

The People

W. S. SCHROCK, PUBLISHER.

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THE LIEN LAW.

As we announced last week that we would have something to say about the lien law in this issue, we want to address ourselves to the people in general in this editorial, and to our legislators in particular.

For some years the impression has been growing in the minds of thinking people that the lien law has grown to be a curse to the State, and a most potent factor in retarding its growth. Unfortunately, however, all are not thinking people, a fact that is well known to our legislators collectively, so all efforts towards effecting its repeal in both Senate and House have proved futile. The reason is patent. Each and every one of these unthinking fellows has a vote, and while every legislator of average intelligence will tell you in confidence that he thinks the lien law a bad one that should be repealed, when the question of aye or nay is sprung on him in the House or Senate, he serenely has his vote recorded as against repeal.

This is politics, no doubt, but as to his honesty we have our doubts. To this catering to the unthinking element of our population, and to the supineness of a large majority of our country journalists in the matter we must attribute the fact that the lien law was not repealed years ago. As matters are with us now, its repeal has become an absolute necessity. The moderately comfortable farmer, both white and colored, has been obliged to curtail his planting operations because of lack of labor. The larger planters have been compelled to throw out of cultivation thousands of acres for the same cause.

Why? Because of the lien law primarily, which makes it possible for able-bodied hands to buy \$210 mules on credit, give a rent lien for three bales of cotton, and an agricultural lien for \$75, and at the same time not having an ear of corn or a pound of meat to his name.

There is no question that this fellow (and he is not the exception) would make a noble hand for some good farmer in his neighborhood, and would certainly make more money for himself by contracting to work for a man of that kind than he will make under present conditions. Our readers will note that this party has contracted a debt of not less than \$400 before running a furrow in the ground.

In the light of the fact that labor is growing yearly scarcer, not only in this, but in every county in the State, why should not the legislature give the people relief by repealing the law that we hold responsible for all the mischief? There is no use to talk longer about it. The lien law must be either repealed, or the world in a few years see our farms of the present transformed into Chinese gardens.

Our legislators, in their wisdom, may conclude to allow this state of things to come to pass, but as certainly as the sun shines on a clear day it will come if this iniquitous law is not repealed, and that speedily.

THE RETORT DISCOURTEOUS.

The Camden People is the most frank advocate of Mr. Hearst that we have noticed. The People concedes that Mr. Hearst is not as clean as he might be, but says he has the money and will spend it and that it takes money to win. The People says it advocates fighting the devil with fire; in other words that unscrupulousness must be met with unscrupulousness. When the victory is won, it says, then the better element can step in and take control of affairs. Well, that is an honest advocate of dishonesty. But if we were to sell out why not invite bids? And, by the way, whence will that "better element" in the party come that will take control after Hearst has done the dirty work? Will there be any "better element" or any honest element or any decency in a party which en-

dorses such dishonorable methods? Every advocate of Hearst, believing him to be that kind of man and proposing such methods is an accessory before the fact, a corruptorist at heart.—Columbia State.

Any newspaper that is edited by a gentleman, usually, when making a criticism as broad as the above, prints the editorial criticized in full. The State however is not noted for its courtesy towards its contemporaries. The publication of the editorial in full enables the reader to draw his own conclusions and not take the word of the critic for it.

We want to repeat and emphasize what we said in our Hearst editorial.

1st. Wm. R. Hearst, to have been mixed up in politics as long as he has been, is tolerably clean.

2nd. He has plenty of money, and it will take lots of it to win the Presidency from the Republican party.

3d. He is not afraid to spend his money to win, and he can win.

These are three cogent reasons which cannot be matched by the advocates of Judge Parker. There is another, and a most vital reason why Mr. Hearst, and not Judge Parker, should receive the nomination. Hearst can carry New York as easily as can Judge Parker, and by the use of money, which Judge Parker has not, and cannot control, other doubtful States.

We believe that the Democratic party has grown tired of putting up so-called moral figure-heads only to see them knocked out on election day. Any party that depends entirely upon the votes of the good people of the country to elect its candidate will never win out. This fact should be as well known to the writer of the criticism published as it is to us. If he does not know it, he should resign his position as editorial writer and beg some publisher of a religious journal to give him a job as "devil" in its office.

