

## CURRENT TOPICS.

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

**Personals and Short Items of Interest to the Local and General Reader.**

Miss Mary Spain is visiting friends in Charleston.

Miss Cantey, of Camden, is visiting Mrs. S. A. Woods.

Mr. T. Hyatt, of Columbia, was in town on Tuesday.

Dr. McGirt is rusticating in Williamsburg county.

Mr. C. S. Nettles has returned from his Washington trip.

Mr. E. M. Wilson, of Cheraw, was in the city yesterday.

Miss Grace Smith, of Virginia, is visiting Mrs. W. E. James.

Major J. L. Coker, of Hartsville, was in the city Wednesday.

Mr. J. W. Dickson, of Marion, is visiting his son in this place.

Miss Mabel Odorn, of Florence, is visiting friends in Darlington.

Mr. E. A. Osborne, of Florence, visited friends in the city last week.

The space left on the square for the monument has been planted in flowers.

Mr. L. G. McCall's two cottages, on Mowry street, are going up very rapidly.

The trees that were ruined by the recent fire are being removed from the square.

Misses Sallie and Wickham Ellerbe, of Marion, are visiting friends in this section.

The young folks of Florence will give a picnic and dance at Mallow's mill next Tuesday.

Captain Coker's house at the head of Oats street is nearly completed, and he will soon be able to occupy it.

Mr. J. Witherspoon Ervin, who has been visiting here for some time, has been to his home at Morgan, N. C.

Miss Pritchard, a lady living in Massachusetts, has presented the St. John's Library with a large number of magazines and illustrated papers.

On Wednesday afternoon, April 26th, at the residence of Mr. James Allen, of Florence, Miss Florie Allen was married to Dr. S. H. McLeod, Rev. J. B. Wilson officiating.

The next session of the Florence District Conference will be held at Darlington. At the meeting of this body in Cheraw, last week, Mr. J. G. McCall was elected a delegate to the annual conference.

Miss Bettie Thomas, of Laurinburg, N. C., who is well known here, will be married on May 8th to Mr. J. D. Shaw, who is also from Laurinburg. The ceremony will take place at the Methodist church.

Mr. J. E. Norment, the manager of the Columbia Journal bureau, at this place, is doing some very fine newspaper work for that paper. Mr. Norment promises to soon serve the Journal as a desert for breakfast.

The Darlington Club will give its annual reception on Wednesday night, and will be largely attended. The following gentlemen are chairmen: Mrs. E. O. Woods, floorman, Dr. A. T. Baird, Messrs. F. E. Norment, B. E. James, R. L. Dargan.

Mrs. Hannah Jane Rhodes, wife of Mr. J. T. Rhodes, of the Swift Creek section, died on last Sunday morning. Her remains were interred in the Swift Creek cemetery on Sunday afternoon. The deceased leaves a husband and five children to mourn her death.

The Misses Fountain are erecting a nice residence, for their own use, on Main street. The house now occupied by them will be converted into a boarding house and the interior will be arranged so as to make it specially adapted for this purpose.

The performance of Duncan Clark's female minstrels in the opera house on Monday night was coarse, to use the mildest terms. The female portion of the troupe was about as ugly a congregation as could be mustered, and their rendition of minstrelsy was in keeping with the actresses. The audience was small and composed of men.

## EDUCATIONAL.

## To the Alumni and Students of the South Carolina College.

COLUMBIA, S. C., April 20, 1893. DEAR SIR—The Alumni Association has been desirous of convening as large a number as possible of the alumni and former students of the South Carolina College for conference on the condition and prospects of their Alma Mater, looking to earnest and immediate co-operation, with the hope of interesting all friends of the college in the absolute necessity of taking steps to increase the patronage of the institution. The college is to-day as good as it ever was. Whatever can be done, must be done at once.

The Columbia Carnival has seemed to offer the best opportunity for such a meeting. You are, therefore, earnestly invited to meet May 18th, at 10 o'clock, a. m., in the college chapel, with all who shall come together then, and confer as to ways and means of upbuilding and sustaining this most necessary educational institution of the State. Ask your college friends to come with you.

F. H. WESTON, President. AUGUST KOHN, Sec. and Treas. S. C. C. Alumni Association. W. A. Clark, John T. Sloan, Jr., S. J. Duffie, Committee Riceland Association.

