John L McLaurin and Ex-Senator J. L. M. Irby the Starters.

THEY CAME VERY NEAR MIXING.

Irby Applies Very Hard Names to Mc-Laurin-Five Candidates Have So Far Signed the Pledge.

The first meeting of the compaign for the Democratic nomination for United States Senator to fill the place now occupied by John L. McLaurin, by appointment from Governor Ellerbe, was held at Sumter Monday, and proved sensational in the extreme. It opened quietly in the opera house, which was only comfortably filled.

County Chairman Purdy introduced Senator McLaurin as the first speaker. The Senator's address was conservative. He paid tribute to the memory of Sena-



JOHN L. M'LAURIN.

tor Earle, and gave an account of his own political stewardship. Mr. Mc-Laurin was warmly received, and sat down with the pleasing assurance of having made a good impression.

Then the storm broke. Ex-United States Senator John L. M. Irby was introduced, and for three-quarters of an hour was enacted as exciting scenes as perhaps have ever been witnessed at a campaign meeting in this, or any other Sate. Things looked serious time and again. At one time Irby and McLaurin were only prevented from clinching by the interference of those on the stage. Irby in his speech applied the sever-

est language to McLaurin, and he came

When Irby rose, the cheers for Mc-Laurin were deafening. He made an opening sally, McLaurin made an apt aside, and the cheering was such that Irby, despite repeated efforts, could not go on. Then, when Chairman Purdy quieted the crowd, he started out again by charging the crowd with trying to howl him down. He said he knew that it was all fixed up in this hot-bed of Haskellism and Conservatism. Pretty soon he said he did not care how many of these city henchmen tried to prevent

him from speaking. Chairman Purdy advanced then and said that it was their desire to give Irby a respectful hearing, and he asked that he would not repeat that insulting language. If he could not be respect.



they did not want to hear him. The committee was not responsible for the outbursts of feeling. Irby replied that they had insulted him first.

Irby went on then and characterized McLaurin as a ring-streaked, striped-and-speckled politician. He charged him with dishonesty and with being suilty of treason and treachery. He ever existed in this State was now in force and McLaurin was the bene-

Finally, McLaurin, who had turned pale, jumped up and faced him, saying:
"Irby, let's have an understanding right here. We have known each other me time. You can't accuse me of dishonesty. You can't insult me in

that way. The two men faced each other. Irby repeated what he had said, and added: "I say further that if you hit me you'll be hit back." At this juncture, Editor Appelt rushed up to Irby and told him be would not carry Laurens. Irby be would have a reply. Charles Emansaid he did not expect much in Charles and rushed in and said to Irby: "No ton, as he had been too close to Tillone but a coward would talk that

that he was in a combine as absolutely false. Irby retorted that he would

Irby said that he is in the fight to ucceed McLaurin, and that he will make an active campaign, and stay in the race until the end.

So the "pledge polls" close with five candidates in the race: John L. Mc-Laurin, John L. M. Irby, John T. Duncan, John Gary Evans and S. G.

The Monck's Corner Meeting. paign meetings was pitched on a very spoke for about an hour, devoting his same as last year.—The State.

Senator McLaurin and former Senator former Governor Evans, State Senator Mayfield and Mr. John T. Duncan were not present.

Col. Irby was quite indisposed on account of the heat and spoke briefly. Mr. McLaurin spoke for over an hour, with the approval of the audience. There were absolutely no offensive personali-ties between the two candidates. What there was of criticism was political and acceptable.

Col. Irby said that there had been no change in the political sentiments since 1886, and that now, as then, he was a "true blue reformer." He wanted it understood that he proposed

conducting his campaign as he saw best. He spoke at length of his service to the reform movement, and urged that he had always been a friend to the poor and toiling masses. He had taken the position that no man with a white face should be disfranchised by the constitutional convention of which he was a member, His views were antagonized by others and brought him opposition. Later on he was opposed cause he had refused to go as a "possible bolter" to the National Democratic Convention. He said he would not have entered the race but for solicitation. He did not believe that the Conservatives were going to back up Editor Gonzales in strangling the will of the people by fixing things before the primary. The reformers have
a right to suspect any reform Mr.
Gonzales champions, that Mr. Gonzales had never seen any good in reform, and had fought Tillman and himself, and would continue to do so. Mr. Mc-Laurin was regarded by this editor as an "available candidate," and he argued at length that the Democrats had had enough of supporting Republicans as available candidates. He called upon McLaurin to repudiate support as an "available candidate." He again re-ferred to what he regards as the weak policy of Governor Ellerbe. His speech

was several times applauded. When Senator McLaurin got up to speak, Col. Irby asked to be excused, but Mr. McLaurin asked him to remain a moment, and then Mr. McLaurin said he was delighted to meet Col, Irby on the plane of to-day's speech, and that if they could keep it up, and he would do his part, there would be in-



