

## CURRENT TOPICS.

### WHAT YOU KNOW AND WHAT YOU DON'T KNOW.

#### A String Band in Demand--Two New Electric Lights--Personals and Other News.

Gen. W. W. Harlee, of Florence, is in town to-day.

Mr. T. S. Joy has returned from his trip to New York.

Mr. S. Jerkowski, of New York, is visiting Mr. S. Marco.

Mr. K. L. Rogers, of Mont. Clare, was in the city Sunday.

Mr. W. A. Brunson, of Florence, spent Wednesday in town.

Dr. T. W. Bouchier, of Bennettsville, was in town this week.

Mr. E. E. Kirven, of Darlington, has moved to Sumter county.

Mr. A. R. Garner, of Syracuse, was in the city on last Saturday.

Col. Knox Livingstone, of Bennettsville, was in town last week.

Mr. H. H. Newton, of Bennettsville, spent part of the week in town.

Mr. Ben Smoot has returned from his trip to New York and Washington.

Mr. J. S. Burch has returned from his trip to Washington and New York.

Mr. S. A. Woods reached home yesterday morning from his trip to New York.

Mr. J. E. Norment has returned from his trip to Washington and New York.

Today is St. Patrick's day, and it will be observed by the Irish in all parts of the land.

Master Archie Dargan entertained his young friends with a very pleasant sociable on Friday night.

Mr. J. E. Boyd, who has been attending the Charleston Medical College, is at home for the vacation.

Messrs. F. M. Rogers, S. A. Gregg, W. A. Brunson and F. A. Wilcox, all of Florence, were in town this week.

Dr. R. M. Galloway, a former resident of the county, but now of Johnston, S. C. is visiting relatives here.

Mr. A. A. Howlett, of Syracuse, N. Y., one of the directors of the G. S. & N. Railroad, was in town last week.

Mr. W. J. Joy, of Lamar, has moved to this town and occupies the new store near "Loufers Bridge," on Pearl street.

Congressman McLaurin and Ex-Judge Townsend were in town this week, and were the guests of Mr. J. M. Waddell.

Mr. A. Weinstein, who was burnt out last week, has moved his family into the new cottage, just erected by Mr. C. Alexander, on Grove street.

The bridge crossing Main street at the foot of the hill has been fixed with piping and filled with earth, thereby doing away with the bridge.

The remains of the lamented board of health have been embalmed, and with tender and reverent hands filed away among the other precious relics of the town.

It would very much decrease the danger of fire if our insurance agents would require all stores in the business part of the town to use the electric lights.

There will soon be two new electric lights put up. One between Dr. McGirt's and Capt. Thompson's, and the other at some place not yet settled upon by the council.

As a rapid and first-class workman, contractor A. R. Lane is hard to beat. In two and a half days he built the store on Pearl street now occupied by Mr. W. J. Joy.

The street lights were out of order on Saturday night for an hour or two, but Mr. Forman located the break and soon had everything all right. The break was probably caused by the high wind.

If some of our young men who have a talent for music would organize a string band, they would find it both pleasant and profitable. There is a pretty active demand here for dance music.

Spring is upon us and that complicated mass of bones that disports itself under the name of herring is being sold on our streets. Life is far too short even for the most enthusiastic naturalist to number the bones that are crowded into such a small anatomy.

## ACCIDENTAL POISONING.

### George Hamilton Takes a Dose of Strychnine.

On Saturday last George Hamilton, the well known colored carpenter, came very near putting an end to his own existence, without, however, intending in the least to do so. He was doing some work for a lady in the city and by accident got hold of some food that had strychnine in it, which had been fixed for a cat or some other animal that was depopulating the chicken coop. Just as soon as he discovered his mistake he made his way to Muldrow's drug store, and as Dr. Muldrow had sold the poison for the purpose already specified, he administered an antidote without delay.

Drs. Griffin and Lanney were the first to reach him, but nearly every physician in the city became interested in the case and the unfortunate man had as good medical attention as could have been given to the wealthiest citizen of the county. By knowing exactly what to do and doing it promptly, the doctors succeeded in relieving him and counteracting the effect of this active poison. He is getting on very well and in a short time will be in his usual health.

While no possible blame can be attached to anyone, this should be a warning to people not to put poison out for any purpose whatever, for no matter how careful they are it may result in doing mischief.

A few years ago the Editor of THE HERALD placed some rough on rats in the Methodist Church to rid it of the rodents that were doing great damage, and after the poison, put on bread, had been lying there for some weeks, a colored boy, who had been sent by the sexton to sweep the church, devoured the bread, poison and all. It has always been a mystery how he survived, as he ate enough of the poison to kill at least a dozen people.