## A Lively Rope.

One afternoon last week a rope, with a lively cow at one end and a colored boy at the other, managed for a short while to occupy the width of Cashua street, and no one seemed to care to dispute the right of way with this rapidly moving piece of animated hemp. Fortunately it did not have teeth or nearly all the small trees on the street would have succumbed to the vigorous scraping they got. Of course the cow furnished the motive power, but the boy managed his end of the rope with great skill, as evidence by the fact that at times it was difficult to tell whether the boy was driving the cow or the cow leading the boy. The interest of the exhibition was much enhanced by the presence, at a safe distance in the rear, of a popular physician who with his cane elevated high in the air was making a pretense of helping the boy.

## The Animal Language.

Professor Garner, who went to Africa sometime ago to study the monkey language, claims to have made some wonderful discoveries in this line. Everybody ought to know that animals can understand each other, and in proof of this it is only necessary to cite the case of one animal, the cat. Just let one of these midnight prowlers take up his position on the woodshed, clear his throat, and then let the soft dulcet notes of his sleep-soothing voice pour out its melody on the night air, when, in an instant, every other cat within hearing puts on its armor, sallies forth and adds his voice to the concord of sweet sounds.

## "Snake Bite Juice."

We sincerely trust that Mr. Traxler will not, in stocking his big bar for to buy an extra strong article of whiskey, for the special benefit of the folks who like to go fishing, and who deem it prudent to have an antidote on hand in case a snake should put in appearance. To distinguish it from the ordinary brand of whiskey it ought to be sold in flasks made in the shape of a fish. One quart is the allowance for the bite of a venomous reptile and half that quantity for a non venomous snake. The fish shaped bottle should be labeled—South Carolina Bar Room—Snake Bite Whiskey.

## Port Royal Railroad in Good Hands.

It is a matter of profound congratulation that the Port Royal Railroad has at last been released from the Georgia Central, and can now be managed in the interests of its stockholders and of Port Royal. Colonel Averill has been appointed receiver and with his indomitable energy will soon have everything in working order. A better selection could not have been made and Colonel Averill's friends will all be glad to know that his ability is so signally recognized.

## Death of Mr. Simeon Coker.

Mr. Simeon Coker, one of the best citizens of the county, died at his residence in Antioch township on Monday night. He was a very old man and had been in bad health for a number of years. He was a zealous and efficient member of the Antioch Baptist church, and his funeral and interment took place at that church. He was a twin brother of the late Mr. Lewis Coker, who died some years ago. He was also a brother of the late Caleb Coker. Mr. H. J. Coker is his only surviving son.

## THE FLORAL FAIR.

## A BEAUTIFUL COLLECTION OF FRAGRANT FLOWERS.

**A Crowded House Witnesses the Rendition of Cantata—The Premium List.**

The opening of the Floral Fair, on Wednesday night, was a success in every respect and was attended by a very large crowd, who were delighted both with the exhibition of flowers and with the musical programme. The cantata, of which we have already spoken, was given in a faultless manner, and reflects credit both on the young ladies and the accomplished musical director, Mrs. Frank Pegues, who took so much pains to make it a success. The crowd was so great that locomotion was extremely difficult, and prompted some witty person to observe that the ladies ought to be censured for not having a smaller crowd or a bigger hall.

The evolutions in the cantata were performed with the utmost precision and grace, and the young ladies astonished the members of the Guards by the accuracy with which they went through the many complicated movements of the play. The costumes were very handsome, and each one of the performers was decorated with the flower that she personated. The rose was crowned queen of the flowers. The following synopsis, from the hand bill, will give a fair idea of this entertaining performance:

The flowers meet in a secluded dell in the forest to choose their queen. A person discontented with the world seeks, in the same place, retirement from its cares and disappointments. The flowers tell of love and duty; the Recluse, learning that to fill well the station allotted by Providence is to be happy, resolves to return again to usefulness and contentment among his fellow creatures. It would be impossible to speak too highly of the unselfish and untiring work of the ladies who worked so hard to make the exhibition a success.

The editor of the HERALD visited the floral fair at Charleston last year, and does not hesitate to say that, in many respects, our fair was superior to that of Charleston.

