

A RED HOT ANSWER

FIRST CROP BULLETIN

Col. A. B. Williams Takes Bishop

Potter Severely to Task

SOME VERY BRILLIANT ARGUMENTS

The Editor Challenges the Slanderous New York Bishop to a Show of Hands as to Moral Condition of His Diocese and the South Generally.

Bishop Potter of New York is one of the pet superstitions of this country. He is part of the general New York superstition. Because New York is big, most of us assume that any man who becomes prominent there must be a very large and great man indeed. We persistently forget that as many fakirs, humbugs and lightweights ratite and swell around in large places in New York as anywhere else in the world. As for Bishop Potter, he has said and done as many silly things as any other old gentleman we know of. A recent experience of his indicates that his manners are as bad as his morals in some respects are defective. His judgment is bad and his arraignment extreme. Some time ago he undertook to discuss the divorce question in a New York newspaper. As we recollect, he floundered around the subject a good deal and failed absolutely to make any definite suggestion or to indicate any coherent policy for his church or legislation. In the course of his somewhat flabby and chaotic remarks, however, he said that the absolute abolition of divorce would not do. He added: "We have an example of what would result from such a measure in South Carolina, where the laws do not recognize it. Prohibiting divorce is merely putting concubinage at a premium." This does not impress us as a high or a churchmanlike view. Certainly concubinage is not at a premium anywhere in South Carolina.

The editor of the Columbia (S. C.) State wrote Bishop Potter a very respectful letter, pointing out to him that he had done the homes and people of the State serious injustice, referring him to the bishop and clergy of his own church in that State for evidence and asking him to make careful inquiry into the facts and then "take such steps as equity and justice may dictate."

In reply the editor received a most insolent letter from Bishop Potter, indirectly denying that he had used the language attributed to him and describing the editor's letter and article on the subject by Judge Benet, enclosed with it as "equally unwarranted and impudent."

The editor of the State replied with another respectful letter, in a perfectly proper and deferential way, taking off the bishop's hide. He pointed out that the offensive paragraph had been published prominently, that Bishop Potter did not seem fit to make any denial or correction of an outrageous and shameful slander against the people of a whole State and that his denial suggested in his own letter was as evasive as disconcerting. A few days later Bishop Potter printed in the New York Globe a brief statement on the subject, in which he said he had no apology to make to South Carolina and extended his slander to the people of the whole South. He is quoted as saying:

"He had simply remarked that in view of the prevalence of miscegenation in the South, the 'pose' of lofty and superior virtue on the part of its people, anywhere had in it an element equally comic and pathetic."

An accusation like this cannot be sustained or disproved by statistics or affidavits. It can be considered only in the light of general and obvious facts. Virtue is not a thing of sections or of countries. The good are good and the bad are bad everywhere and wherever human nature is, the affections and passions of men and women stray in forbidden paths. One thing, however, is certain and plain. That is that the moral tone is indefinitely cleaner and the social standards are indefinitely higher in South Carolina than in Bishop Potter's diocese. Certainly a woman divorced from her husband and married to another man inside of twenty-four hours would not be received in respectable society anywhere in the South. Yet a woman who did that very thing is a leader of New York's most exalted society. Nobody knows the secret annals of vice; but every observer who has met and known the people of New York and any Southern State knows that in the vastly less filth is talked and written than in New York. The natural and inevitable presumption is that lives in the South are very much cleaner. The women whose conduct and conversation are so distinctly loud and bad as to justify definite criticism is tabooed in every Southern State. Bishop Potter cannot say that that is the case even in the highest and theoretically most exclusive society of his own community.

It would be interesting to know where Bishop Potter got his impressions of the morals of the people of the South and how he would go about justifying himself for circulating such a cruel and injurious charge as that concubinage and miscegenation are general in this part of the country. The truth is that miscegenation in its legal sense is impossible anywhere in the South because it is forbidden and severely punished by law. We do not hesitate to say that the charge that these vices are general or even widespread in the South is false, and in making that assertion we will do better than Bishop Potter. We will offer good evidence to convict him of falsehood if he is willing to dare the issue. We will put on the stand the Protestant Episcopal clergy of the whole South, from bishops to deacons. They live among the people and know them and have ample opportunity for knowing their life. We may assume that some of them, at least, are men who are not afraid to tell the truth in any circumstances or at any cost. For New York, we will take the combined evidence of the clergy, the courts and the newspapers. Like the editor of the State, we invite Bishop Potter to take the evidence, or join us in taking it. If it sustains his accusations, we will confess with shame, but frankly, that he is right. If they contradict him, will he be willing to confess that he has circulated an outrageous and infamous scandal and slander? We do not care whether he attributes it to ignorance, recklessness or malice or to a mixture of the three. If he evades a simple and honest test like this, he will stand convicted of having disgraced himself by a wholesale slander unworthy of a gentleman and of having brought shame and injury upon his own church, so far as his jurisdiction extends.—Richmond News Leader.