### Kind Neighbors.

Sometime ago Mr. E. L. Gray, whose loss we mentioned at the time, had his stable and barn, containing his stock, farm implements and feed all destroyed by the incendiaries that were then infesting the Lamar section.

Mr. Gray's loss was very heavy, but his neighbors came to the rescue and promptly replaced the burned buildings, and have notified him that he is not expected to buy any corn or forage while he is making his crop.

This is just the spirit that should animate the people of every community, and it would be well if this example were followed by others. A little help by all has enabled Mr. Gray to tide over some part of his loss and given him a chance to get a new start. There is not a man who took part in this kind work but what will be better for it.

### A "Pullet Puller" Pulled.

For some time past the chicken thieves have been pretty active, and a good many people have suffered losses. The chief of police on Tuesday arrested a fifteen-year-old colored boy as one of the "pullet pullers" and made a clear case against him. The boy had several chickens that were identified by Sam Cooper, an industrious colored man who lives near town. The name of this youth is Carolina Ross, and Trial Justice Dargan has bound him over to the criminal court. He will have temporary quarters at the Scarborough Hotel, and the feathered tribe can again roost low and rest in peace.

### A Street Elevator in Demand.

The sidewalk near the engine house should be elevated a little, so as to be on a level with the bridge. As it stands at present it is a good place to break toes and make folks say some words that are not very orthodox. Can't our energetic friend, Alderman Ward, put his patent street elevator to work and get things in shape?

### The American Bible Society.

Rev. T. H. Law, agent for the American Bible Society for North and South Carolina, will preach at the Presbyterian Church on Sunday morning next. At night he will conduct a service in the interest of the society in the same church, at which the members of the other churches are cordially invited to attend.

Should your watch or clock need the attention of an expert, take it to B. M. Mason, at Mr. W. J. Joy's store.

## THE COURT.

### ADJOURNMENT OF THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS.

#### The Fertilizer Cases Not Prossed--The Lamar Burners Convicted--Recruits to the Penitentiary.

Since our last report the Court of Common Pleas has been disposing of its business in a rapid manner, and on yesterday concluded the criminal docket. The cases tried were: Dozier Hunter, charged with grand larceny, was found guilty and sentenced to eighteen months in the penitentiary.

Elmore Jones, charged with burglary and larceny, was found guilty. Sentence, three years in the penitentiary.

J. B. Reynolds, for disposing of property under a mortgage, was found guilty. The defendant was fined \$50, or imprisonment for three months.

Messrs. Dargan & Thompson represented the defendant.

Joe Green, assault and battery. Verdict, not guilty. Messrs. Nettles & Nettles represented the defendant.

E. R. Tedder was acquitted of the charge of assault and battery. Messrs. Dargan & Thompson represented the defendant.

John Dukes, John Williams, Handy Morrison and Harrison Gordon, the Lamar incendiaries, were found guilty and sentenced each to ten years in the penitentiary. Messrs. Boyd & Brown represented the prisoners.

The following sentences were passed upon those convicted last week:

Jack Michael, assault and battery, \$25 fine or six months in jail; fine was paid.

George Davis, entering house with intent to steal, one year in penitentiary.

Austin Evans, privily stealing from person, two years in penitentiary.

William Scott, using horse without owner's consent, four months in penitentiary or pay a fine of \$25.

The cases against the Sumter Fertilizer Company were not prossed by the solicitor.

### Cultivate the Voice.

We very much wish that there was a teacher of vocal music in our town, one who was thoroughly qualified and who would be capable of arousing some enthusiasm in regard to the importance of cultivating the voices of those who only lack instruction to make good singers. Of course we have some good voices, but very few considering the size of the town. What we wish more especially to call attention to is the fact that all the young people, with very few exceptions, are growing up without the least training in vocal music. There is probably not a town of any size in the State where so little interest is taken in music as in Darlington, and it is a reproach to the people that this should be the case.

### The Hartsville Messenger.

We have received the first issue of the Hartsville Messenger, a new venture in the field of journalism. It is neatly gotten up, and as it is published by a corporation it ought to succeed. The editor, Mr. T. J. Drew, announces that the paper is published to build up Hartsville, and will not be a political organ. If Mr. Drew can keep out of politics, he will do more than the average editor has ever accomplished.

Our lady friends who wish to know where the prettiest spring goods are to be had can find out by consulting our advertising columns next week.