Concluding, we treat with contempt the accusation contained in the list paragraph of the criticism. We do not want to treat discourtesy with discourtesy but we do say that no one other than a bald-pated idiot could have drawn such conclusions from our editorial.

TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS.

Numerous complaints have reached us from the very first issue of "The People" from subscribers not receiving it. This is extremely annoying to us, and also somewhat expensive as we feel in honor bound to duplicate the copy mailed to complainant. We want to remark on and to emphasize the fact that we personally write the address of every subscriber and personally see that the paper addressed is deposited in our postoffice here for distribution in this and other states, so if you don't get "The People" regularly every week it is your misfortune and not our fault.

The trouble in this case we think arises partly through the carelessness of postmasters in delivering mail addressed to others to irresponsible parties, and partly to the stealage of our paper by these parties after it has been delivered to them, they not being subscribers, but of course anxious to see it as everyone is. If those of our regular subscribers who have been annoyed by the non-receipt of their paper will instruct their postmasters not to deliver their mail to anyone without an order we think that this trouble will be obviated to a large extent.

We don't want to make this too long, but will cite a couple of instances in which we know that the postmaster could not have gone wrong in the delivery as the names of the parties are peculiar to the office.

Mr. E. P. Shedd, Box 12, Camden, says that he has never received but two copies of "The People" from the office. Mr. W. T. Bell says the same thing, and we have no doubt at all that it is because of stealage by carriers or messengers that they haven't received them regularly, for we would be willing to take an oath on a stack of Bibles as high as the market steple that we address and see delivered to the postoffice a copy of the paper each week.

We hope that "The People" grows older that while it will constantly grow in favor, people will grow used to it and not steal it.

THE SON OF HIS FATHER.

The son of his father is sometimes a pretty good fellow, capable of filling his father's shoes, and some times he isn't. In the case of Mr. Theodore Croft who wants to fill out the unexpired term of his father in Congress, we want to say that we do not know Mr. Croft, either personally or by reputation, so cannot advance an opinion of the young man's capacity.

As we understand the candidacy of Mr. Croft, he will not stand for re-election. In this connection, the Columbia Record has this to say?

"When Theodore Croft asks the voters of the Second Congressional District to send him to Washington to fill out his father's term, and pledges himself not to ask further election, he simply says to those voters, 'I want you to delay your real representation in Washington for one year.' And the voters of the Second District are not going to throw away their representation."

In this comment against sentimental nonsense we heartily concur.

Society Notes.

The past week, previous to Easter, has been a quiet one in social circles—two polo games played on Tuesday and Saturday, respectively, being the only amusement. The Reds were victors on both occasions, the score on Saturday standing 4 1/2 to 3 1/2. The cups for this game were given by Mrs. Sam Russell. The spectators were treated on Tuesday to a little more excitement than was agreeable when Mr. R. L. Barstow was struck in the mouth with a mallet, causing one of his teeth to be broken, but all were relieved, and cheered, when he pluckily arose from the fall and, calling for a new steed, played on until the end of the game.

On April 2d the golfers from Charleston were defeated by Camden, the players here being Messrs. Springman, Yates, Barstow, King, Ticknor, Kirkpatrick, Williams and Russell.

Messrs. Meble and Cottam, of New Orleans, complimented Mr. and Mrs. Barstow and Miss Barstow with a dinner at the Kirkwood.

The Easter services at the Methodist and Episcopal Churches were most beautiful and impressive, both churches being decorated simply, but tastefully. The music at Grace Church was furnished by the Trio from the Kirkwood, assisted by the choir, and was, without doubt, the finest of its kind ever heard in Camden.

Large congregations attended all the churches, and mass was held in the Roman Catholic Chapel by Father Fleming, of Columbia.

Notices having been published in the papers last week inviting the public to attend a meeting to be held in the High School building on Monday night for the purpose of organizing a Historical Society for Kershaw County, a dozen or more representative citizens met at 8 o'clock, and Mr. Trantham was asked to preside. The members were enrolled, a Constitution was framed, and the usual business proceedings followed, after which the name of the Association was discussed, many favoring the title of the Historical Association of Camden in preference to Kershaw.

