

Edgefield Advertiser.

Oldest Newspaper In South Carolina.

VOL. 73.

EDGEFIELD, S. C., WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11th, 1908.

NO. 39.

EDGEFIELD BURNED 27 YEARS AGO. ONLY FOUR STORES LEFT.

Not Enough Provision Left in the Town to Feed it 48 Hours.

Supposed to Be Work of Incendiary.

Twenty-seven years ago, October 30th, 1881, Edgefield was in ashes as a result of the most disastrous fire in its history. The following is an exact copy of an extra of The Advertiser that was published Sunday morning, October 30th, 1881, which will doubtless be interesting to many of our readers:

With feelings of unspeakable horror and sadness the ADVERTISER announces to its readers that the County-site of old Edgefield lies in ashes and ruins.

At dawn this morning, Sunday, October 30th, the large livery stable belonging to the Tillman hotel and standing in rear of same was discovered to be in flames. The wind was blowing fiercely, and sat fatally to the Northwest, bearing the flames directly over Park Row. In less than an hour all of Park Row, the various small buildings in rear of it, and Capt. Markert's cabinet shop were in flames.

So wild and sweeping was the wind that human effort availed nothing. For a couple of hours the ADVERTISER building seemed doomed but in God's providence the wind bore the flames in a contrary direction, and the building and properties are safe. From Park Row the flames leaped across the street to the store house occupied by Mr. Lee Holson, Mr. Wade Youngblood and the two barbers; from this to the Chronicle office, lately so handsomely repaired by Mr. A. J. Norris; from this to Mr. Lynch's drug store from this to the huge building occupied by Mr. Clisby and Mr. Cobb; from this to the little brick office occupied by Mrs. Crawford; from this to the old law office of Carroll & Bacon; while in rear of all these all law offices were consumed—Mr. John Addison's, Mr. Walter Ouzts' old law Range, thence to Sheppard Brothers. The

latter part of the town was consumed but his mansion was saved. The old Saluda House, the property of Col. H. W. Addison was saved. The vast Tillman hotel was swept away as if by magic. The Methodist parsonage, the private residence and the law office of Norris & Folk were saved. From the old Saluda House to the Advertiser building, and from the Advertiser building to the Methodist parsonage and Mr. W. B. Penn's residence is one horrible waste of ashes—not a building stands upon the scene. The buildings on the public square are now these alone, the Advertiser building, Dr. Parker's office, law office of Glover & Abney, old Ryan Hotel, Post Office, old Bryan brick store, Mims photograph building, Jail and Court House. The law offices and small buildings, beginning with the Gary law office and running down to the Catholic Church, are uninjured. The bar-rooms, the billiard saloons, blacksmith shops, negro store are all gone.

The merchants were able to save but small portions of their stocks; and these stocks were almost entirely uninsured. We give a hurried but still a reliable list of the losses: Mrs. Tillman hotel furniture, \$8,000; 3 blacksmith shops, J. L. Addison and S. W. Nicholson, 1,500; M. A. Markert, undertaking shop and tools, 4,000; 3 stores on Park Row, S. W. Nicholson, 9,000; 1 store, Park Row, O. L. Dobson, 1,500; 1 store, Park Row, W. H. Brunson, 3,500; 1 store, W. B. Penn, Main Street, 1,500; 3 stores, Dr. D. C. Tompkins, 4,500; 1 brick office J. L. Addison, 800; M. L. Holson's store, 3,000; Clisby and Hart, 2 stores, 3,000; A. J. Norris, 2 stores, 5,000; M. A. Markert, 2 stores, 4,000; A. A. Clisby, 1 store, 2,500; H. T. Wright, 1 store, 3,500; Jesse Timmerman, brick office, 500; J. P. Carroll, law office, 600; D. D. Ouzts, 2 brick offices, 1,500; J. L. Addison, law office, 1,500; J. L. Addison, 3 offices in law Range, 1,500; Sheppard Bros., law office, 1,200; Lawrence Cain, dwelling, 2,500; W. E. Lynch, office, 300; Alvin Hart, stock, 8,000; W. B. Penn, 5,000; M. Lebeschultz, 2,500; W. H. Brunson, 3,500; Edgefield Chronicle, 800; Penn & Anderson, 2,500; B. P. Covar, 2,000; Colored Corporation Store, 3,000.

JOHNSTON FLORAL FAIR.

Beautiful Exhibits, Bountiful Dinner, Handsome Sum Realized.