Capt. Coker's new residence will present a handsome appearance when finished, standing as it does on one of the most elevated lots in the town. He will have the whole of Oak street for an avenue.

We learn from the Cheraw Reporter that the people on the line of the C. & D. R. R. are sending petitions for a change of schedule. The present schedule is not at all convenient but it will hardly be changed just at present, unless there is a change in the whole system.

A few shad have made their appearance in the market, but the prices asked for them are pretty steep. So far as the eating quality of a shad is concerned it can't compare with a Black Creek trout. There are probably very few streams in the State that furnish as fine fish as we use found in this beautiful stream.

## THE GRACEFUL GERMAN.

### The German Club Gives Another of Their Enjoyable Dances.

There was a very pleasant dance given by the German Club, at the armory on Tuesday night, at which the following persons were present: Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Norment, Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Nettles.

Misses Helen Davis, of Charleston; Hallie Carson, of Sumter; Nonie Williamson, Josephine McCall, Ola Rast, Alma McCown, Mary Watson, Kate Bonner, Louise Ward, Louise Williamson.

Messrs. Sanborn Chase, of Florence, R. L. Dargan, J. E. Boyd, A. T. Baird, W. T. Montgomery, W. J. Garner, W. Albert Parrott, James James, P. T. Quarles, R. J. Bostwright, Harry Smith, Harry Norman, Eugene Vaughn, Albert Woods, E. C. McCall, C. H. Ward, Lawton Dargan, Howard Norment, C. D. Evans, E. O. Woods.

**Darlington Guards' Inspection.** April 7th is the time appointed for the annual inspection of the Darlington Guards, and the company is making arrangements to celebrate it in a fitting manner. As is well known, the Guards will own a part of the large brick building that is to be erected on Main street. If the work is far enough advanced, the corner stone of the building will be laid on the day of the inspection. St. David's Lodge, A. F. M., will have charge of the ceremonies, which will be of an interesting character. The roll of the Guards is now full, the constitutional limit being forty. The command is in a prosperous condition, and when the new building is completed will have one of the finest armories in the State. They have now in their present quarters, a cozy reading room where all the leading magazines and reviews can be found. There is a large number of our citizens who should avail themselves of the privilege of this room, and by doing this they could get good reading at a very small cost, and at the same time help the Guards in a financial way. The annual coat of honorary membership is but two dollars, and the reading privileges are worth several times that amount.

**Of Interest to Taxpayers.** The county equalization board met on Tuesday, and the following resolutions will be of interest to the public: Good horses and mules are to be assessed at \$100 each and cows at from \$10 to \$15. This applies only to good stock. All corporations, including banks, are to be assessed at seventy-five per cent. of the money actually invested, and in the case of banks the surplus shall be considered as money invested. According to a recent act of the legislature the county auditor can raise or lower the assessment in any case where he deems it proper to do so; not, however, without giving the interested party a hearing. It will be seen from this that the auditor can act independently of the board of equalization. The taxpayer must pay the tax as fixed by the auditor, and if he thinks it too high he must carry the case before the court and seek relief. This law was enacted to prevent parties from securing a mandamus to avoid paying their poll-tax.

**Township Poll Lists.** The county auditor, in accordance with the law, has sent to the several boards of school trustees, duplicates of the poll lists for their respective townships. These lists contain the names that have been returned for the poll tax, and are sent out in order that those may be added who failed to make returns. This is done to prevent anyone from evading the payment of this tax, and it is important that the trustees return the lists to the auditor as soon as it can be done. This tax all goes to the school fund, and should be collected from every one who is liable under the law.

**Death of Mr. J. B. Killough.** Mr. J. B. Killough, a well known business man of Florence, died on Friday of last week. He was a native of Pennsylvania, but had lived in Florence for a long time and was thoroughly identified with the business interests of that place. His health had been poor for a number of years. He leaves a wife and two children.

Fresh line of fruit at the Book Store.

## ON THE HILL.

### HAPPENINGS AT THE FACTORY THIS WEEK.

#### Vernon Treadaway Gets His Arm Broken--A Fishing Excursion--Personals.

Mr. W. J. Richardson is still on the sick list.

The "Old Grey Mule" is scouring the weave room.

Forty pounds of flour for \$1 at Trexler & Boswell's.

Rev. J. A. White will preach at the hall Saturday night.

Mr. John Williams returned on Sunday from Wilmington.

Mr. G. T. Brown has returned from a business trip to Camden.

Rev. John Stout will preach at the hall on Sunday afternoon at 4.15 o'clock.