The next meeting will be held on April 12th at 8 p. m. in the High School building, and all are urged to join and help collect the relics and historic data of our county.

The disgracefully small, but appreciative, audience that was present at the Benefit Concert given by the Kirkwood Trio on Monday night at the Opera House was certainly a commentary on the capability and desire of the Camden people to enjoy a rare musical treat, for each number on the programme was rendered with a mastery and delicacy which could not be excelled, and called forth endless applause and numerous encores.

The selections, though classic, were interpreted in such a soul-stirring manner that savage, indeed, must be he who could not understand and enjoy it.

Mrs. Mandeville was never in better voice, and the wonderful power and cultivation shown in her rendition of "An African Love Song" was only excelled by the intense sweetness of the Love Lyrics, "Roses After Rain," and the "Sweetest Flower that Ever Blows."

The members of the Trio need no introduction to the Camden public, for Sunday after Sunday Grace Church has been crowded to hear them play, while every Sunday and Wednesday evening the seeming music lovers have flocked to the Kirkwood, standing room being almost at a premium on last Sunday night, when these gifted musicians lent their talent for the enjoyment of all.

It is to be sincerely hoped for the sake of the reputation of our town that the conflicting meetings of the Historical Association and the Kershaw Guards drill were somewhat the cause of the miserable attendance, for otherwise one will be forced to conclude that Camdenians have no love of music in their souls when pitted against the jingle of a few small coins in their pockets.

The Auction Party held at the residence of the Rev. Mr. Gordon on Tuesday afternoon was a great success, and

received a helpful vote for the Ladies Aid Society.

Mr. Jordan Garrison, of our town, to Miss Ella Eames, of Columbia, Ga., on April 12th. Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Garrison will go on to the wedding, and the bride and groom will pay Camden a visit in June.

Quite a number of Columbians and friends from other sections have come on to attend the Heyward-Shannon wedding on Wednesday night at Grace Church—among them are Miss Carrie Heyward, Mr. Heyward, Mrs. Gambrell, Mrs. Spann, of Sumter, and Messrs. Kershaw, William and Randolph Shannon.

Another wedding of interest to the people of Camden is that of Miss Jennie Davis and Mr. Manigault, of Charleston, to take place next week in El Paso, Texas. Miss Salife Davis left a week or so ago to be present at her sister's wedding.

Invitations have also been received to the marriage of Mr. Belton O. Boykin, son of Mr. H. R. Boykin, now of Charleston, to Miss Mary Wells, of the same city, to take place April 14th.

Bethune Items.

There will be a picnic and reunion of Confederate veterans at Bethune on Friday, April 23d, to which the public is invited. An address will be delivered by some prominent speaker.

Mrs. Rozier, wife of Mr. W. S. Rozier, died at her home a few miles above town on last Monday, and was buried at the Scotch burying ground on Tuesday. She leaves a husband and several small children.

A man named Joe Clarke was in town Saturday night, on his way, so he claimed, to attend his wife's funeral, a few miles up the country. He proceeded to celebrate the occasion by getting gloriously drunk, and finally landed in the town lock-up. A friend paid his fine, however, and he went on his way, probably a wiser, if not a better, man.

The circus which exhibited here last week was pronounced by competent judges to be the "bestest" show ever held in this section. The jokes were all on the Methodist and Baptist.

Dr. J. C. Foster is off on a visit to Kershaw and Lancaster.

A private letter received from N. K. McKinnon, who is on a visit to Alabama, we learn that his brother, Mr. Chan. A. McKinnon, who has been very ill, is improving.

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Ross, of Logan, W. Va., are on a visit to their daughter, Mrs. A. T. Bethune.

Misses Burtie King, Gussie Hough, Messrs. Percy King and Charlie Price attended Easter services at Union church last Sunday.

Honor roll of Bethune graded school: 1st Grade.—Freston Morris and Eddie McClean.

2d Grade.—Charlie Sowell.

3d Grade.—Terena McDonald, Luther Sowell and Bertha King.