PALMETTO MATTERS

First Report of the Opening Season
Issued by the Department.

During both January and February the temperature was persistently low and unfavorable for the growth of winter grains or of truck, but with the advent of March the conditions improved rapidly and the latter part of March was warmer than usual and stimulated the rapid growth of all forms of vegetation. The month was unusually free from frost, only one heavy frost and two light ones having been generally noted, and none of these were damaging. During the last week, day temperature of above 80 degrees was common.

The precipitation was below normal during January and about normal during February, and was deficient during March. In the first of the year the conditions under which the precipitation occurred and that portion in the form of snow and ice, melting as it did slowly, were conducive to the retention of practically all the precipitation that fell, and the soil was well supplied with moisture, but the absence of rain during the second half of March rendered the soil dry in places; on clay lands it became baked and hard. In most places and on all kinds of upland soil the ground was in good condition for tillage.

Plowing, and in general, the preparation of lands made rapid progress during the second half of March and are at this date as well advanced as usual.

Upland corn planting is nearly finished in the eastern counties and has begun in the western ones, with some corn already up in the former regions. While a few fields of cotton have been planted in the southeastern counties, this work is not really under way, and the preparations of lands are scarcely half finished. Other spring crops have been planted in the earlier portions of the State. Rice planting has been begun in the Colleton districts. Gardens are either planted or ready to plant.

Wheat and oats made a fair growth during the last week and where fall sown oats were not winter-killed they look promising. The damage from winter killing was considerable in parts of the State and very slight in other parts. There was a large acreage of spring oats sown and some spring wheat. Both are coming up nicely.

Tobacco plants are of fair size in the beds. Truck did well during March, with lettuce and radishes being shipped and peas almost ready to market. Fruit trees of all kinds are in bloom and the indications at this time are favorable for a large fruit crop.

A Hospital For Georgetown.

Georgetown, Special.—A syndicate composed of the medical fraternity of the city has been organized for the purpose of establishing an infirmary here to be known as the Georgetown Infirmary. A site has been secured for the erection of the buildings and all plans have been perfected to make it one of the most complete and modern in this part of the country. A hospital is something that has been much needed here for a long time and several times in the near past steps were taken to endeavor to establish one, but without result. The one now under contemplation is practically assured and will probably be in full operation by early fall at the latest. The officers of the Georgetown Infirmary company are as follows: President, Dr. M. P. Moore; vice president, Dr. W. E. Sparkman; treasurer, Dr. L. B. Salter; secretary, Dr. H. D. Beckman; superintendent, Dr. Wm. M. Gallard.

Presidential Tour Begins.

Washington, Special.—With cheers and good wishes resounding through the Pennsylvania Railroad station, President Roosevelt left at 9:45 a. m. Monday on a special train for a trip through the Southwest. The special train, which is one of the finest the Pennsylvania Railroad has ever sent out of Washington, consists of three cars, the President's private car, Rockwood, the Pullman sleeper, Forest, and the combination baggage and buffet car, Viceroy. The train is handsomely fitted and contains every known appliance to insure the comfort and safety of the passengers.

Russians Report a Capture.

St. Petersburg, By Cable.—General Linevitch in a dispatch dated April 2, says: "The situation remains unchanged. A Russian patrol during the night of March 27 surrounded a Japanese patrol consisting of six dragoons, in the village of Balchanchente, on the extreme Russian left. Five of the Japanese were killed. A sergeant was captured."

Off For Vladivostock.

St. Petersburg, By Cable.—A letter from Vice Admiral Rojestvensky to his wife, which has just been received here, indicates that the departure of the second Pacific squadron from Madagascar waters is final, and that it is now on the way to Vladivostock. In the letter, the admiral wrote that the sailing of the squadron had been fixed for March 19, but naturally he avoided mention of the route which it was intended to follow on the voyage eastward. The admiral admitted this determination on the part of the admiral to order Rojestvensky to proceed for the Far East.

To Attempt a Freak.

Richmond, Special.—General Fitzhugh Lee, president of the Jamestown Exposition company, announces that an effort will be made to have the remains of Pocahontas, the Indian princess, daughter of Powhatan, brought from Gravesend, England, where they now lie, for re-interment in the old Jamestown churchyard during the period of the Jamestown tri-centennial in 1907.

Counterfeitors Arrested.

Pensacola, Fla.—A gang of counterfeitors, who have been operating for some weeks, have been caught by the police court and United States authorities and are now in jail. The men are all residents of this place. The police also captured the molds, which were made of plaster of Paris. The molds were made to cast dimes, quarters, dollars and ten-dollar gold pieces. A large amount of the money has been placed in circulation and it is a very good imitation.

