

# The Press and Banner.

By W. W. and W. R. Bradley.

HUGH WILSON, Editor.

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## Is It Not Time To Abate the Nuisance?

Mr. Thos. L. LaMotte, of Columbia, is greatly exercised over the increase of crime in this State, and, like a good Christian in the discharge of duty to his Maker and to his fellowman he seeks to find out the cause of the decadence in good behavior in South Carolina.

In looking around and surveying the field, Mr. LaMotte has come to the deliberate opinion that the dispensary, and not the blind tigers, has something to do with crime. In this opinion we are certain that our good brother is in error. And we think we can prove it.

Immediately after establishment of the dispensary the official reports from towns all over the State indicated a great reduction in crime, and the number of arrests for drunkenness was reduced to a minimum. We believe that nobody will deny this.

Now, let us look into the Law and Order League, its history, and its effect on the public morals.

Mr. LaMotte proves by specific and definite figures that crime has greatly increased with the passing months ever since the organization of the Law and Order League.

If facts are figures are worth anything they prove conclusively that Mr. LaMotte's favorite organization is simply sending this country to the demitition bow-wows.

Since the organization of that League crime has greatly increased and, outside of the presence of the Law and Order League, we do not know of any cause for it. Drunkenness, has increased, and hasn't lawlessness and crime increased at an extraordinary rate since the League came into existence? If that League is not responsible for the increase in lynchings we would like to know who is responsible for the reprehensible practice.

The dispensary has been here for years, and we were getting along very nicely until the Law and Order League came on the scene.

We have a fearful condition of lawlessness from one end of the State to the other. The fact is, that matters are getting so bad that somebody ought to be arrested. If, then, anybody ought to be arrested, why not lock up the Law and Order League until such time as their activity and doings can be investigated. It is time an example was made of such people as show that crime has so much increased since they organized for the specific purpose of intermeddling with the administration of the law of the land.

Seeing the fearful effects resulting from the settings and doings of the Law and Order League, the United States Government has created that League with the Kuklux Klubs, and send Merrill back to South Carolina where, about twenty years ago, he gave the law and order people of that day the jim-jams.

The United States should not be encouraged in intermeddling with State or local affairs. It is not the duty of the Governor and the Legislature to look after the Law and Order people and require the members to refrain from increasing crime and lawlessness? If the Law and Order League has become a public nuisance, and the existence of that League is a menace to the peace and good behavior of the people, then the Governor and the Legislature should proceed at once to abate the nuisance.

This people have borne much in the past, but the limit of endurance seems to have been reached when they were afflicted by the presence of the Law and Order League.

The County has again settled bills for having the books of the County Treasurer and the County Supervisor gone over. This time we believe the bill was over \$500 for doing work which we believe the law requires the Comptroller General to do in the discharge of his office.

No fault is to attach to the experts who have been at the work. Their conduct has been such as to command respect.

Now, that these books have been settled it is hoped that the Comptroller General will see that they are kept straight.

If the Legislature has made no suitable provision for the crediting and settling of the Treasurer's accounts, it is certainly the duty of that body to make such arrangements as will require at least one annual settlement of the finances of every County.

As we understand, the law contemplates or expects or requires the Comptroller General to do this work every year. But we believe that no definite expense, or exact settlement has ever been required of any Treasurer in this County until this term of office has expired.

No other great corporation of which we have any knowledge, allows its financial agents to handle money year in and year out without settling up at least once a year.

Since the Tillman administration went into office, we believe the Comptroller General has made but one settlement before the present settlement with Treasurer Blake. Mr. Blake was in office for twelve years and yet although he was ready he could get no settlement during all these years.

To postpone these settlements for years is just to neither the people nor their officers.

It has been said that the duties of the Comptroller General are so great that that officer has no time to make the settlements. If the Legislature places too many duties on the Comptroller General, then sufficient help should be given him to enable him to keep his offices in good shape, and the officer should be given the necessary clerical force to enable the Comptroller General to perform the most important duty of his office, namely: in making annual settlements with the Treasurers.

In case, however, the Legislature will not give the necessary clerical force, then, as we know of no duty more important than that of settling with the Treasurers, we would suggest that other work and not that of settling with the Treasurers should be left undone.

It is unjust to tax the people with the expense of doing the work which has been assigned to a public officer, and which work the officer undertook to do in assuming his official duties.