A great throng gathered at Johnston on Saturday last from the neighboring towns and from all parts of the county, the occasion being the annual floral fair. This was the third and last of a series of autumn fairs held in the county that would do credit to very large cities, where florists of many years of experience and of unquestioned skill display the products of their labor. The first was held at the County Fair, the second at Trenton and the last—last in time only—was held at Johnston. Why should not these three organizations combine their beautiful flowers next year and have a joint exhibit at the County Fair? County Fair, did we say? Yes, the signs of the times point unmistakably to a County Fair at Edgefield in the fall of 1909.

During the early morning hours, roses, dahlias, ferns, begonias and chrysanthemums of almost every hue of the rainbow were tastefully arranged in the Lewis hall, where Mr. Balk, a prominent florist of Augusta, scrutinized them with eyes that could discern their merits or demerits with unerring accuracy and attached the much coveted blue ribbon to the choicest of the many beauties. After the completion of the work of the judge the doors were thrown open to the impatient public. A mad rush was made for the hall in order to see who the successful contestants were, as well as to feast upon the beautiful flowers.

The success achieved by the growers of chrysanthemums in the towns of Johnston, Trenton, Edgefield, and vicinity, is a revelation even to the Augusta florists who are invited to act as judges. One would naturally suppose that these gentlemen, who are so accustomed gazing upon the choicest beauties of nature, would find the task of passing upon the merits of flowers grown by amateurs, tame and uninteresting, but such is not the case—far from it. Both Mr. Balk and Mr. Berckmans express themselves as finding great pleasure in a day's outing spent at floral fairs such as this of which we

community. X. Y. Z. Adjoining the hall in which the flowers were exhibited was the dining room, which though spacious was crowded to its utmost capacity. Here a sumptuous feast—yes, a royal spread—was served for a mere song. Notwithstanding the fact that prices of all groceries are so unprecedentedly high that one can barely reach them tip-toe, even some edibles can not be reached with a step-ladder, yet these Johnston ladies, bent upon having popular prices prevail, gave a turkey-ham-salad-pickle-riec-sandwich-coffee dinner, served in Dresden china and sterling silver, for the sum of one quarter of a dollar. Surely they gave away their dinner, merely charging for the labor of preparing and serving it.

This delightful fair was given under the auspices of the Johnston chapter of the Daughters of the Confederacy, than whom there can not be found anywhere in the state a more loyal, more zealous, more patriotic body of women. All honor to these ladies for their unceasing efforts in behalf of their organization, and all praise to them for the delightful occasion of last Saturday. It was a credit alike to the organization, to the town of Johnston and to our county.

The program of the day was beautifully and very fittingly closed with a horse-back parade. Capt. N. G. Evans and the members of the Edgefield Hussars, with the beautiful flag of this historic old company unfurled to the breeze, headed the procession, acting as escort.

The following is a list of the contests, the prizes, and the happy winners of the very valuable prizes: Class A. Finest collection white, silver cup: Mrs. F. M. Warren. B. Finest collection pink, rug: Mrs. M. T. Turner. C. Finest collection yellow, pair ladies shoes: Mrs. M. T. Turner. D. Finest collection red, picture of Arlington: Mrs. M. T. Turner. E. Finest single white, chop dish: Mrs. J. H. White. F. Finest single pink, meat fork: Mrs. M. T. Turner. G. Finest single red, toilet set: Mrs. Geo. Merchant. H. Finest single yellow, shawl: Mrs. D. B. Hollingsworth. I. Finest single bronze, cherries: Mrs. D. B. Hollingsworth. J. Finest two on stem of any variety except bronzo, kimona goods: Miss Annie DeLoach. K. Finest collection of mixed

COLD SPRING TIDINGS.

Election Over, Death of Mr. John West, Efficient Young Teacher.

Well, the election is over and our "Bill" is left out again, but that doesn't put any chock in our wheel, for we are going along as if it had never happened. After all, isn't it our pride that is hurt more than anything else, by this defeat?

On last Saturday afternoon Mr. John West, who had been ill for some time, breathed his last. "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord." On Sunday afternoon the funeral services were held at Red Hill church, of which he was a member, and his remains were placed in the Red Hill cemetery. Mr. West had a great many relatives and friends in this community and there was a large crowd at the funeral.

Miss Weinona Strom, our popular young teacher, went over to her home at Rehoboth last Friday afternoon to spend Saturday and Sunday with her parents. We feel fortunate in having Miss Weinona among us this session, for she is not only making quite a success as teacher for our little folks but is helping to develop the musical talent of some of our young people and making herself useful in other ways.

