

# The People

W. A. SCHROCK, PUBLISHER.

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## THE CONCEALED WEAPON

At the outset of our editorial career we wish to put ourselves on record as unreservedly in opposition to the law which is supposed to regulate the carrying of concealed weapons. There is absolutely no justice and no logic in it.

Suppose that we, a concededly law-abiding citizen, should happen to offend a bravo or bully at an unexpected moment, what chance have we for our life or limb against the pistol which that bravo or bully invariably carries? Not a ghost of a chance, and all because the fool law of South Carolina says that we cannot carry a pistol, or concealed weapon, that is less than twenty inches long and weighs not less than three pounds.

This editorial is called forth principally because of the unfortunate shooting scrape of last week. The time has come, in our judgement, when any citizen may be allowed to carry a weapon of defense against the attacks of braves, bullies, madmen or inebriates, and when any citizen is attacked by such characters, and happens to pot his man, he should be promptly exonerated by a coroner's jury and allowed to go on about his business, just as if he had killed a mad dog.

We have already stated in an editorial that we would not allow any matter of a criminal nature to appear in our paper because of the fact that we could not see that the recital of it taught any moral lesson, but when such occurrences as that of last week come to our attention we think it our duty to call attention to one of the most ridiculous laws on our statute books. We have always been of the opinion that the anti dueling law was a mistake. Why two gentlemen should not be allowed to go out upon the field of honor, and the affair being concluded, call it square, and quit, we don't see.

Sometimes somebody gets hurt, and sometimes, in this State especially, somebody would get killed, but as a rule gentlemen would be subjected to fewer insults, and we think the morals of the community at large would be raised.

The latter portion of this editorial is hardly appropriate to the title or general tenor of the body part, but we have a bad habit of allowing our individual opinions to creep into almost everything we write, so we hope that our readers will excuse us for this digression.

## SPAIN KELLY ACQUITTED.

The trial of Spain Kelly for murder, at Bishopville, resulted as was partly expected in a verdict of acquittal. We speak advisedly in using the words "partly expected" for the young man committed this murder under the influence of strong passion, induced by the thoughts of a sister's wrongs, or in defense of the family honor.

The killing of Creech was done however in such a particularly ferocious manner that in our judgment the jury should have found Kelly guilty even if the Governor had pardoned him within ten minutes after the verdict was rendered. We take this position solely in the interest of law and order, and not through any feeling that we have in the matter. South Carolinians will always uphold parties who commit acts similar to that of Kelly under like provocation, but every good citizen will condemn acts of barbarism coupled with brute ferocity.

Ask for the White Knight, the best smoke on the market. For sale by the Camden Drug Company.

## THE MONUMENT FUND.

We print this week the plan of the National Fraternal Union of Murray, Ky. providing for the erection of a monument to cost not less than one hundred dollars over the remains of any member enrolled on their books. This plan we endorse in its entirety.

The cost of membership in this fraternal organization is so little that anyone who neglects to provide a fitting memorial of himself or herself stands in their own light. The National Fraternal Union is one of the strongest fraternal organizations in the United States, and any contract or promise they make you will be faithfully performed.

We have a fine lodge of this order here of which the editor is the secretary, if anyone else than our present members feel interested, call on us for further information, and hand in your application.

## Death of a Congressman.

On the morning of the 10th inst., at Washington, D. C., died Col. Geo. W. Croft, Congressman from the old Geo. D. Tillman District, of blood poisoning. The loss of Colonel Croft will be keenly felt not only in the District he represented but throughout the State. He was one of our most gifted orators, and in this day when fine oratory counts for so much, the loss of one in our galaxy of stars in that line cannot but be felt.

In this death we see upon what small events hangs the destiny of man. A month or so ago he had a small splinter broken off in his thumb. This would seem to be a simple thing that would not be followed by evil results; but, simple as it may appear, that little splinter has caused the death of a brilliant man, an ornament to his State, and robbed a family of a loving and highly honored head.

Col. Croft's remains were transported to Aiken, his home, and at the request of the family were assumed charge of by the local lodge of Knights of Pythias of that place. This order appointed pallbearers who represented not only the order but the different civic and other delegations present.

## Society Notes.

The beautiful sunny weather of the past week has made all kinds of outdoor sports not only possible, but enjoyable.

As if it was the engrossing game of the week, this was more than fortunate, and the links were in good condition. On Thursday last Mrs. R. L. Barstow won the cup given by the Country Club for the ladies match-play handicap tournament, defeating Mr. Kerr of Pittsburg.

Last Thursday afternoon quite a merry party, among whom were Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Barstow, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Kerr, and Mr. Dalton Kennedy took advantage of the special train run from Columbia for the purpose, and enjoyed seeing Miss Bingham in "Olympic," the play which created quite a furore in New York.