JOHN GARY EVANS.

terest and benefit in the campaign. He said he would be the last man to rot Col. Irby of what he had done for reform or the people, but that now the fight was on other and national issues, and he was right on these, and Col. Irby thought he was right in his opinions. He had also done his share of the work for reform when it took fighting. He was today as staunch a re-former as ever. He had formed no combine with Mr. Gonzales. The Greenany other candidate, and it was time for Col. Irby to repudiate the assist-

ance of Gold Bug Editor Ball. The real and striking merits of Mc-Laurin's speech was in his exposition of his tariff views, and he took it up in pocket book manner so as to meet his audience, which was deeply interested in his fight for a duty on yellow pine, cross ties and rice. Mr. McLaurin made a magnificent logical presenta-tion of his views, which he urged were in the interest of the pocket books and

resources of the South. He said he was so closely in touch with the people of his district that he would not lose twenty-five votes in some counties, and said his appointment to the Senate was unsolicited, and while Ellerbe may make mistakes, there was no nobler or more incorruptible man in South Carolina. (Applause.)

The Charleston Meeting.

State Senator S. G. Mayfield entered the senatorial race in the campaign meeting held here. He said he favored the tariff for revenue only and Demo-cratic doctrines. He devoted much time to discussing his solution of the dispensary troubles, advocating local option by counties, first making the State prohibition, and letting such counties as wanted to license the sale under restriction.

Senator McLaurin, who was unwell, spoke entirely on tariff issues. He de-fended his position in voting for a tariff on rice, lumber, etc., and agreed that the time had come to look out for the South's pocketbook without surrender of principle. He was hansomely re-

Former Senator Irby started out complaining of an interview given in the afternoon papers by Mr. Appelt, a friend of McLaurin. Appelt said no disrepect was intended when he said man and the interests of the poor man. He was a friend of Charleston when others got the men quieted, the house being in an uproar. When Irby finished, McLaurin denounced the charge that he was in have done his State much more good as a member of the ways and means committee than as a mugwump Senator.

The meeting was attended by 500 people, and the best of order was observed. Announcement was made of the candidady of John T. Duncan and his regrets were expressed. No message was received from John Gary Evans, another candidate.

The Walterboro Meeting. Former Governor Evans joined the

different key from the gathering at attention almost entirely to the tariff Sumter. There were only two speakers, bill, advocating a tariff for revenue only. He said the new evangel of Sen-The three other candidates, ator McLaurin was undemocratic and would lead to more poverty in the The protection of long staple cotton, he urged, was a sham, as Peruvian and Egyptian cotton were used for entirely different purposes to long staple cotton. He said McLaurin tried to tie to Tillman, and that Tillman favored those schemes simply to make the bill as objectionable as possible, and load it down, while Mc-Laurin approved of the principle involved.

Senator Irby stated that the strained relationship between himself and Senator Tillman had been fixed, that there

had been mutual explanations, and all was now peaceful and serene. Candidate Mayfield urged the importance of an expansion of the currency, advocating that the banks be allowed under restrictions to issue up to 40 per cent. of their capital stock. He is unqualifiedly opposed to the State dispensary as now managed, holding that it breeds corruption and scandal, and if persisted in, would occasion distrust in tha State, as it was best to have such matters in counties. He favored the restrictions in the dispensary law and would make the sale more restrictive if desired.

HOT AND DRY WEEK.

J. W. Bauer's Weekly Weather Crop Bulletin.

The South Carolina weekly crop bulletin for the week ending July 6th, says, in part:

Although the week was exceedingly hot and in places dry, yet on the whole correspondents pronounce it a favorable one for the farmer, with many exceptions principally on account of lack of rain, and extreme heat.

