerk in the office of John H. Livingston, Esq., who was then, and still is, the County Treasurer for the county aforesaid.

III. That until the commission of the said grievances, the plaintiff had always maintained a good reputation for honesty and integrity, and had not been guilty of any of the offences charged against him in the libel hereinafter set forth.

IV. That the success of the plaintiff in his business as clerk as aforesaid depended on his good reputation and credit, and on the confidence of the public in his honesty and integrity.

That at the time hereinafter mentioned, the defendant, Eugene A. Webster, was the editor and proprietor, and the defendant, Alonzo Webster, was the publisher of the Free Citizen, a newspaper published in the town of Orangeburg, in the county and State aforesaid.

[FIRST VERSE.] VI. That on the thirteenth day of January, A. D. 1875, the defendants maliciously composed and published, concerning the plaintiff, in the said newspaper, a certain article, containing the false and defamatory matter following, to wit:

"An inexperienced young man" (meaning the said John L. Humbert) "was appointed through Judge Andrews," (meaning Thaddeus C. Andrews, then and now State Senator for said county) "to the responsible position of treasurer," (meaning County Treasurer for Orangeburg County.) "Mr. Williamson (meaning the plaintiff) "who had served in that capacity for Judge Andrews, was Humbert's chief clerk, and held a key to the safe," (meaning the safe of the County Treasurer for said county.) "No person in the office, (meaning the said County Treasurer's office) "could better know of its management than Mr. Williamson. If anything was wrong to his knowledge, he was in a position to inform Judge Andrews, who could have the treasurer removed at pleasure. But the internal workings of the office are kept carefully concealed, until funds have escaped from its carefully guarded vaults to the amount of \$24,000," (meaning that there was stolen from the safe aforesaid of the said County Treasurer the sum of twenty-four thousand dollars.) "Then when the facts are forced upon the public, they are asked to believe that no one guilty but the unfortunate young man, (meaning the said John L. Humbert) who has been making his official lessons under the guidance of an experienced tutor," (meaning the plaintiff and the said Thaddeus C. Andrews.) "Humbert has been promised exemption from punishment on certain conditions, and in the meantime adroit plans have been had to ruin his testimony." "Now, in regard to this whole matter, there is a fearful responsibility somewhere. No one believes that Humbert is the only guilty party. We do not say that it belongs to Senator Andrews," (meaning thereby to charge that the plaintiff was guilty of grand larceny, and of stealing and embezzling the public moneys in the office of the County Treasurer for said county.) [CHORUS.]

VII. That the said publication was calculated to degrade the plaintiff in the opinion of the community, to injure him in his business as clerk as aforesaid, and to blacken and injure his reputation for honesty and integrity.

VIII. That by means of the said publication the plaintiff was injured

in his business and reputation five thousand dollars.

Secondly, For a second cause of action:

[INTERLUDE—SAME AS PRELUDE.] [SECOND VERSE.]

VI. That on the 5th day of February, A. D. 1875, the defendants maliciously composed and published concerning the plaintiff, in the said newspaper, a certain article, containing the false and defamatory matter following, to wit:

"The argument of the Budgeter" "Our readers will recollect an article in our issue of last week, upon 'Our County Affairs.' It contained a reference to the well-known fact of a depleted treasury, and robbery of our county funds," (meaning that a large amount of public moneys had been stolen from the office of the County Treasurer for Orangeburg County during the official term of John L. Humbert, as County Treasurer for said county.) "It seems that Mr. Williamson" (meaning the plaintiff) "Humbert's chief clerk, thought himself too intimately identified with these transactions as indicated in the article in question." "This argument of the Budgeter (meaning a personal altercation between the plaintiff and the said Eugene A. Webster) "can accomplish certain objects, while there are others quite beyond its reach. Although the champion of the cloth (meaning the plaintiff) may stoically brandish his weapon, yet its menace or its blow cannot hush into silence the truth-telling whispers of his own conscience, nor can fill the empty vaults of our depleted treasury; nor can such desultory deeds cause the people of this county to believe that himself (meaning the plaintiff) and the present Senator of our county were in a large degree ignorant of what was being done when these vaults were being quietly emptied," (meaning thereby to charge that the plaintiff was guilty of grand larceny, and that the plaintiff was an accessory in the robbery of the public moneys in the office of the County Treasurer of said county to a large amount.) [CHORUS.]

[THIRDS VERSE.]

VI. That on the thirteenth day of February, A. D. 1875, the defendants maliciously composed and published concerning the plaintiff in the said newspaper the false and defamatory matter following, to wit:

"Our County Treasurer, Mr. Dervey introduced the following resolution in the Senate:"

"Resolved, That the treasurer of Orangeburg County, be requested, within five days, to inform the Senate whether he has, in his capacity as clerk, and possessor of the safe, been guilty of grand larceny, and of embezzling the public moneys in the office of the County Treasurer of said county."

"Resolved, That the treasurer of Orangeburg County, be requested, within five days, to inform the Senate whether he has, in his capacity as clerk, and possessor of the safe, been guilty of grand larceny, and of embezzling the public moneys in the office of the County Treasurer of said county."

