

There's Something Doing at A. B. Cathcart's

All the while. More and more the farmers of Fairfield county are learning that the **SECRET** to their **SUCCESS** lies in giving their **MONEY** its greatest **PURCHASING POWER** in buying their **GROCERIES AND FARM SUPPLIES.**

And so the number who buy here is constantly increasing, for it has been found by test that **WE DELIVER THE GOODS.** It will mean Dollars and Cents in your pocket to do your trading here. All that is necessary is for you to give us a trial and then you will join the ranks of **SATISFIED CUSTOMERS** who have proven over and over that this is the place where they always get their **FULL MONEY'S WORTH.**

Groceries! Groceries!

Are our Specialty. We handle the very best and sell at the very closest price. Phone orders from town or country always given the promptest and most careful attention. Let us know your grocery wants and we will be sure to please you!

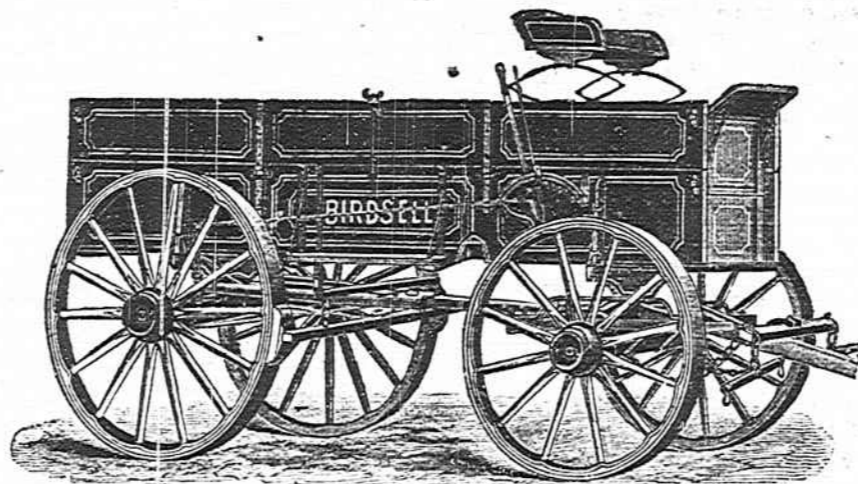
Shoes! Shoes!

For a first-class **SHOE** for all round service you can't do better than come here, where you will be sure to find just exactly what you want. We also handle a good dress shoe at \$2.50 and \$3.00, which can't be beat for the money.

Bagging and Ties.

Big stock on hand in both new and second-hand, and will be sold at prices that will make it to your interest to call here before buying. These are bought right and will be sold the same way.

BIRDSELL WAGONS.



When it comes to buying a wagon, it always pays to buy the Best. The Birdsell is without a superior on the market and is Real Value. There is nothing but praise for the Birdsell from those who have used it. Here are points in its favor worth considering:

The Material and Mechanical Construction are of the very best. None but thoroughly competent mechanics and latest improved special machinery are employed in its construction. All wood material is thoroughly air-dried under sheds and is the very best to be had.

Buggies! Buggies!

All that we ask is that you do not **BUY THAT BUGGY** till you see what we have to offer you. Do this and you will find that you will save money and get genuine satisfaction out of the buggy that you buy.

Mowers! Mowers!

No better Mower on the market than the Osborne. They always give the very best satisfaction. Be sure to let us show you this mower before you buy. It will please you and please us too. All Osborne Mower Repairs always in stock.

Seed Oats.

Carload of best Red Rust Proof Oats to arrive soon. Don't fail to sow oats and you can't do better than to get your seed here.

The continuous increase in our business finds its explanation in the fact that we never neglect the interests of our customers in any particular, however small. Those have traded with us in the past have found that there is nothing that pleases us more than pleasing them. We shall be glad to please you also and you are invited to give us a trial order so that you can see how much interested we are in pleasing you.

A. B. CATHCART, Groceries and Farm Supplies.

The Lost Earl of Mars.

Sometime about the middle of the 18th century the old Earl of Mars, Scotland, was gathered unto his fathers. As was the law, his eldest son entered into the honor and dignity of the earldom and the enjoyment of the profits of a large estate thereto appertaining.