The Legislature should provide that if the Comptroller General neglects or refuses to settle, and the services of an expert are necessary that the officer, and not the State or the County should pay the expense.

Let the Legislature give all the needed help that the office of the Comptroller General needs, and then require him to perform the duties or pay the expense of having that office do his own work.

Nothing herein is intended to be a personal reflection on anybody but we think the grounds of complaint or neglect of official duty should be removed.

Look up my advertisement and read description of a desirable house I am offering for sale. Robt. S. Link.

# A. M. SMITH & CO.

Some one has said, "speak softly and carry a big stick," but another has more wisely said, "think twice and speak once." So we have deliberated carefully upon what we have to say, and feel fully justified in asserting that we are prepared to make it to the interest of all to make their fall purchases of us. Our merchandise was selected with the greatest care and while our prices are always at rock bottom we see to it that no shoddy goods go out of our store.

Below are some of the the bargains we have in store for all:

## DRY GOODS.

We are showing a choice line of Dry Goods, Dress Goods, Outings, Flannels, Wash Goods, Table Damask, Prints, Shirtings, Denims, Tickings and some special drives in Unbleached Honespuns.

## SHOES.

If there is any one line that we give more attention than others it is Shoes. We have the George Snow, the Adamant and Rice & Hutchins goods and all that is necessary is a look to convince every one that we sell the shoes that wear longest.

## CLOTHING.

For medium grade clothing and pants we are strictly in it. Our Buck Skin Jeans Pants are world beaters.

## TRUNKS.

We have the largest stock of Trunks and Suit Cases we have ever shown, and guarantee the goods, and prices to meet the views of all.

## BLANKETS.

They may be found at our store from cheapest to best. Just received a case of North Carolina made blankets that will be a source of satisfaction to every purchaser.

## China and Cut Glass.

We claim to be headquarters for these goods and now have on exhibition some of the most superb patterns ever shown, and earnestly request a look from all prospective buyers.

## SADDLERY.

We have Saddles from \$13 down. Buggy Harness, Buggy Robes, Bridles, Collars and Breaching to suit all who may be in need of this class of goods.

## RUGS.

It will surely profit each and every one to see our Rugs and Carpet Remnants before making purchases. We have many beauties and prices are right.

## HATS and CAPS.

In addition to our regular splendid stock in these lines we are now showing several hundred Sample Hats and Caps--no two of which are alike--and feel sure we can please all who favor us with a call. They are the greatest bargains in town.

## GROCERIES.

Cut a large figure in our business, and while we strive to keep the very best and purest goods our prices will be found as low as the lowest.

## Drummers' Samples.

We have contracted for the South Carolina samples from three of the largest dry goods and notion houses in Baltimore, and have just received a second shipment, and as far as these goods will go, we unhesitatingly say they are the greatest bargains in the city of Abbeville.

# A. M. Smith & Co.

### The American People in a Box.

If the American people were ever in a dilemma, they are in that condition now. With the Democratic candidate making the proposition to throw away the Philippines and leave our friends there to be butchered by their enemies, as his most important plank, is enough to make the heart sick. Add to this the Democratic candidate's silence on the canal question, and the South-ern Democrat is without a representative.

With Roosevelt at the head of the other column, where may the citizen go for relief?

With the most objectionable Republican leading the Redcoats, and with the Democratic candidate advocating disintegration of the country, where shall we turn for a deliverer?

If the Democratic candidate would throw away the Philippines and put a stop to the canal, and Roosevelt would stir up strife between the races and excite public distrust of the people of the South, then we are political orphans indeed.

### Constitutional Amendments.

Our people will vote on several proposed Constitutional Amendments. Full particulars may be learned by reference to the advertisement of the election.

As a rule, we think it safe to vote against intermeddling or tinkering with the Constitution. But about the biggest fool proposition that was ever made is that to have beneficial sessions of the Legislature.

We have no objection to give to anybody, but we expect to vote "No," all the way through.

### The Next Essayist.

Rev. Mr. Sams will read the next essay before the Literary Club, and although he is a minister of the gospel, we are assured that it will be neither of a religious nor of a political nature. There are so many shades of political and religious belief, and every man being perfectly certain that he is right, and that all others are wrong. It is well that the rules of the Club forbid the discussion of either subject. As a rule, people have very little tolerance for people who differ from them in politics or religious, and the discussion of these differences are neither pleasant nor conducive to spirituality.

### Use of the Court House.

We notice that the grand jury has recommended that the Court room be denied for theatrical performances.