The greatest need of rain exists in

the upper Savannah valley, the extreme northwestern and northeastern counties, and in scattered sections elsewhere, but since reports closed quite heavy rains have fallen over portions of the State, but whether the rains covered those portions most in need of it, is not known.

Cotton is blooming over the entire State and although the stalk and weed continue small, is fruiting heavily. Cotton was damaged by hail in Claren-don, Dorchester and Aiken counties, while from Berkeley there are reports of too much rain. Complaints of shedding, and that the plant has stopped growing, were received from Clarendon, Orangeburg and Edgefield, and of grassy condition of fields from Barnwell, Fairfield, Berkeley, York, Bamburg, Hampton, Florence, Newberry, Chester and Clarendon. However, favorable reports preponderate greatly those to the contrary. Sea Island cotton continues in splendid

condition, growing and fruiting well. Early tobacco is being cut and cured but its quality is not as good as the later planting promises to be. Hail damaged this crop slightly in Florence.

Rice is growing well generally al-though the fields are quite grassy, and caterpillars continue troublesome in places, but the fields are being flooded. Sweet potato slips are still being set out and the crop is doing well gener-

ally.
Melons are ripening and being shipped but the crop is a small one in acreage, yield and generally in size of the melons. Only a few report this crop up

to an average.

Peas are doing well with generally good stands. Are still being sown for forage.

Cane is tasselling. Army worms in grass in Charleston county. Gardens Special reports on the present condi-

tion and probable yield of early corn were received, and indicate a more promising outlook than heretofore, but the final results are as yet dependent on the weather for the next few weeks. The stalks are smaller than usual, and are tasselling low, but have a healthy color generally. The stands are irregular, due to poor germination of some seed and to the ravages of worms, the wet spring and poor preparation of

THE MINERS' STRIKE.

The War Department at Washington Holds Troops in Readiness.

The great miners' strike actually began Monday, and the success depends upon the success of the Pittsburg district. Two hundred thousand men have joined the coal strikers of Ohfo, Indiana, Illinois, Western Pennsylvania and Kentucky. The only hitch so far is in Jackson county, where the men have refused to join the strikers. Information indicates that the strike order has been generally obeyed ex-cept in West Virginia, eastern Ohio

and northwestern Kentucky.

At Danville, Ill., the Kelley mines have granted the demands of the striking miners, who have returned to work.

In case of trouble the War Department, at Washington, is ready to respond with the militia promptly in the coal districts.

Senators Hanna, Fairbanks, Turpie, Lindsay, Elkins and Secretaries Sherman, Long and McKenna have all appeared in interviews expressing the hope that the miners' strike may be settled by arbitration.

BACKWARD COUNTIES.

Four Delayed Pension Reports Are Needed by the Comptroller.

All of the counties of the State save those of Beaufort, Laurens, Horry and Hampton have forwarded to the State board of pensions the revised lists of the pensioners in those counties whose claims have been approved. Comptroller Norton has asked that these counties be requested to send in their reports immediately as the whole pen-sion machinery had been clogged by the delay. Inasmuch as the \$100,000 pension appropriation has to be prorated according to the total number of pensioners in the State it is absolutely impossible to tell exactly what amount each pensioner will receive until every report is in hand.

Mr. Norton says that the board will pay the whole amount at once and will not make semi-annual payments. The checks will be issued very shortly and they will be sent to the several county clerks of court, the modus orperandi of campaign party at Walterboro. He delivery to the pensioners being the

TROUBLE BY SUDDEN DEATH.

Some New Features for the Next State Fair-

CAUSE OF FEVER AT CLEMSON.

Winthrop's Scholarships -- Norton is Out for Congress -- Furman University's New President.

Tuesday, the 6th, at Columbia, there was a sensation that was never before equalled in that city. A year ago Dr. Henry T. Kendall married Miss Guiguard, of Brookland, a suburb of that city. The marriage was against the wishes of her family. Two weeks ago Mrs. Kendall became sick with typhoid fever. Her husband declined offers of neighbors and employed a nurse. He attended her himself, but later called in his brother, Dr. F. D. Kendall, the price of the same. largest practioner in Columbia.

A brother-in-law and uncle of Mrs. Kendall called but were not ad nitted, Dr. Kendall saying his wife was too ill. There bad never been a reconcilliation with her family.