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR NOTES

Many Newsy Items Gathered From all Sections.

General Cotton Market.

	Middling
Galveston, quiet	7 11-16
New Orleans, steady	7 12
Mobile, steady	7 12
Savannah, steady	7 12
Charleston, steady	7 12
Norfolk, steady	7 12
Baltimore, normal	8
New York, quiet	8.05
Boston, quiet	8.05
Philadelphia, quiet	8.30
Houston, quiet	7 11-16
Augusta, steady	7 12
Memphis, steady	7 12
St. Louis, steady	7 12
Louisville, firm	7 12

Charlotte Cotton Market.

	Middling
These figures represent prices paid to wagons:	7 12
Strict good middling	7 12
Good middling	7 12
Strict middling	7 12
Middling	7 12
Tinges	6 1/2 to 7 1/2
Stains	7 1/2 to 8

Hays Released.

Marion, Special.—The preliminary hearing of H. Hayes, charged with arson, was held and resulted in his release. Hayes, it will be remembered, is the white man who was arrested here last week charged with burning his meat market and Mr. A. L. Campbell's store. Mr. H. J. Holloway from the compressor's office, who worked up the case against Hayes, and who swore out the warrant against him, was here today to attend the hearing before Magistrate Oliver, who issued the warrant. Hayes was represented by Messrs J. W. Johnson and J. H. Evans, and the State by the town's attorney, Mr. W. F. Stackhouse. The hearing consumed the greater part of the day.

The Pickens Teachers.

Pickens, Special.—Pickens county teachers will attend the State Summer school at Clemson college this summer. In order to arrive at the pleasure of the teachers in the matter, County Superintendent of Education Hallum sent out a circular letter. Replies have been received from all the leading teachers of the county and about 95 per cent. of them favor going to Clemson. Judging from the number of favorable replies received the indications are that there will be the same number of Pickens teachers in attendance at Clemson as usually attend in the county school.

Escaped Arrest.

Magnolia, Special.—Jack "Boss" and Claude Simpson, brothers, white, are "on the wing" being charged with assault with a deadly weapon, assault and battery (in another case) of a high and aggravated nature and carrying unlawful weapons. Tom Taylor, colored, charged with assault and battery with a deadly weapon—a razor—is hiding out. He attempted to murder Levi English, colored, a few days ago, severing one ear from the head and inflicting an ugly gash in his neck. English has the reputation of being a very inoffensive and peaceable man. These fugitives will be captured if possible.

New Corporations.

The Darlington Trust company was given a charter last week. The capital stock will be \$200,000. The officers are: R. Keith Dargan, president; E. Keith Darhan, vice president and general counsel; A. Watchman, second vice president; E. C. Lide, secretary and treasurer. The active directors are the gentlemen above named and the following: W. S. Gibson, R. G. Reth, W. F. Stevenson and A. C. Coggesshall. The advisory board consists of S. Wolfram, G. K. King, A. G. Klock, W. A. Dowling, A. L. Flowers, O. J. Sands, W. F. Early, J. A. Weinberg, W. F. Dargan, D. D. Wittcove, W. P. DuBose and R. F. Howie.

The Charleston Billiard and Bowling association, capitalization \$1,000, was chartered.

The News Publishing company of Florence seeks to be incorporated. Capital stock will be \$3,000. Corporators: P. S. Jeffers, W. M. Waters and Dr. F. H. McLeod.

Mistrial in Peacock Cases.

Charleston, S. C. Special.—After being out all night, a Federal Court jury reported inability to reach a verdict in the peacock case involving Italian labor contractors, who were charged with holding employees in involuntary servitude. Judge Brawley ordered a mistrial recorded, and dismissed the jury. This is the first case in the South in which it was charged that white men were held as peons.

Brakeman Kills Conductor.

Charleston, Special.—A special from Orangeburg says that Conductor Charles Oliver, of the Southern railway, in charge of a freight train at Stilton, three miles from this place, was killed about 4 o'clock Thursday afternoon by Brakeman Mickel. The Brakeman walked to Orangeburg to give himself up. He stated that Oliver assaulted him without cause and stabbed him in the shoulder. Picking up an iron bar, Mickel threw it and struck Oliver in the head, the blow crushing the skull. Oliver was a man of thirty years of age and leaves a family.

Peaches May Not be Killed.

Gainesville, Ga., Special.—Opinions differ as to whether the peach crops were killed or not. There was the heaviest frost Friday morning morning seen here in a long time, and there was considerable ice in various localities. Garden truck in some instances was damaged badly. The thermometer registered 31 degrees at the lowest. It is not yet known positively that the peaches were killed, though they are more or less injured.