This is a new proposition, it has been said at various times before, and we hope that it will be disregarded in future as it has been in the past.

The use of the Court House has never been denied for religious service, and it seems now that anybody else than theatrical performances can have it.

We think religious people that enjoy unadorned prayers have no sort of right to try to deny to others the same privileges which they enjoy.

As long as Church and State remain separate, public officers have no right to give the people's house to religious purposes and then deny the house to other citizens who seek the place for public entertainments along different lines, though not inconsistent with the purest and best religion.

There can be no doubt that if the Court House may be used for religious purposes, theatrical exhibitions cannot fairly and justly be excluded.

We are sorry for the religion or the hypocritical pretense at religion, which would be selfish in one particular and deny to others the same privilege which they claim themselves.

The Court House is the people's house. Their money built it, and when the people want to use it for proper purposes, and will take care of it, who shall presume to say no.

### THE LITERARY CLUB.

Met Last Friday Night at the Home of Dr. Harrison.

The Literary Club met last Friday night at the home of Dr. Harrison. Rev. P. B. Wells read a paper on the history of the translations of the Bible, or words to that effect.

The rules of the club forbid the discussion of politics and religion, but this paper was of a historical nature, and was of such a character that while all his hearers could talk of the Bible, its teachings and its beauties, yet not one of the members present added a word along the line which the essayist had blazed out.

The paper showed great labor and much care in its preparation, and went a long way to prove that the Bible, as we have it today, is largely the work of men. Thousands of changes have been made from the original translation, and the demand of this day and time is for still further tinkering with the sacred Scriptures. If one man, or a committee of men, may say violent hands out that Book and add to, or take from, or change the wording, then others may do the same thing, and so on, until the whole structure be destroyed. We have seen it stated that when an eminent divine was asked what effect he thought Benvenuto's writings would have on the Christian religion, he replied substantially as follows: "Benvenuto's writings can have little or no effect on the Christian religion. The great menace to the Christian religion is to be found in the pupil who writes so many ministers, and the translation, and thus disturb the well founded faith of the hearers."

Rev. Mr. Sams is the next essayist, and the next meeting is to be held in November at the home of Mr. Brown.

This is the first meeting since last April, when the club met at the home of Mr. Parker.

For quick sale list your Real Estate with Robt. S. Link.

If you are thinking of investing in Real Estate, give me a call. Robt. S. Link.

### BURNED TO DEATH.

Caught Putting a Kettle the Fire and Burned Almost to Death Before Flame was Extinguished.

The fatal burning of Jennie Eva Richie, the daughter of William J. and Clara Richie, colored, early on Monday morning, October 24, has cast a thick gloom over the community. The surroundings and circumstances under which it was done make it extremely sad.

On Monday morning between seven and eight o'clock this young woman had arisen and completed her part of the household duties. The mother was out administering to the sick, the father had about begun his work.

Jennie Eva, who was in an act of washing the dishes, placed the kettle on the fire in the place, and the flames leaped up and ignited some of her clothing as she turned, probably, to leave. On discovering her condition she ran to her sister Clara, who was then on the rear porch. Clara put forth almost superhuman efforts to extinguish the flames, but owing to the extreme inflammability of the material which she was wearing, the flames made such headway until Jennie Eva thought of an elder sister, Mrs. Mary Pope, residing directly across the street, who ran screaming across the road. Her heart-rending screams brought the neighbors to her doors and windows, only to behold a sight that will haunt from their vision only when life is extinct.

A blaze, an indescribable something, a veritable ball of fire without human form, darting across the road with the cruel flames licking heavenward several feet above the heads of its victims as if seeking other sacrifices upon which to satiate their greedy and meretricious appetites.

Elizah Jones, who was passing at the time, and had passed some paces beyond the gate, seeing the situation turned to her rescue, but a fatal mistake she made, she only sat on the porch. Her residence of her sister, Mrs. Pope, Jennie Eva broke loose and passed into an adjoining room and sought refuge behind the window curtains, which she only sat on fire. Elizah Jones and Mrs. Pope strove frantically to rescue her, but alas, the flames had done their work. The parents and Mrs. Mary Parker it is quickly notified over the phone but only arrived to find themselves helpless.

Jennie Eva had passed beyond the aid of all medical skill, which distressing information was soon imparted to a grief-stricken father.

Everything in reach was done to make the few remaining earthly moments as comfortable as possible.