The nurse told inquiring neighbors

that the lady could occasionally sit up. On Saturday death came suddenly and Sunday the burial took place in Colum-

Slanderous tongues were wagging before the grave was closed. It was known Mrs. Kendall was in a delicate state of health, and the charge was that death resulted from mal-practice.

Mrs. Kendall was a member of one of the best old families in the State. In Brookland it was said the lives of either of the doctors would be in danger if they appeared there.
Dr. F. D. Kendall, in behalf of his

brother, who was prostrated, demanded The deceased lady's a post mortem. family was notified and every physician in Columbia invited to attend. Efforts were then made by the family to have him desist, but he refused. The presence of the leading business men in

Columbia was also requested.

Judge A. C. Haskell, president of the Loan and Exchange Bank, arriving on the scene after the disinterment had begun, made a statement in which he expressed deep sympathy for the Kendalls, who he knew had been foully slandered by cowards. He dared any man to come forward with an affidavit. Then he urged the Doctor to desist. Dr. Kendall said that the post mortem must be had to protect his brother. A charge of murder might be preferred a few weeks hence, and he would be powerless to disprove it. So the body was disinterred and the unanimous finding of the the physicians was that death was caused by typhoid fever.

Mrs. Kendall was a beautiful young

woman. She had been married less than a year.

President Childs of the Agricultural and Mechanical Society states that it has been decided by the society to add some additional attractive features to the exhibits this fall. First there will be premiums offered for the best deco-rated bicycle, and in addition there will be bicycle races with fine prizes, which is expected to induce many wheelmen to come to Columbia. The next feature will be a display of dairy products and utensils under the direction of Professor Hart, of Clemson. Other new de-partments will be added later on. —Reg-

President D. B. Johnson of the Wintrop Normal College, is hard at work, trying to get everything thoroughly organized preparatory to the next session. He was in Columbia last week looking up the apportionment of members of the General Assembly to the new counties which have been formed recently. The number of scholarships in the col-lege is regulated by the legislative apportionment. The formation of the new counties, therefore, transfers certain scholarships from old counties to new ones.

The committee of three prominent physicians from different sections of the State, appointed some time ago by Governor Ellerbe to investigate the cause or causes of the fever at Clemson, has made its report. It makes rather important disclosures, and the carrying out of its recommendations will entail consideaable expense on the State. The report finds that there is considerable cause for complaint and that the sanitary arrangements are more than worth-

Dr. Edwin C. Dargan, of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary at Louisville, Ky., has been elected by the board of trustees to succeed Dr. Chas. Manly as president of Furman University. Dr. Manly resigned several days ago. It is not known that Dr. Dargan will accept. The board will meet in Columbia on the 20th to elect another president if he declines.

Comptroller General Norton has postirely announced his candidacy for Congress in the Sixth Congressional district to succeed Mr. McLaurin. So far two candidates, Solicitor Johnson and F. D. Bryant, Esq., have filed their pledges. It is considered certain that Mr. D. W. McLaurin will also be in the race.

The Board of Control in session at Columbia elected B. C. Webb, of Charleston, clerk, as successor to W. H. Lawrence, by a unanimous vote.

Rev. G. Walt Whitman failed to get his pledge in the hands of State Chairman Tompkins, therefore he will not be able to make the race for Congress.

The next session of Clemson College will begin on the 18th of September and close the second week in June, 1898. The present senior class will be graduated in February, however. The students will now have summer vacation instead of winter. The resignations of President Craighead and Prof. Tompkins have been accepted by the board and resolutions of regret at the departure of these gentlemen adopted.

Dr. W. M. Meador has been arrested in Union for the attempted burning of the opera house some months ago. gave bond in the sum of \$300.

STATE OFFERS LAND

Very Cheap Rates. South Carolina has plenty of desirable virgin land suitable for the establishment of colonies of emigrants, lands that are not by any means located too far from railroad lines for communities of colonists, and these lands can be bought very cheaply. Those owned by the State will be sold very cheaply for the purpose of getting them on the tax books

Speaking of colonies Secretary of State Tompkins has recently received the following letter which he turned over to State Land Agent J. G.