There was a younger son, John, who no longer had an interest in the estate, and who must now rely on his own endeavors and resources for his advancement. After carefully considering his surroundings and surveying his environments, he concluded to try his fortunes in America as many of his young countrymen were doing in that day. In due course of time he arrived and settled in the State of Maine. Here he married and entered into the duties and life of a good and useful American citizen. To him was born a son, James, who was reared about his father's home. In his young manhood he left the bleak New England hills and journeyed to the sunny south to better his condition. He settled in Kershaw county and began to oversee the slaves of the wealthy planters, getting employment some years in Kershaw, others in Fairfield county. He married a Kershaw girl, and five or six daughters were born unto him, but he was not blessed with a son.

It is said that James Mars was a portly and handsome man and would easily pass for the employer instead of employee when seen together.

The young earl died without an heir, and John was then entitled to the honors and estates of the earldom. Before he could be located death had overtaken him. His son, James, was the next heir, and diligent enquiry was instituted for him, and was kept up at intervals for some

years. He left his old Maine home and had communicated with none of his old mates. On account of these unsuccessful efforts to find him he came to be known as "The Lost Earl of Mars." When he was located he too was in his grave.

Could James have known of his good fortune he would have jolted with noblemen and might have hobnobbed with royalty itself instead of wearing himself away with the gad and grind of a wage-earner, and his daughters may have been mothers of nobles instead of plain citizens of the republic.

As the earldom could not descend to a female it became extinct, but the heirs of James Mars were entitled to the estate could they prove their genealogy. This they have not done. John brought with him to America a golden snuff box with the family coat-of-arms engraved thereon—a heirloom. Some of the heirs thought that the possession of this souvenir would connect them with the estate. It was believed that this box was in South Carolina, and a fancy price has been offered for it at different times without success.

One of the daughters of James Mars married a McQuarters of Fairfield, and C. S. Ford, present representative of Fairfield, is one of the descendants. As he is well known nothing will be said about him.

There may be others. Another daughter married a Rutland, Fairfield, who has several descendants; but one will be mentioned. James Mars Rutland was named for his maternal grandmother. In his boyhood he was fond of books and liked to go to school, and would attend when his parents were too poor to furnish a lunch for his noon repast, and would receive the jers and scoffs of his more fortunate mates in

good humor. Notwithstanding his poverty and gloomy prospects he managed to graduate at the University of Virginia and prepare himself for the practice of law. This he began in the early 40's probably. It is said that the fees received for cases in the first, second and third courts repaid all the money advanced on his education and profession in addition to his living expenses. His practice was lucrative until the beginning of the war. He did much good with part of his money. He died in the 70's and was buried in Rock Hill, S. C. He must have had a perfect record of being buried alive as he provided that a tin trumpet extend from his coffin to the surface of the earth above.

The other daughters of James Mars married and followed their husbands to the western states. Some of them left interesting families, and some of their descendants are influential as well as men of affairs.

L. M. Ford.

Like Finding Money.

Finding health is like finding money—so think those who are sick. When you have a cough, cold, sore throat, or chest irritation, better act promptly like W. C. Barber, of Sandy Level, Va. He says: "I had a terrible chest trouble, caused by smoke and coal dust on my lungs; but, after finding no relief in other remedies, I was cured by Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Coughs and Colds." Greatest sale of any cough or lung medicine in the world. At McMaster Co.'s, Obeur Drug Co.'s and John H. McMaster & Co.'s drug stores; 50c and \$1.00; guaranteed. Trial bottle free.

From Moses and Jesus we learn our best lessons.—Baldwin.

A Message from the State Superintendent of Education.

(By Supt. O. B. Martin.)

The pressing duty of South Carolina in educational matters now, as I see it, is to reduce illiteracy and provide adequate elementary training for every child. Our State, comparatively speaking, has done well in providing higher education. Churches and private individuals have also accomplished great results for the same cause. We have reached the point where it is necessary for the State, the church and the citizen to co-operate in building up the elementary schools in order that the State and the colleges may continue to prosper. That is the wise which lends its effort to the aid of the common school.