Mr. M. J. Outlaw moyed his family to Charlotte, N. C., on Wednesday last.

Mr. Gideon Revell, the pioneer gardener, is kept busy with the hoe and rake.

Mr. John Brewer says he counted 318,000 cross-ties between Wilmington and Darlington.

Mrs. Browne entertained her friends with a very pleasant sociable on Wednesday night.

Mrs. Rainford Smith received a telegram on Tuesday informing her of the death of her father, Mr. Phillip Parker, of Marlboro county.

Revs. J. A. Williamson and H. H. Merritt spent Saturday and Sunday with friends here. They left on Monday morning for Marion, S. C.

Messrs. H. G. and R. M. Squires, who have been the guests of Mr. A. F. Blizzard for several days have returned to their home in North Carolina.

Messrs. H. A. James, A. P. Hart, John White, C. A. Sullivan and R. C. Nash have gone on a fishing excursion to Louthers lake. We wish them good luck.

Vernon Treadaway, who it will be remembered, was buried alive some time ago, happened to another accident last week. While playing with some children he fell and broke his arm.

Last week while the school children were playing at the creek, little Beniah Bryant accidentally fell in where the water was deeper than her head. Miss Withers was fortunately present and promptly rescued her.

### Widening of Pearl Street.

The work of widening Pearl street is under way and when completed will add fourteen feet to the width of this pretty but inconveniently narrow street. This will be a great improvement, but it will cause the destruction of about fifteen or twenty fine trees. Of course there are more than this number on the south side of the street, where the trees will have to go, but some of them are decaying and will not live many more years. Wherever it is possible they should be spared, and we are sure that this course will meet the approbation of all our citizens. A great many people are opposed to the widening of the street on account of the trees. The largest and by far the oldest tree on the street is the large post oak in front of Mr. Waddell's place, and for this tree especially we want to put in a plea. It is one of the last of the native forest trees left, and is good for several hundred years yet, it being perfectly sound and vigorous now. It will stand just outside of the curbing, and will not incommode travel either on foot or in vehicles. In our climate, to say nothing of their beauty, shade trees are essential to both health and comfort, and a town cannot have too many of them. It will be an act of vandalism to cut down such a tree, and we appeal to the council to spare it.

**Remember the Floral Fair.** The folks who cultivate flowers, and every one ought to have a few, should bear in mind that we are to have a floral fair in about five weeks and try and have their flowers in good order for that occasion. We will publish the full premium list in our next issue, also the time for holding the exhibition.

Fresh candies received weekly at the Book Store.

## REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS.

### Change of Owners of Valuable Darlington Realty.

The following transfers of Darlington realty have been received in the clerk of courts office to March 15:

Allen Lane to William Lane, lot in Society Hill, \$5.

William Lane to A. M. Sompayrac, lot in Society Hill, \$55.

E. E. Kirven to J. P. Kirven, five and one-half acres, \$1,500.

S. M. Hatchel to General Hatchel, seventy acres, \$490.

McC. Willis to Miss E. S. McCall, seven lots in town, \$805.

Harriet O. Parker to B. F. James, ninety-three acres, \$930.

R. F. James to Harriet O. Parker, ninety-three acres, \$930.

Stephen Thompson to Z. W. Wines, four acres, \$40.

L. C. Coker to R. E. Coker, thirty-five acres, \$675.

J. J. Lawton, trustee, to J. L. Bennett, lot in Hartsville, \$100.

C. E. Ward to J. J. Kirven, one hundred and fifty acres, \$75.

R. E. L. Kirven to L. C. Kirven, two hundred and nine acres, \$6,300.

### An Ordinance Needed.

We again call the attention of the council to the nuisance of allowing people to use the streets for the deposit of all kinds of trash, and take the liberty of suggesting that they pass an ordinance against it and see to its enforcement. It is unsightly, unhealthy and makes the dust much worse in dry weather; to say nothing of the danger to horses from nails and broken bottles.

A recent investigation furnishes the following partial list of things that were thrown out on the street: Broken bottles, barrel hoops and staves with sharp nails in them, hedge trimmings, shavings, brickbats, tin cans, yard-brooms, old clothes, old shoes, old hats, kitchen sloop, dead chickens and other articles that we have not space to mention.

Articles of this character should be hauled off or burned and putting them on the street is simply an imposition and nuisance and should not be tolerated.

### Dots From Una.

Miss Julia Gresham, a sister of Rev. G. T. Gresham, of this place paid him a visit recently.

Mr. W. H. Hicks, who has been attending Oak Ridge Institute for some time, is home on a short visit.