Worcester Mass., July 4, 1897. To the Secretary of State, Columbia,

S. C .: DEAR SIR-There are a number of people here who are talking of the organization of a co-operative colony and have desired me to make some inquiries in regard to suitable lands in the South. If there are any such lands belonging to your State which are now on the market I shall be pleased to have you send me a description and

Very respectfully, FRANCIS LEANDER KING. Col. Gibbes answered this letter immediately, giving Mr. King full information about the desirable public lands which the State has on hand, and offering inducements which should bring these people here if they mean

business. Col. Gibbes, when questioned, says The State, stated that the State now had between 35,000 and 40,000 acres of public lands which had been confiscated for non-paid taxes. They are located between five and twelve miles of the nearest railroad lines, and are virgin forest lands, none of them being at present under cultivation. The healthiest and best of these lands being located in Kershaw and Chesterfield counties. Any of the land in these counties will be desirable for purposes of colonization. The rest of the land lies in Colleton and Berkeley counties, Col. Gibbes said that anyof these lands would be sold at between 25 cents and \$1 per acre, and much of it even at less

figures if purchased in large tracts. The State of South Carolina is par ticularly favorable to the establishment of colonies of the character proposed by Mr. King, and is willing o do all it can to encourage them.

TILLMAN'S GREATEST GLORY.

You may sneer and kick at Tillman from the morn until the night; You may say he has a pitchfork that emits a silver light;

You may rail at his orations, his professions or his whims, And that sareasm of his answers that no

question ever dims; But you really must acknowledge, while your eye with wonder glows, That he's gaining lasting glory by his tariff ripping pose.

Just observe him in the Senate as the schedule up he takes, When he pitches into sugar and lays bare the tariff fakes;

How he keeps the boodlers squirming as he scores them with a thrust, While defending common people 'gainst the inroads of a trust;

And it's certain by the plaudits of the masses in repose, That Ben Tillman's gaining glory by his tariff smashing blows.

There's a gleam of exaltation bursting thro' the silver crew, As it conjures up the changes Tillman's presents to view

Journals that cartooned the pitchfork are applauding Tillman now, And urging him to use that fork when "protection(?)" robs the plow. So, with visions of the future, silver's

spirit overflows-Hear the people yelling "Tillman!"
when he hits their boodle foes. CECIL LESLIB.

A RECORD BROKEN.

Number of Insanes Admitted During the Month of June.

On the 8th the regular monthly meeting of the board of regents of the State hospital for the insane was held at the institution. A great deal of routine business was transacted and the regents inspected the progress of the work of restoring the burned launiry and of the erection of the new

Parker building. The population of the institution was found to be 832 patients. The superintendent's report showed that during the month of June 42 new patients had been received at the institution. This is the greatest number ever received in any one month. Fourteen patients were discharged.

The insurance companies have adjusted the loss on the laundry building and electric plant, allowing \$5,-349.97 on the policies for \$6,000. Already the work of rebuilding is far advanced. The roof is on the structure, and it will not be more than a month before the laun dry is in full operation again. The machinery has been shipped from Cincinnati. In the meantime a temporaay laundry is running and doing all the work absolutely necessary.

The walls of one portion of the new Parker building are up the first floor; the others will be run up as soon as the excavations in the rear have been completed .- The State.

A WRIT OF ERROR.

Another Step Taken in the Agricultural Hall Case. A petition for a writ of error and as-

signment of errors in the Agricultural Hall case was received here yesterday afternoon and filed with the clerk of the United States Circuit Court. Attorney General Barber appeared before Judge Simonton at Flat Rock a few days ago and obtained an order granting the writ of error on exceptions to the opinion filed by the Court. The State is required to give bond in the sum of \$8,000. The case will now go to Circuit Court of Appeals at Richmond, and can be heard at the Nevember term. No decision, however, can be rendered before next February.— News and Courier, 8th.

SHOWER OF JULY ICE. !

Upon Which Colonies May Locate at A Graphic Account of a Terrific Hailstorm.

R. L. Campbell, a large farmer of the Bethel neighborhood, York county, was in Yorkville last Saturday and gave & graphic account of a terrific hailstorm, which devastated his section a few days

ago.
"The storm," said Mr. Campbell,
"came up very suddenly. I was out at a cotton field at the time, and the first thing I noticed was a great chunk of a black cloud with a strange headlight-like glow in front. It was approaching that I thought it would be a good idea to make for a tenant house. Several of the farm hands had run for the same place and by the time we were well under shelter the storm broke in all its fury. Of all the situations I have ever been it was the most scarry. There was not much water. It was principally a shower of ice. The roof of the tenant house was good, but in less than two minutes the hail had beaten off the boards and was pelting us so unmercifully that we were forced to crowd under beds for shelter. The whole thing, I suppose, lasted five minutes.