Mr. W. T. Brown has traded off that mule of his at last, and has also been taking considerable interest in knife trading lately. If you have an old knife that you can't make any use of call on him and swap it off.

We were glad to have Willie Brown back with us again last Sunday.

On November 3rd, the remains of the young wife of Mr. Freemund Glanton, of Modoc, were interred in our cemetery with our pastor officiating.

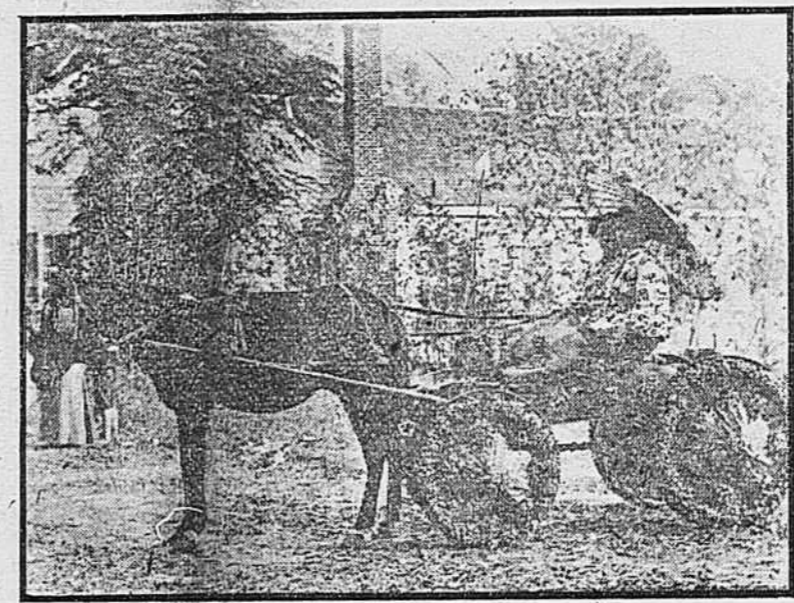
There has been some fine rutabaga turnips raised around here this fall. Mr. Earnest Quarles had one at his store the other day weighing seven and one half pounds. It was one of many raised by Mr. Tom Willis.

Things are not very lively at present but, it has been rumored that there will be an entertainment of some kind among the young folks soon, and our ears are eager to hear of it.

BLIND TIGERS IN AIKEN

Aiken Afflicted With Both Blind Tigers and Dispensary.

We confidently believe that Aiken with her dispensary, is annoyed more with blind-tigers than is Edgefield without a dispensary. Notwithstanding the fact that a special constable is constantly on duty, liquor is illicitly sold in Aiken. This only shows that a certain class of lawbreakers will violate the dispensary law whether they reside in a "wet" or "dry" county. The following from the Aiken correspondence to the Augusta Chronicle tells how the city treasury was augmented by \$100 in fines imposed upon blind tigers: "Yesterday in the police court, a half pint of cheap booze, worth a quarter, caused a fine of \$25 each to be placed on four young negroes. "A white man went to a negro



Pre-tiest Decorated Child's Rig in the Edgefield Floral Parade, Miss Helen Tillman

named Lucius Johnson, and Lucius went to Harry McLain, and Harry went to Mack Green and Mack went respectively to a negro named Grant, who furnished the goods, which again went around the circuitous route and reached the purchaser, and by that time Constable Samuels grabbed the white mule, who said he got the stuff from Johnson, and Johnson said he got it from McLain and McLain alleged that he got it from Green, and Green avowed that he got it from Grant so the mayor put 30 days on each of them violating the dispensary law."

Old, Reliable Firm.

There is no out-of-town firm in this section of the country better known to the people of Edgefield than the Thomas & Barton Company of Augusta. They are among the largest dealers in the south in musical instruments, furniture and house furnishings of every description. This popular firm has inaugurated a great Stock Reduction Sale that should be of special interest to the buying public. During this sale prices are not only reduced very low, but useful as well as handsome premiums are given with all purchases from \$5 up. Attention is directed to Thomas & Barton's half page advertisement in this issue.

varieties, picture of Arlington: Mrs. M. T. Turner. J. Finest maiden hair fern, table: Miss Annie DeLoach. M. Finest Boston fern, vases: Mrs. C. F. Pechman. N. Finest Ostrich plume fern, lady's parasol: Mrs. C. F. Pechman. O. Finest collection cut roses, hand bag: Mrs. Leaphart. P. Finest collection dahlias, water set: Mrs. Angeline Bacon. Q. Finest begonia, table scarf: Mrs. J. H. White. R. Prettiest design, shawl: Mrs. Maggie Hill.