The paper chase of the last week was once again led by Mr. Russell, from Court Inn about five miles out in the country. Mr. Wm. Sterritt was "in at the death," closely followed by Miss Mary Castej. Tea was served at Court Inn on their return.

Only a practice game of polo was played on last Friday afternoon, as many of the players had been over to Columbia on Thursday night, and were going down the next day to Charleston for the golf tournament to take place between that city and Camden. An excursion train was run on Friday afternoon to the city by the sea, and about thirty-five golfers and others took advantage of the occasion. Among them were Mr. and Mrs. Barstow, Messrs. Lloyd Springman, Caleb Moore, G. H. Baum, C. J. Shannon, Withers, Yates, Prof. R. M. Kennedy and Capt. W. M. Shannon.

All declared the outing most enjoyable, in spite of the fact that Victory, that most sly dame, refused to smile upon Camden's heretofore unmatched golfers. Many of the guests from all the hotels look forward with eagerness for the picnic morning to be spent at Cool Spring on Thursday, and the abundance of airy refreshments and good cheer could not fail to satisfy the most fastidious.

A day under the pines is indeed a rare treat except in our sunny Southland.

At the County School Teachers meeting on Saturday, the Secretary, W. Allen, announced that possibly the pupils of Camden had been taken into the pleasure of hearing Mr. Parsons, of Boston, give one of his "Lecture Notes" at the next meeting in April. Mr. Parsons is making a tour of the South and Camden will be fortunate to secure him. It is almost a certainty that next week will find Camden gayer than ever this season, for if the rumored match game of polo take place between New Orleans and our famous little city, excursions from all sections will be run and a gala week may be expected. If all arrangements turn out well, the horses will arrive from New Orleans this week and the dates and hours for games made public as soon as possible.

## Cowards Not Wanted.

By Hon. Robert M. Follette, Governor of Wisconsin. I say that the State wants good citizens, but it wants men with something more than passive goodness. It wants many men, who will stand up in every community and contend for the right. It wants brave men, men who will take the field and marshal the forces of public opinion for the public good. Private interest is selfish enough to resent encroachment upon its own prerogatives. But the State must look to the citizen to protect its honor, preserve its integrity and perpetuate its life.

The State has no use for cowards. The most despicable of all characters is that which surrenders honest belief to compromise with wrong, because it is powerful. The man who is not loyal to his own convictions cannot be loyal to his country. He who would betray public interest in time of peace would betray the flag in time of the war for a sufficient reason. The violation of a public trust is treason to the individual, to the state, and to God. If bad results can be secured by the united action of bad men, good results can be achieved by the united action of good men, if pursued with the same tenacity of purpose, the same faith in ultimate success. To question this is to question the final outcome of the struggle between good and evil, which has been going on since the world began. It is to doubt the Divine origin, the final salvation of the race.

"Them's my sentiments." Uncle Abe Rabon in a county convention many years ago and now endorsed by the Editor.



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## RAILROAD OF S. C.

Time Table No. 5. To take effect Sunday, January 10, 1904, at 11.01 a. m. Superimposed Time Table No. 4, dated November 3, 1903.

Table with columns for Train Name, No. 77, and No. 78. Includes routes like Lv Sumter, Lv N. W. Junction, Lv Tindal, etc.

Table with columns for Train Name, No. 72, and No. 76. Includes routes like Lv Wilson's Mill, Ar Jordan, Ar Davis Station, etc.

Table with columns for Train Name, No. 78, and No. 74. Includes routes like Lv Millard, Ar St. Paul, Lv St. Paul, Ar Millard.

Table with columns for Train Name, No. 68, and No. 70. Includes routes like Lv Camden, Sou. Ry. Junction, Ar Ellerbee, etc.

Table with columns for Train Name, No. 69, and No. 71. Includes routes like Lv Sumter, N. W. Junction, Daltzell, etc.

No. 66 leaves Camden Mon., Wed. and Friday at 1 p. m., Ar. Sumter 2.40. No. 67 leaves Sumter Tues., Thurs. Sat. 11.00 a. m., Ar. Camden 2.00 p. m.

THOMAS WILSON, President.

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in the City of Camden, S. C. SEE ME FOR PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS BEFORE GIVING OUT ANY CONTRACT.

Anyone wanting work done in my line can leave their name and address at the office of The People, and I will call on them.

Trespass Notice. All persons are hereby warned not to trespass, by hunting or otherwise, on lands leased by me, known as the Salmond Place, in Kershaw County. T. G. WILLIAMS.

## An Invitation

Is extended you to attend our opening of Easter bonnets March 23 to 25. Camden Millinery Co.

Misses Bell Thomson and Susie Young, Proprietors.

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