The display of roses was simply extraordinary, especially when the unfavorable weather is taken into consideration. There were three beautifully arranged booths for the sale of refreshments, and it is almost needless to say that they were all well patronized, as they well deserved to be, for everything was as well prepared as it could be. Of course the ice cream booth was the most popular, as the girls are all fond of this cooling luxury, and the quantity of this article that a frail delicate girl can consume at a festival, when it is for a good cause, for of course they only eat from conscientious motives, is enough to make even a strong man open his eyes.

Mr. Mertz had some very fine flowers on exhibition, but declined to compete for the premiums.

We have already spoken of the crowded condition of the hall, but once or twice during the evening the crowd of young men became so dense, in one or two places, that the riot act had to be read in order to disperse them.

In the afternoon there was a matinee for the children which was very largely attended and very much enjoyed. Grab bags, target trees and a donkey party constituted the programme.

On Thursday night there was some very fine music, but this occurring just as we go to press an account of it will be given in our next issue.

Below we give the names of the exhibitors and those who carried off the premiums. As the fair will not close before we go to press we can't give the proceeds, in money, until next week.

## EXHIBITS.

The following is the list of exhibitors: Mrs. R. W. Boyd—waiter roses. Miss Sue Winston—floral ship. Mrs. L. Evans—cut flowers. Mrs. W. F. Dargan—cut flowers. Mr. G. O. Mertz—two fine palms. Miss Virginia Williamson—pansies. Mrs. L. S. Walling—two stands roses.

Mrs. E. H. Sanders—four stands roses.

W. D. Woods—three plants calla lilies.

Mr. G. O. Mertz—stand of potted plants.

Mrs. J. J. Ward—fine blooming cactus.

Miss Annie Williamson—pansies and roses.

Mrs. T. W. Norment—large collection of potted plants.

Miss Annie Williamson—beautiful anchor made of wild laurel.

Mrs. W. C. Ervin—two varieties roses: Sanguemon and Bon Silene.

Miss Mollie Boyd—strawberries.

Mrs. W. C. Ervin—strawberries.

Mrs. G. W. Dargan—stand cut flowers and three varieties roses: La Marque, Zilela Pradel, Marchal Neil.

Mrs. W. E. James—five varieties roses: Claude Milton, Marie Louise, Catherine Merruet, Mdse. Swartz, Marchal Neil, two stands cut flowers.

Mrs. F. E. Norment—seven varieties roses: Malmaison, W. A. Richardson, Marchal Neil, Dutchess de Brabant, Zilela Pradel, Saljatem, two stands cut flowers.

Mrs. C. S. McCullough—eight varieties roses: Marchal Neil, Paul Neron, Perle de Lyon, John Hopper, Papa Gontier, Dr. Sewell, General Jacquemont, Margotien.

Mrs. D. S. McCullough—nine varieties: Jacquemont, Bon Silene, La Rossierie, Madame Moreau, Meteor, Glorie Lyonnaise, Paul Neron, Pride of Reigate, Marchal Neil, two potted plants stand roses.

**PREMIUM LIST.**

Finest single plant, \$1.00—Mrs. J. J. Ward.

Finest collection potted plants, \$2.00—Mrs. T. W. Norment.

Second best collection potted plants, \$1.00—Mrs. S. F. Parrott.

Marchal Neil roses, \$1.00—Mrs. H. E. T. Sanders.

Best variety roses, \$1.00—Miss Claudia Edwards.

Floral ship, designs, \$1.00—Miss Sue Winston.

Pansies, \$1.00—Miss Annie Williamson.

Strawberries, \$1.00—Mrs. W. C. Ervin.

Vegetables, \$1.00—Mrs. R. Schmid.

Special premiums were awarded to the following:

Paul Neron roses, \$1.00—Mrs. C. S. McCullough.

Cut geraniums, \$1.00—Mrs. Lula Evans.

**Memorial Day.**

May the 10th is Memorial Day, and it will be duly observed in Darlington. All the survivors have been invited to march in the procession, and it is hoped that as many as can possibly do so will turn out. Rev. Edward McCrady has been invited to deliver the annual address. We will publish the order of exercises in our next issue.

In this connection we suggest that a regular Memorial Association be organized with the special view of a systematic and proper observance of this day. As things now are there is no regular organization and everything is done by a few people. It rarely happens that a speaker is notified in time to do either himself or the subject justice, and this would all be obviated by the formation of a regular organization.