Jennie Eva Richie, the deceased was born Feb. 2, 1883 and died at 8 o'clock, Oct. 24, 1904.

### DESIRABLE HOME FOR SALE!

I offer for sale house and lot in the city of Abbeville. The lot contains four acres of land. The house is almost new and is just such as you would likely plan if you were going to build yourself a nice house, has five rooms, bath room and kitchen, waterworks and electric lights, has both cold and hot water connections.

Don't miss this opportunity to get a desirable home at much smaller cost than you could buy and build.

ROBT. S. LINK.

### WEST END.

Happenings and Incidents of a Week About the City.

Oct. 26, 1904.

Mr. Courtney B. Wilson, who is attending school at Clinton spent a few days here last week on account of Synod.

Mrs. Charles Lyon is in Greenville, spending a while with friends.

Mrs. J. Y. Jones was in the city last week to see her brother, Mr. J. E. Jones, who has fever.

Mrs. James H. Perrin went to Greenville last Tuesday to attend the funeral service of her friend Mrs. Maudie Thompson.

Mrs. Perrin returned on Tuesday.

Mrs. Lalla R. Hix of Troy was in Abbeville Friday shopping.

Mrs. Ellen Parker Norwood came down from Greenville Saturday and is in the city spending some time with her uncle Hon. William H. Parker.

Hon. J. P. Carey of Pickens has been commissioned Special Judge for a special term of Court here in November.

Mrs. J. S. Norwood of Dresden is in town spending a few days with Miss Kate Marshall.

Mrs. Lucia Cheatham left Monday for Columbia where she will spend Fair week with her friend Miss Maudie Thompson.

Mrs. J. W. Bryson has gone to Savannah, Jacksonville and Tampa, on business.

Mrs. Sarah J. Lee is at home after an extended stay in Greenville where she was the guest of Mrs. Sara M. Gover.

Mrs. Marie Gary is in Columbia enjoying the gala week. Miss Gary is the guest of Mrs. B. F. Bailey while in Columbia.

Mr. L. T. Miller left Monday for Greenville to see the new building.

Mr. Charles Hammond was in Abbeville Monday.

Gen. R. R. Hemphill went to Columbia Tuesday to enjoy the Fair.

PENNEL EDWARDS.

Miss Lola Pennel and Mr. James Edwards were married Sunday evening at the home of the bride's mother, Mrs. Margaret Pennel.

Mr. J. C. Shive officiated. Miss Pennel has lived in Abbeville for a number of years and has won many friends by her quiet, gentle manners.

Mr. Edwards is an Engineer on the Seaboard and is highly esteemed by his employers.

The marriage is quite a surprise to their friends.

Best wishes for a happy life together is extended them.

Messrs David Hill and R. G. Hemphill have been elected to Editors of the Clemson Annals.

Mr. Hemphill is at Clemson taking a post graduate course in Agricultural Science.

The friends of Mr. R. E. Hill, Jr., will be glad to know that he has been admitted to the firm of S. J. Thomson & Co. in Greenville, S. C. It will be an incorporated firm with a paid up capital of \$50,000. This is an unusual opening for a young man, but Mr. Hill is a thorough business like and will no doubt be a helpful member of the firm.

### More Goods Same Money. Same Goods Less Money.

Delivered Free.

### Good Mattresses

"Dexter" - "Regal" - "Rex"

Each, at its price, is as good as can be made.

Read what a few of our customers say in regards to our **Springs and Mattresses**



VICTOR No. 1.

"I would not take \$25.00 for it I could not get another," says.....

"Please send me one of those Springs and Mattresses like you sold Mrs..... at once. If you have not them, order them for me at once, I would have no other".....

"Please ship first freight another one of your Victor Springs. This makes the sixth one I have gotten of you and it is needless for me to say I am highly pleased.".....

"I have tried any number of Springs and Mattresses trying to get something to please me. A friend suggested the Dexter Mattress and Victor Springs, says she was using them and highly pleased. I did, and I now say no amount of money could purchase them if I could not get any more.".....

These were just taken at random amongst our files, fifty more just like them. If they satisfy others, why not you? 5 years guarantee on them. Sixty nights free trial.

THE KERR FURNITURE CO.

The home of the Dexter, Regal, Rex Mattresses.

CASH ON CREDIT

Look up my advertisement and read description of a desirable house I am offering for sale. Robt. S. Link.