R. F. D. No. 1.

An epidemic of marrying seems to have struck this section during the past week. Last Wednesday night Misses Susie and Bloom Steward, twin sisters, were married at Bethany Methodist parsonage, by Rev. E. F. Scoggins, to Messrs. Wm. Stephens and Abraham Riley, respectively. On Sunday morning, the 2d inst., at the residence of the bride's parents, S. F. Gardner, military public, officiating, Miss Mabel Hall, of the Stanley Grove section, was married to Mr. J. H. Hough, of Oatrick. On Sunday afternoon, April 2d, Miss Fannie Holland and Mr. Stafford Arant were married.

The Epworth League, recently organized at Bethany church, is in a flourishing condition. The next meeting will be held at the church on Saturday night, April 10th.

A flourishing base ball club was organized at Tiller's ferry about two weeks ago, and the boys have already done some splendid playing. They are anxious to paralyze Bethune's invincibles as soon as they get the opportunity.

BETHUNE, S. C., April 5.

Money to Loan.

On farm lands in sums of \$500 up to \$1,000, at 8 per cent; in sums of \$1,000 up to \$7,000, at 7 per cent. No commission charged.

S. LOGAN LANG.

NORTHWESTERN RAILROAD OF S. C.

Time Table No. 5. To take effect Sunday, January 10, 1904, at 12:01 a. m., superseding Time Table No. 4, dated November 2, 1903.

BETWEEN WILSON'S MILL & SUMNER, TRAINS GOING SOUTH.		
	No. 76	No. 78
Lv Sumter	4:50 p m	8:30 p m
Lv N. W. Junction	4:58 p m	8:38 p m
Lv Tindal	5:20 p m	8:47 p m
Lv Parksville	5:50 p m	9:00 p m
Lv Silver	6:25 p m	9:25 p m
Lv Millard	6:40 p m	9:40 p m
Lv Summertown	6:50 p m	9:55 p m
Lv Davis	7:15 p m	9:55 p m
Lv Jordan	7:30 p m	9:55 p m
Ar Wilson's Mill	8:00 p m	7:00 p m

TRAINS GOING NORTH.		
	No. 72	No. 76
Lv Wilson's Mill	8:40 a m	6:00 a m
Ar Jordan	9:00 a m	6:20 a m
Ar Davis Station	9:45 a m	6:55 a m
Ar Summertown	10:15 a m	7:15 a m
Ar Millard	10:20 a m	7:20 a m
Ar Silver	10:45 a m	
Ar Parksville	11:00 a m	7:45 a m
Ar Tindal	11:30 a m	8:15 a m
Ar N. W. Junction	12:27 p m	8:45 a m
Ar Sumter	12:30 p m	9:15 a m

BETWEEN MILLARD & ST. PAUL, TRAINS GOING SOUTH.		
	No. 78	No. 75
Lv Millard	4:45 p m	10:20 a m
Ar St. Paul	4:40 p m	10:30 a m

BETWEEN SUMNER & CAMDEN, TRAINS GOING SOUTH.		
	No. 88	No. 70
Lv Camden	4:15 p m	7:00 a m
Sou. Ry. Junction	4:25 p m	7:10 a m
Ar Elbertee	4:38 p m	7:20 a m
Ar Roberts	4:48 p m	7:40 a m
Ar Borden	4:58 p m	8:00 a m
Ar Dalzell	5:15 p m	8:25 a m
Ar N. W. Junction	5:48 p m	8:58 a m
Ar Sumter	5:45 p m	9:00 a m

TRAINS GOING NORTH.		
	No. 60	No. 71
Lv Sumter	6:25 p m	9:30 a m
N. W. Junction	6:27 p m	9:28 a m
Dalzell	6:47 p m	9:59 a m
Borden	7:05 p m	10:10 a m
Roberts	7:20 p m	10:21 a m
Elbertee	7:35 p m	10:31 a m
Sou. Ry. Junction	7:50 p m	10:51 a m
Ar Camden	8:00 p m	11:10 a m

No. 66 leaves Camden Mon., Wed. and Friday at 1 p m, ar. Sumter 2:40. No. 67 leaves Sumter Tues., Thurs. 11:00 a m, ar. Camden 2:00 p m. THOMAS WILSON, President.

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