**Keep the Streets Clean.**

There is a possible excuse for the citizens of our town not to keep their premises in first class order, when it is remembered that they can deposit all kinds of trash on the streets, without the fear of the council before their eyes. Strangers who visit our town will entertain a very exalted opinion of the cleanly condition of the yards of our citizens when they behold the quantity of trash that they beautify the streets with. But our people are public spirited and do all in their utmost to make our streets look neat and attractive by donning them with all kinds of litter.

**The Railroads Win.**

The United States Supreme Court has rendered a decision in the railroad cases, and has decided in favor of the roads. The sheriffs were fined by the United States circuit court for contempt in forcibly seizing property in the hands of the court and they will have to pay their fines. The decision and rulings of the circuit court have been fully sustained and it remains to be seen if the Governor will criticize the Supreme Court with the same venom that he poured out on Judge Simeon.

## ON THE HILL.

## HAPPENINGS AT THE FACTORY THIS WEEK.

**Personal Paragraphs Pertaining to Visiting People—Improvements and Other News.**

Mr. A. F. Blizzard has returned from Florence, where he has been on a business trip.

Mr. Charles Butler has been very sick for several days, but we are glad to report him improving.

Mrs. J. E. Hicks has returned to her home in North Carolina, after a very pleasant stay with her son, Mr. James Hicks.

Prof. A. Ganey, of Greenville, Tenn., met with the Coker brass band last Friday night and showed the boys that he knew something about music.

The Coker band will not give the ice cream supper this week as was first intended. Owing to the continued cool weather they have decided to postpone the event until it turns warmer.

Beginning with next Sunday night, Rev. J. A. White, of the Darlington circuit, will commence a revival meeting at the hall which will continue throughout the week, and perhaps longer. Mr. White will be assisted by the Rev. J. E. Curllis. It is hoped that much good will be accomplished.

Mr. William Crouch, of North Carolina, and Miss Sallie Hill, of this village, were married at the residence of the bride's father, Mr. M. T. Hill, last Sunday evening at 4 o'clock, the Rev. John Stout officiating. May their life be one of prosperity and happiness.

There is a movement on foot to build a union church here for the benefit of the operatives. Already about four hundred dollars has been raised for that purpose. We expect to build a nice little church which will be an ornament to the city as well as to the village. We intend having it ready for use by the middle of summer.

## The Best Yet.

The New Peterson for May is ahead of its predecessors, excellent as they were. The number opens with a beautifully illustrated article by Julian Hawthorne, called "A City Within a City: Chicago To-Day."

Another capital paper, with profuse illustrations, is Miss Elizabeth Robinson's "Day in Marken," one of the quaintest and least-known spots in Holland. Louise Chandler Moulton contributes an appreciative criticism of Arlo Bates, the Boston novelist. "Absent Love," by Philip Bourke Marston, is one of the loveliest of the regretted poet's posthumous lyrics. The two serials, "A College Girl," by Ellen Olney Kirk, and "A Border Leander," by Howard Seely, are worthy the reputations of their popular authors. "The Mortgage on the Farm," by Agnes Repplier, is in that gifted writer's most brilliant vein. "School keeps," by Minot J. Savage, gives some delightfully told reminiscences of boy-life in Maine forty-five years ago. The rest of the contents are of unusual merit, and there is a freshness and novelty about the number which is immensely attractive.

The New Peterson has already proved itself the model family magazine, and its success is an established fact. Terms, two dollars a year. Address, 112-114 South Third street, Philadelphia.

## A Pleasant Evening.

Miss Louise Ward entertained her young friends with a very pleasant reception on Friday night. The following are the names of those who were present:

Misses Annie Edwards, Bertie Wardlaw, Ella Watson, Ethel Parrott, Lizzie Rast, Nellie McCullough, Rena Alexander, Ann Melver, Louise Williamson, Florence Earle Pat Woods, Nellie Rast.

The boys were: Bert Alexander, Willie James, Harry Griffin, Lide Nettles, Willie Law, Arthur Griffin, Carl Hewitt, Albert Woods, John Law, Jack Watson, Archie Dargan, John Williamson, Robert Lunney, Junie Law.