Faked Money Orders.

Birmingham, Ala., Special.—W. A. Rockwell, a young man in the county jail on the charge of grand larceny, tried to make \$500 bond with a forged money order for small amounts from a distant State, and these were so tampered with as to make their aggregate \$500. He waited until the money order department at the postoffice had been closed and presented them to jail officers as his bond. Suspicion was aroused and the postoffice inspectors were put on the case. He is now held on two charges.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

INTERNATIONAL LESSON COMMENTS FOR APRIL 16.

Subject: The Supper at Bethany, John xii, 1-11—Golden Text, Mark xiv, 3—Memory Verses, 2, 3—Commentary on the Day's Lesson.

I. Jesus entertained at Bethany (v. 1, 2). "Six days before the passover." Six days before His crucifixion. He probably reached Bethany about the beginning of the sabbath, as the Jews reckoned from sunset to sunset. "Bethany." Bethany means "House of Dates" or "House of Comfort." It was a village beautifully situated about two miles southeast of Jerusalem on the eastern slope of the mount of Olives. It was often visited by Christ. "Where Lazarus was." It may have been in honor of his restoration to life that this supper was given, and in gratitude for it that our Lord was anointed. 2. "Made Him a supper." In the house of Simon the leper (Matt. 26:6). This man had evidently been a leper, and had probably been cured by Jesus. According to a tradition Simon was the father of Lazarus; according to others he was the husband of Martha, or Martha was his widow. "Martha served," etc. It is clear that the family of Bethany were in all respects the central figure at this entertainment. Martha seems to have had the entire supervision of the feast and the risen Lazarus was almost as much an object of curiosity as Jesus Himself.

2. "A pound." This was a Roman pound of twelve ounces. "Ointment." By the ointment we are to understand rather a liquid perfume than what we commonly know as ointment. "Spikenard." A aromatic herb imported from Arabia and India. "Very costly." It was worth three hundred pence or denarii, silver coins worth fifteen to seventeen cents each; hence the ointment was worth between forty-five and fifty dollars. This would be equivalent to ten times that amount at the present time. "Anointed the feet." The perfume was an alabaster bottle, or flask, which was made with a long narrow neck. Mark says "she brake the box," or the neck of the flask. The seal which kept the perfume from evaporating had never been removed; it was on this occasion first opened. Matthew says she poured it on His head. There is manifestly neither contradiction nor divergence here between the evangelists. Mary poured the ointment over His feet, not only as the act of greatest humility and the mark of deepest veneration, but from its unusual character, while anointing the head was not so uncommon. She who had so often sat at His feet, now anoints them, and alike for love, reverence and fellowship of His sufferings, will not wipe them with her hair. The anointing shows her faith in Christ and her love for Christ. "Wiped His feet." She took "woman's chief ornament" and devoted it to wiping the travel-stained feet of her Lord. It was the utmost possible expression of her love and devotion. "House was filled." The house was filled with the odor of the ointment, and to day the church and the world are filled with heavenly fragrance whenever loving deeds are performed for Christ.

III. The hypocrisy of Judas rebuked (v. 4-8).

4. "Judas Iscariot." Judas began to find fault at what he called a waste. His mutterings convinced some of the other disciples, so that they joined with him in the condemnation of the act.

Whenever there is an act of splendor, self-forgetfulness there is always a Judas to sneer and murmur at it.

5. "Given to the poor." Mark says they murmured against the woman, and their words and manner were also a reflection on Christ Himself, because He had permitted it to occur.

6. "A thief." Judas was bad at heart; he was playing the hypocrite. "The bag." The cash-box in which the goods of the small company were kept. "And bare it," etc. Not bare it on by theft, though that he did; but simply had charge of its contents as treasurer.

7. "Let her alone." Christ was indignant at the hypocrisy which made a pretended consideration of the poor an excuse for attacking and condemning an act of love toward Himself.

"Against the day of My burying." It is not for nothing, as your reproaches suggest, that she has poured forth this perfume. She has embalmed Me beforehand.

8. "The poor always." This act of Mary's will not interfere with your care for the poor. You can do good to them at any time. "Me not always." Christ's bodily presence was about to be removed from them. What they did for Him must be done quickly.

IV. Curiosity and conspiracy (v. 9-11). 9. "Of the Jews." John, who was a Galilean, often gives the title of Jews to those who were inhabitants of Jerusalem. "Knew that He was there." Large caravans would be coming up for the Passover from all portions of the country, and the news would spread quickly through the shifting crowds that Jesus and Lazarus were in Bethany. The result was that many of them believed.

10. "Lazarus also to death." As long as he lived, they saw an incontestable proof of the divine power of Christ.