"When I went out and took a look at the landscape," continued Mr. Campbell, "the scene made me sick. Where a little while before I had a hundred acres of as fine wheat as is ever raised in the county, and acres and acres of cotton and corn, there was nothing but a barren waste, white in spots with layers of ice The crops with the exception of a few small skips were completely annihilated. In fact most of the land looked as if it had just been prepared for sewing wheat or as if

a pea crop had been turned under.

Next day I decided that perhaps
some of the wheat that had not been beaten into the ground might be raved and put the negroes to work with a couple of horse rakes raking it up, and along with the wheat they raked up thirty-seven dead rabbits, togeth with an almost countless number of small birds of different kinds."

Continuing, Mr. Campbell said that large number of chickens had been killed about his yard and almost every dwelling house. The track of storm was about half a mile in width and some three miles long.
Several other farmers besides Mr. Campbell, including Representative L. K. Armstrong, sustained heavy dam-age.—Atlanta Constitution.

BITES OFF HEADS OF DOGS.

A Strange "Varmint" in York County

Has Been Seen. The negroes east of Yorkville, so says the Atlanta Constitution, for distance of ten miles or more, are greatly wrought up over alleged running through the country of a myster: ious but ferocious animal which, by common consent, they have dubbed "the varmint." Reports say the animal has been seen at different points ranging from three to five unles spart the same night. It is described as being "as large as a calf, black and wooly." So far it is not claimed that it has attacked a human being, but it is charged with having killed and saten quite a number of hogs and dogs. One negro, named John Heather, living on the outskirts of town, claims that the animal came his way and as it was passing his house his two dogs got after it. The "varmint" turned upon the dogs, and right before Heather's eyes bit both of their heads off and went on without giving the animals further as tention. ious but ferocious animal which, by

tention. A negro named Sam Miller, and ing hear Tirzah, put a pistol i pocket as he went to work in orde have some protection against the mint, ' in the event he should sudd mint, 'in the event he should suddenly come across it in the cotton field. While going through the motion of what he would do should the varmint ruddenly put in its appearance, he put a 38-caliber bullet under the cap of his left knee, completely destroying the usefulness of the joint.

The whites generally are skeptical of the existenc of the varmint.

MRS. TURNIPSEED TO CONTEST. Effort to Set Aside Her Niece's Be-

quest to Public Library.

The will of Mrs. A. Viola Neblett, who left property valued at about \$20,-000 for the establishment of a public library at Greenville, will be contested by the desceased aunt, Mrs. Susan Turnipseed.

Mrs. Turnipseed, in her complaint alleges that in the year 1892 she and Mrs. Neblett, who had lived together many years, made an agreement to the effect that the one who died first should leave all her property, with certain small exceptions, to the survivor. Without the knowledge of Mrs. Turnipseed, Mrs. Neblett afterwards made a will which, after providing for certain other bequests, made the library the residuary legatee. On her death a few ment is ago the Neblett Free Library Association was formed and the executor named in the will, G. W. Sirrine, proceeded to carry out the provisions of that document. He is now temporarily restrained by the court from doing so until further orders of the court.

The bequest to the library includes a house and lot on McBee avenue, which has already been fitted up and is now occupied by the library. Soon aft Mrs. Neblett's death the Neblett Fr Library Association was formed to take charge of the library and conduct it.

· If Mrs. Turnipseed wins her case, Greenville will be deprived of an institution which promised to be of much value, unless other arrangements are made for carrying out the plan of the library. The library has received large gifts of books from other sources.

An Ohio girl who was balked in an attempt to commit suicide escaped from her guardians and got married before they could catch her. Thus does the Ohio girl as well as the Ohio man show a capacity for accepting with an equal alacrity anything that comes handy. Death or matrimony, a cabinet office or a cheap clerkship, everything goes in Ohio.

"Now, they speak of her as an update girl. What do you understand by that?" "My boy, a girl that is up to date is up to anything."-Puck