Mr. J. P. Gibson, the lecturer of the Good Templars, was in town Tuesday morning. He will return very soon for the purpose of delivering a temperance lecture.

## TILLMAN VS. DONALDSON.

## The Governor Gives His Reason for Blacklisting the Alliance President.

The Greenville County Farmers' Alliance recently passed indignant resolutions inquiring from Governor Tillman why he blacklisted Hon. M. L. Donaldson, President of the State Alliance, to President Cleveland. The Alliance appointed a committee to ask Governor Tillman for his reason for acting as he did. Governor Tillman answered the committee in this week's Cotton Plant as follows:

GENTLEMEN: I have your letter with the inclosed resolution passed by the meeting. To communicate with Governor Tillman and request that he return answer whether the newspaper reports of said blacklist be true, and if true to furnish his reasons as given to President Cleveland, for his action towards M. L. Donaldson, our State president."

Similar communications have been sent from the County Alliances of Pickens and of Newberry, and I shall furnish this letter to the Cotton Plant as an answer to all.

The efforts seem to be made to link Mr. Donaldson as a citizen with Mr. Donaldson as president of the Alliance, and I premise my answer by saying that the Alliance has nothing to do with it, either directly or indirectly except in so far as I feel justified in preventing its further betrayal. To answer this question categorically, I asked Mr. Cleveland not to appoint Mr. Donaldson to office.

My reasons were these—and again they have no reference to Mr. Donaldson's private character, but to his public acts, and I disclaim any feeling of personal resentment or desire to injure him.

Last Spring when delegates were elected to the May State Convention Mr. Donaldson was reelected by the Democracy of Greenville, and he failed to be elected a delegate either to his county convention or to the State convention. He appealed to his friends in other parts of the State to help him retrieve his falling political fortune, and a small caucus of leading Alliancemen from other counties went to work and had him elected a member of the national committee. It was presumed by the convention, at least, that he was in full sympathy with its opposition to Mr. Cleveland, and certainly he never said anything to underwrite the men who voted for him. You are familiar with the instructions. We not only voted against Mr. Cleveland, but worked against him with two exceptions. Judge then our surprise on reaching Chicago to see Mr. Donaldson in open affiliation with the Cleveland leaders, striving with might and main to defeat the purpose of the convention which had elected him on the national committee.

Again, when the State Alliance met shortly afterwards, to my surprise I saw him president of the State Alliance. When I asked an explanation I was told it was the only possible way to defeat the candidacy of an avowed "Third party man," and that Mr. Donaldson had pledged himself not to seek any office, but to devote his energies to building up the Alliance. I was not surprised, however, when two weeks later he entered the field as candidate for State Senator from Greenville, feeling, I suppose, that the double endorsement of the State convention in May and the State Alliance in July would reinstate him at home. But the people of Greenville were true to themselves and he was not elected.

It will thus be seen that Mr. Donaldson played false with the Alliance convention by his action at Chicago and broke his pledge to the leading Alliancemen not to seek office. Now in addition to that, when I remind you that Mr. Donaldson, as Senator, was the means of incorporating in the railroad bill in '91 the two objectionable features which caused me to veto it, you cannot be surprised at my action. It was upon his motion, at the suggestion, as I was told of Bunch McBea, that the right of appeal to the courts was put in the bill. He also championed that feature of the bill which kept the election of Railroad Commissioners in the hands of the General Assembly, contrary to the "March platform," thus showing his willingness to stifle the will of the people. All together they opposing his appointment as representative of the "Reform party" or of the Alliance. Self-interest rather than patriotism appeared to have governed his actions, and as the Alliance has been sidetracked in nearly every other State by self-seekers and has been seriously injured in this State from the same cause, I could not conscientiously stand silent without protesting against his being rewarded for treachery to the people and Alliance.

Regretting the necessity which has forced a rehearsal of the undisputed facts, which of themselves ought to have prevented Mr. Donaldson's elevated position he now holds, I will submit to the verdict of the Reformers and Alliancemen of the State as to the wisdom and propriety of my action.

Respectfully, B. B. TILLMAN.