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of our present treasurer (meaning the plaintiff) "bears a striking resemblance to the individual whose abilities and experience were wasted upon Humbert" (meaning the said John L. Humbert.) "and is supposed to be the one Senator Andrews selected to control its management; who would believe that the office" (meaning the office of the said John L. Humbert, County Treasurer as aforesaid) "could be loosely kept without his knowledge." (meaning the plaintiff) "wondering having a key to the safe," (meaning the safe of the County Treasurer for the said county) "that Humbert asserts that his chief clerk did have one." This seems to be a tender spot with him (meaning the plaintiff) and he seeks with a hindoo and the conduct of a bully, to enforce the correctness of his denial. But does he not like an innocent, injured man? Nay, rather is not his conduct an intentional proof of his guilt? meaning thereby to charge that the plaintiff was guilty of grand larceny, and of stealing and embezzling the public moneys in the office of the County Treasurer for the County of Orangeburg aforesaid.

[CHORUS.] [SYMPHONY.]

Wherefore the plaintiff demands judgment against the defendants for the sum of twenty thousand dollars, and costs.

IZLAR & DIBBLE, Plaintiff's Attorney.

In the above complaint the matter enclosed in brackets was no part of the original, but inserted by us to save space, and the trouble of resetting the same matter.—Ed.

THE "EASY CHAIR" CONCERNING HARPER. This is the three hundredth number of Harper's Magazine, the last number of its twenty-fifth year.

With June it begins its twenty-sixth year and its fifty-first volume. Those of its friends who have the early numbers still recognize the familiar exterior, for that has never changed. The little cherub, its good genius, still sits up aloft delecting the world in sign of the universal sympathy to which he appeals, and showing his rainbow labile in token of the bright and pleasant way in which he seeks to entertain the world.

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Through all these twenty-five years and those three hundred numbers, it has very pleasantly done so that the words between the Magazine and its readers have never been so strong, and that it is now toward its first century with a firmer hold upon the public than ever. It has seen many sad many triumphs spring up around it, some of which have fallen asleep, while others are wide awake, and among them none more so.

The old Graham and the International Forum—to mention two—were the old popular of its early competitors. They are arrogant, and the younger have prospered and outstripped, and furnish with Harper's monthly best which to the reader of Graham's Magazine thirty years ago would seem miraculous for its variety and excellence. During all this time, too, the general character of this periodical has not essentially changed. It has, of course, immensely improved, and it is, we may say, equally of course, very much better to-day than ever before, simply because the resources of a magazine to-day are so very much greater than they were twenty-five years ago. And if the general character is much the same, whatever the advance in development may be, it is because the original conception of what a magazine in America should be was so felicitous and accurate. The immense success and popularity of the Monthly prove it.—FORBES'S EASY CHAIR, in Harper's Magazine of May.

When Plato was told that he had many enemies who spoke ill of him, he replied, "It is no matter, I shall try to live so that no one will believe them."

ADVERTISEMENTS. MISCELLANEOUS.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, OFFICE SECRETARY OF STATE, COLUMBIA, S. C. Feb. 4th, 1875.

The FREE CITIZEN is hereby designated as one of the newspapers for the publication of all legal notices, and official advertisements for the County of Orangeburg, under the Act approved February 22d, 1870 entitled "An Act to regulate the publication of all legal and public notices and all former orders of this Board in relation with this is hereby rescinded."

H. E. HAYNE, Sec'y of State and Sec'y of Board. I. H. E. HAYNE, Secretary of State, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original, now on file in this office.

H. E. HAYNE, Secretary of State.

Complete Historical History of the Times.—The best, cheapest, and most successful Family Paper in the Union.

Harper's Weekly. ILLUSTRATED. Notices of the Press.

The Weekly is the ablest and most powerful illustrated periodical published in this country. Its editorial are scholarly and convincing, and carry much weight.

TERMS: Harper's Weekly, one year, \$4.00. Subscriptions to Harper's Magazine, Weekly, and Bazar, to one address for one year, \$10.00; or, two of Harper's Periodicals, to one for one year, \$5.00.

HARPER & BROTHERS, New York.

FIRE! FIRE!! FIRE!!! T. KOHN & BRO.,

The Brick Store

RESCUED STOCK

The Goods Must be Sold,

Rare Bargains:

Theodore Kohn & Bro.

At McMASTER'S BRICK STORE. Orangeburg, Jan. 21, 1875.

ADVERTISEMENTS. MISCELLANEOUS.

GRAND OPENING!

I will open this morning a lot of the Finest Teas,

ever offered in this market, consisting of UNCOLORED JAPAN OOLONGS, SOUCHONGS, YOUNG HYSONS, and GUNPOWERS,

And in order to cultivate a trade for these fine grades I will sell them VERY LOW.

Solomon's Fancy Flour

Finest Selected Wheat

PURE WHITE KEROSENE

FLOODING THE MARKET

CHOICE GROCERIES,

My stock is full, with prices low and good times coming

Thanking the public for their very liberal patronage, and soliciting its continuance, I will do my best to merit the same.

HARDY SOLOMON, Columbia, So. Co.