In the parade, Miss Angel Andrews and Mr. Jerold LaGrone took the prize for the best appearance, riding, etc., and of the children riding, Miss Kizzie Epps and Master Powell Harrison bore off the blue ribbon.

The following persons attended the floral fair at Johnston from Edgefield:

Mrs. J. H. Tillman, Helen Tillman, Mr. J. L. Mims, Mrs. J. L. Mims, Florence Mims, Thelma Bailey, Dr. C. E. Burt, Mrs. and Mrs. W. B. Cogburn, Mrs. J. E. Hart, Misses Effie and Lucile Sheppard, Capt. and Mrs. Geo. Evans, Mrs. H. A. Smith, Mrs. J. D. Holstein, Mrs. Maggie Hill, Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Parker, Misses Sallie and Rosalie Parker, Mrs. Reel and Misses Maggie and Lucile Reel, Mrs. D. B. Hollingsworth, Miss Ruth Cogburn, Miss Marie Tompkins, Mrs. Manly Timmons, Mr. James T. Bacon, Natalie Gladys and Eliot Padgett, Mrs. Ella Tompkins, Dr. Corley and Miss Maxie Sheppard, Mrs. Wallace Sheppard, Miss Virginia Simkins, Rev. T. P. Burgess, Mr. Bnist Anderson, Prof. P. P. Burns, Maj. T. J. Lyon, Miss Rhett Sheppard and Mrs. Milton Parker.

CONGRESSMAN LEVER'S ADVICE.

A Timely Editorial From the News and Courier.

A question to our farmer friend: If you owned a cotton mill in which you had been producing cloth of a particular kind for ten years and the price of that cloth should drop below the profit point, would you not curtail production? You would suspend until the prices should be better? Of course you would—unless, by changing your machinery you could spin and weave another fabric which would bring good prices. The latter expedient would avoid the necessity of "shutting down," which one does not adopt unless the extremity be dire because insurance, taxes, interest and many other fixed charges continue in spite of suspension.

RETURNED FROM CHINA.

Young Missionary Greatly Beloved in Edgefield.

Miss Mary Culler White, a native of Georgia, who has spent nearly a decade in China as missionary of the Foreign Missionary Society of the Methodist church, has been in Edgefield several days. Miss White has been well known in Edgefield as a close friend of Miss June Nicholson of beloved memory. On Sunday afternoon at the Methodist church, Miss White made a most interesting and instructive talk to a large audience. She brought China and the Chinese very close to America and stirred the sympathies of all the audience for the work of lifting the Chinese. Her address was very encouraging to mission workers showing the wonderful progress of the gospel and reform in that great country. It has recently been announced by edict in China that there shall be no more foot binding. The opium trade and habit is being suppressed, by a gradual but certain process, and the educational system is becoming westernized and effective. It is a wonderful inspiration to listen to Miss White as she speaks of her experiences, of the work and needs as well as accomplishments.

On Wednesday afternoon at the parsonage the local Foreign Missionary Society of the Methodist church will give a reception to Miss White, to which the officers of the local societies of other denominations will be invited.

Attention County Schools.

The Edgefield chapter of the Daughters of the Confederacy is offering a gold medal, to be awarded as a prize for the best essay on Gen. Robt. E. Lee. This offer is open to all pupils of the various schools of our county, boys and girls from the ages of 15 through the 18th year. Every teacher is requested to choose the best two papers from each school, one boy's and the other a girl's and send these two to Mrs. Julian Holstein, secretary of the chapter, by December 14th as none coming in later can be accepted. The papers sent in will be read before the members of the chapter by Mrs. Holstein and the best six, three boys and three girls will be chosen by the Daughters of our county.

of our county seat, and on the 1909, to an audience assembled in celebration of Lee's birthday.

The Daughters of the Confederacy will attend in a body and decide then and there which essay as well as delivery is the best and the medal will be awarded on this occasion. It is earnestly hoped that the various schools will take this matter up and co-operate with the U. D. C. in trying to instill a love and interest in the Confederacy in the young people of our county.