## THE LYNCHING.

## GOVERNOR TILLMAN MAKES VERY POOR EXCUSES

**For Sending the Prisoner to Denmark—The Mass Meeting in Columbia.**

The lynching of John Peterson at Denmark on Monday has put Governor Tillman in a "serious frame of mind." In speaking of the action of the people and for not better protecting the prisoner, the governor says:

"The people had shown so much forbearance and patience and had manifested such a determination to have none but the right man, having turned about twenty loose when the young lady failed to identify them, that I felt confident that if John Peterson was innocent, as he claimed that he was, he would run no risk in going there. He said that he could prove an alibi, and said that he wanted the young lady to see him, so that I felt when I sent and had his witnesses collected for him that he would be in no danger if he was really innocent. If he had said that he was guilty, why then I would have protected him to a trial, and required all the military force of the State to have done it, but I did not feel called upon to protect a man who was simply suspected of a crime, when he said he would be able to prove an alibi, and after the repeated actions of the people of Barnwell in turning innocent men loose."

"I can easily understand how the people had lost confidence in the girl's ability to identify the right man, and how desperate they had grown at repeated delays and the probability of the culprit escaping them. That, of course, does not palliate the offense of lynching a man who is innocent, but we can all readily see how it would occur, now that it is a fact. Those who are disposed to blame should not forget that the purpose of the mob was to im-molate a victim. Any negro would have answered as well as Peterson. They had turned others loose, and should have turned this one loose. His death ought to point the moral that a mob is not the power to execute justice. I received no intimation that there was a likelihood of lynching. If I had I should have tried to stop it."

## MASS MEETING.

A mass meeting of the colored people of Denmark was held on Wednesday night, at which resolutions condemning the governor and the mob were passed.

At the mass meeting held in Columbia on Tuesday night, resolutions denouncing in unmeasured terms the action of the governor, were passed.

Speeches were made by numbers of the leading citizens of Columbia. The resolutions were presented by Colonel Haskell, with the following remarks: "Mr. Chairman, in presenting these resolutions, let me say that it is well for all those who have not read the evidence presented at the mob court to do so. Speaking for myself, I say, that where we know we have the guilty party, justice could not be meted out too quick. I am not in favor of postponing justice in such cases, where guilt is certain, but where guilt is in doubt we cannot be too careful in our condemnation and execution."

"History records that in the middle ages there were sanctuaries where even the guilty might flee for protection until they could be fairly tried. But in this day, when every man is adjudged innocent until he is proven guilty, it has not been thought necessary to provide such a sanctuary. This act, however, which was perpetrated yesterday, makes it look as if that spirit of justice among our people had ceased."

"In that outrage against law and decency, we have gone beyond anything that the most violent and bitter newspapers of the north have ever said about us. When a man is tried and hunted, seeks protection at the hands of the highest arm of the law of the State, and is by him turned over to the vengeance of an enraged mob, we can plead no palliation of our offense. He comes to the sanctuary, which has a right to expect justice and protection from an angry mob, and is, by the chief executive, cast back upon the mercy of a merciless mob, who are thirsting for his blood, saying to them do with him as you please. If the English language contains any denunciation more bitter than the facts, I fail to have ever read it."

Ex-Governor J. P. Richardson responded to numerous calls, and among other things, said: "In my view Governor Tillman denounced his predecessors in office as weak-kneed and incompetent in the enforcement of the law, and charged that lynching must stop, as one of his battle cries. Now behold him. A poor wretch flees to him for protection, prostrates himself at his feet and protests his innocence, asking protection until he could secure a fair trial, and what does he do? He sends him bound and helpless to his pursuers, to that raging mob, thereby recognizing the validity of lynch law."

Solicitor W. St. Julien Jervey, of the Charleston circuit, concluded his remarks as follows: "I am glad that I am not the solicitor of that county, but if I were I should indict every man who took part in the lynching, and I should name as accessory before the fact B. B. Tillman, who is more responsible than any other for the crime that has been done."

## Happenings at Cypress.

Mr. W. A. Dubose, of Florence, spent last Sunday with friends here.

Dr. J. M. Josey attended the State Medical Association in Sumter last week, and reports the event as both pleasant and profitable.

The cool, dry windy weather last week is making crops look badly, and unless we have rain soon, there will be poor stands of cotton.

A very pleasant entertainment was given last Thursday night at the residence of Mrs. R. E. Huggins. Refreshments were served, which added much to the enjoyment of the occasion.