Our civilization cannot be what we want it to be when one white man out of seven cannot write his name, and one negro out of three is densely ignorant. I believe that our civilization fifty years hence is directly dependent upon our present efforts. Such being the case it behooves every citizen to help advance the work of education and training. Not in a perfunctory way with a quasi approval, but he should study the situation and help where he can do most good. This is a work upon which all can agree without regard to creed, profession or occupation. We all believe in knowledge and training. We all believe that ignorance and illiteracy are helpless, and that the ability to use knowledge is power. We believe that training develops skill, and we know that our State needs knowledge and skill. About one thousand well equipped rural schools, with three first-class teachers in each, are needed right now in South Carolina. These could do primary, intermediate and advanced work with success. This does not contemplate a mere

hull of a building which would simply enclose three teachers and a hundred children. It does not mean barely enough furniture to seat the school. When we say "school" we should think of a place of beauty, of service and of advantages. There should be attractions there for every member of the community. It should be the centre of social and intellectual life. There the literary, musical, debating and social clubs should meet. There should be the library and the reading rooms. I have recently been much interested in some inquiries and observations which I have made in regard to parents reading books from the rural libraries. It is a source of gratification to think that our schools are doing something for the education of the parents. It is a special pleasure to help those whose early advantages were limited. More than 50,000 books have been put into country school libraries during the past eighteen months. This is but an index and a beginning of the great work of building up our school system. There is more to do in the way of better furniture, better houses and better teachers, but time and space forbid further discussion along these lines. Suffice it to say that we are slowly working along these lines and we need greater effort and co-operation. School districts in cities, towns and country are building new houses. Some of them are elegant and excellent. Many are well equipped. These will naturally lead to a demand for a better system of preparatory and high schools. Within a few years we should be able to bridge the gap between our schools and colleges. When this is done our colleges will be forced to expand even more. Many a boy fails to get a college education because he finds a clerkship in a store so much more accessible than a high

school. It devolves on us to develop our high schools. I think it a far more worthy ambition to build a first-class high school than a low grade college. There is work for us all to do in giving proper and sufficient training to our citizenship, and it always gives me great pleasure to find an individual, a paper, a community or a state doing its duty in this regard.

Old Gorgon Graham's Son.

The following are some of the high lights of business and things put in the mouth of "Old Gorgon Graham" by the clever author of "Letters of a Self-made Merchant to his Son."

It's been my experience that when an office begins to look like a family tree, you'll find worms tucked away snug and cheerful in most of the apples.

When a man makes a specialty of knowing how some other fellow ought to spend his money, he usually thinks in millions and works for hundreds.

When an ass gets the run of the pasture he finds thistles.

No man's a failure until he's dead or loses his courage, and that's the same thing.

I'm hopeful, but I'm a good deal like the old deacon back in Missouri who thought that games of chance were sinful, and so only bet on sure things—and I'm not betting.

I've usually found that these quick, glad borrowers are slow, sad payers. And when a fellow tells you it hurts him to borrow you can bet that the thought of having to pay is going to tie him up in a bow-knot of pain.

Trouble postponed always has to be met with accrued interest.

Don't hurt anyone if you can help it, but if you must, a clean, quick wound heals soonest.

It's better to see ten bosses

than to miss one buyer. A house never gets so big that it can afford to snuff at a hundred pounds sausage order, or to feel that any customer is so small that it cannot afford to bother with him. You've got to open a good many oysters to find a pearl.

You can buy a lot of home happiness with a mighty small salary, but fashionable happiness always costs just a little more than you're making.

It's always been my opinion that everybody spoke American while the tower of Babel was building, and that the Lord let good people keep right on speaking it. So when you've got anything to say to me, I want you to say it in language that will grade regular on the Chicago board of trade.

It isn't what a man's got in the bank, but what he's got in his head that makes him a great merchant.

Look in a man's eyes for honesty, around his mouth for weakness, at his chin for strength, at his hands for temperance, at his nails for cleanliness.

Every smallest stroke of virtue or of vice leaves its never-so-little scar.—James.

One meal doesn't make a man fat. Nor does one advertisement make a business fat. Like eating, it's keeping at it which makes a business grow.—Greenwood index

Ignorance is either a good thing for a community or it is a bad thing. The means with which to banish ignorance can be voted into a community or they can be voted out. A good school house, a good teacher, and a good library are the deadliest foes ignorance has; they can be voted into any community in South Carolina.—Selected.