Veterans desiring Crosses of Honor will call on Mrs. Griffin at the Edgefield Bank for application blanks as soon as possible and have same filled out properly returning them to her at once. Orders for Crosses must go in between the 1st and 10th of November as this is the time appointed for the State Custodian to receive applications.

Mrs. N. G. Evans, Pres. Mrs. J. D. Holstein, Sec.

Famous Edgefield Musician.

Miss May Wills, of New York, formerly of Johnston, is in the south for a short time, and will give a recital in the college auditorium on Saturday November 21st at 8 o'clock. Miss Wills is a native of Edgefield county having lived at Johnston until her tenth year.

She is a graduate of distinction in the music school of Converse College, of a New York Musical Conservatory and a student for two years in Paris. Miss Wills is only twenty-two years of age, but has played before some of the most select Parisian audiences. The proceeds from the evening's entertainment will be divided between Miss Wills and the local Woman's Christian Temperance Union. Let everybody prepare to go and do honor to another famous daughter of old Edgefield. More will be said in our next issue.

Humorous Lecture at Trenton.

Rev. J. W. Daniel, D. D., will deliver his humorous lecture, "The Southern Mule," in Wise's Hall, Trenton, S. C., Tuesday evening, November 17th, at eight o'clock. The proceeds go to the support of deaconesses doing mission work in mill towns in Columbia district. Admission 10 to 25 cents. We trust that Dr. Daniel will be greeted with a crowded house. If the weather is favorable Edgefield will be represented on this occasion.

EDGEFIELD YOUNG MAN.

Prominent Factor in the Religious Life of Atlanta.

A bright little monthly entitled The Welder comes regularly to our desk, and is a welcome visitor. It is a periodical published by the young people of the Second Baptist church of Atlanta, the business manager being Mr. Paul W. Gibson, who is well known in our town and throughout the county.



It gives us pleasure to quote the following from the last issue of The Welder concerning our young friend:

"He is an all-round handy man; an expert stenographer; good in finances; and one of the best treasure hunters any class ever had. The majority of his friends think he was born in South Carolina—but history shows that Columbia county Georgia has the honor of claiming his place of nativity. His father dying at the time Paul was nine years of age, the family some two years later moved to South Carolina and located at Edgefield. At the age of fifteen Paul was baptized, uniting with the Baptist church at that place. In March 1893 he came to Atlanta and immediately joined Bible class No. 2, being received into fellowship of the church by letter on January 1st, 1900.

Mr. Gibson is secretary to the executive committee on church finances,—acts as private secretary and right-hand man to the pastor, Dr. White, and is invaluable to him, as he is also to the teacher of Bible Class No. 2. In fact, Mr. Paxon has often remarked that if anything happened to Mr. Gibson, he would feel it one of the greatest deprivations to his Sunday school work, for Mr. Gibson is always willing, enthusiastic, painstaking and suggestive. For many years he was employed by the Telephone and Telegraph

company, and he has since then been a member of the church. He occupies a position to look after the details of its growing financial work. Much of success of the finance committee must be credited to Mr. Gibson and it is only a question of time when he will assume the entire charge of all the financial interests of the church and Sunday school work."

Bettis Academy Opened. Some years ago Rev. Alex Bettis, a colored minister who was a leader among his people and who was also highly respected by the white people, established a school in the southern part of the county several miles west of Vaulause, and the institution has prospered since the day of its founding because of the loyal support from the colored people. Its success is also due to the fact that it is removed from the towns, away from surroundings and influences that might lead to friction and its injury. Rev. Bettis, being an intelligent man, realized the wisdom of establishing the institution upon its own land or farm of considerable area.

The school is being well and properly conducted by representative men of the colored race. The Aiken correspondent of the Augusta Chronicle had the following to say of the work of the academy:

"The Bettis negro academy, the largest negro institution of learning in this part of the state, has reopened its session. Bettis academy is located on the western edge of the county, near the Edgefield line. There is a large enrollment this year, and it is expected that before the Christmas holidays arrive, there will be a total enrollment of at least six hundred.

"This year the school is under the management of Prof. Hightower, a well educated negro, who is principal of the school. Albert Nicholson is president of the board of trustees. The school is in a very prosperous condition, and is the pride of the colored people."

Should be Commended. The very fine Guernsey bull that Mr. Julian R. Strother purchased at the fair in Columbia last week reached Edgefield on Friday and was very much admired by those who saw him. Mr. Strother should be commended for introducing the Guernsey cows in this section. The records show that they excel all other breeds as milkers.