Mr. B. R. Gatlin has removed the old Kahn store to his place, and is erecting a barn of the material.

Mrs. William Northcutt and Mrs. B. C. Hicks have been quite sick recently.

The young people of the community enjoyed a sociable at the residence of Mr. W. M. Smothers, on Friday night.

Mrs. T. J. Price and Miss Clara Crosswell left recently for a visit to the "Land of Flowers". They will visit Ocala, and from there go to Lady Lake, some distance farther South.

R. H. J.

### A Timely Suggestion.

We take the liberty of suggesting that this is a good time for the teachers to give their scholars lessons in natural history, with a special view of teaching them not to molest the birds. The average boy delights in killing young birds and breaking up birds' nests, and his indulgence in this sport is more often the result of ignorance and thoughtlessness than from innate cruelty. The boys should be taught how really useful all birds are, not excepting owls and hawks, and then if they disturb them they should be made to suffer for it.

It isn't natural for a "crook" to be in straits.

See that job lot of stationary at the Book Store.

The busy woodchopper should wear a cutaway coat.

Fences, posts and trees are now being disfigured with the advertisements of patent medicines. A stop ought to be put to it, as it is an annoyance and nobody derives any benefit from it.

A circular is being sent to the various school commissioners, by the department of education, informing them that they are entitled to a copy of the acts of the legislature, and should make requisition on the clerk of court for same.

## COURT TRAGEDY.

### A MURDERER SHOT BY HIS VIC-TIM'S SON.

#### Five Shots Fired at the Prisoner, One of Which Takes Fatal Effect. A Bystander Wounded.

[From the Columbia State.]

NASHVILLE, TENN., March 13.--A terrible shooting occurred in the upper hall of the court house this afternoon. Thomas Jones shot and probably fatally wounded Joe Winters. Five shots were fired, two of which took effect. One entered just under the left shoulder in front, and ranging inward and backwards, passed to the right of the spinal column. The second bullet passed through the fleshy part of the right arm. The other three shots entered a bench near where Winters fell.

Some months ago one Jones, a tall gate keeper, was shot from ambush and killed. Andrew and Joe Winters were charged with the deed, arrested and indicted, and the trial for the murder of Jones was set for today. There has been a long standing feud between the Jones and the Winters, and several fights between them occurred before the killing of old man Jones.

The court room was packed with witnesses for the prosecution and the defense. Joe Winters was charged with being an accessory to the deed. Joe Winters was released from jail a few days ago on \$10,000 bond, but Andrew Winters was confined in jail.

When the cases were called in the criminal court today before Judge Anderson, the defendants successfully pressed a motion for a severance, and then the cases were continued until the next session of court. After disposing of the cases, Andrew Winters was taken back to jail and Joe Winters and his wife remained in the court room to perfect the bond.

By this time the court room had been practically cleared, those remaining in the room and halls numbering not more than twenty people. The lower hall, however, was filled with people who had stopped to discuss the developments in the case. Finally, when Winters walked out of the door and was trying to go down the stairway, Thomas Jones, who was standing near the head of the steps, opened fire on him, using a double-action, hammer pistol. The shots were fired in rapid succession, and the reports created the wildest excitement. The shots were immediately followed by the screams of Mrs. Winters, who stood over the prostrated form of her husband, crying, "Tom Jones shot him."

Officer Price was about the first to reach Jones. Price was standing in the court room, behind the clerk's desk, and jumped over the railing and out of the door just in time to see Jones fire the last shot. Winters and others who witnessed the shooting said that Winters fell at the second shot. It is thought the shot through the arm was inflicted after Winters had fallen. Witnesses say that Jones did not say a word to Winters as they passed each other in the hall.

Jones was standing at the head of the stairway, with his pistol in his hand. Officer Price had hold of his arm. Several men, in an excited manner, ran up to Jones and cried: "Don't let him escape." To these cries Jones, in a self-possessed manner, said "I am not going to escape. I know what I have done, and have no wish to flee."

Jones was at once taken to jail by Officer Price and Deputy Sheriff McCampbell.

James Bondurant, who was standing near Winters, was struck in the groin by one of the stray bullets and quite severely wounded, though his condition is not thought to be very dangerous.

Winters was taken to the city hospital.

### A Correction.

We made a mistake in our last issue in regard to Mr. John Siskron's selling out his business to his son and Mr. Andrews. He has only rented them the repair department and will conduct the balance of the business himself. His business has simply grown to such proportions that he could not conveniently manage all of it.