

PLEMENT OF LEXINGTON DISPATCH.

Lexington, S. C., Wednesday, January 18, 1905.

Let

We have read with much interest and profit Senator Bacon's views on the political situation, as printed in a recent issue of the Columbia State. The Senator sees much reason in the overwhelming defeat of the Democratic party for congratulation to both Democrats and Republicans. He seems to see in the misty smoke of the recent battle of ballots the outlines of "Cuffy" stading out in bold relief threatening to overthrow Southern institutions as they existed before the war and now exists. He thinks "the Republican party of the North" should feel grateful to the Democracy "for saving the civilization of the South," and the Democrats for perpetuating the doctrine of "White Supremacy." The Georgia Senator's views makes pretty good reading matter and as far as theory goes is sound Democratic doctrine. But to come down to real facts the civilization of the South has at no time since about the year 1896 been endangered. The "civilization of the South always has and always will be able to take care of itself with or without Federal interference, because, according to all the laws of nature the civilization of the Anglo-Saxon will be preserved at all hazards. This is a settled fact and no one better understands the principle of "the survival of the fittest" than the Republicans of the North and the "Cuffy" of the South. In other words, from a political and social standpoint "Cuffy" is not in it and with but very few exceptions has he any desire or ambition to be. No other race of people has been as docile, as easy manageable and as faithful to the white people of the South than "Cuffy" has been. We all recognize this and have to admit its truthfulness whether we wish to or not.

The real trouble with the South is that it clings to ideals, to traditions and to hero worship rather than grasp the change conditions of society and the advent of commercialism industrial progress and agricultural expansion and suit itself to the necessities of the day and the demands of the hour. The signs of the times indicate that the South is awakening from her dream of past glories to the realization that the present and future are glittering with other glories for her of a more substantial and a more practical nature as is evidence by a glance at her social, commercial, industrial and agricultural interests as they exist today. In all these departments of Southern life there has been a gradual tearing away from her moss back idols of the dead past and she is entering the broad fields of progress and industry with quickening pulse, straining nerves and with a zeal that is truly commendable. Her waste places, not all of them, sad to say, are being utilized as sites for various industries, her cities and towns and villages resound to the tread of an influx of population, while agriculture responds to the throbs of activity with improved implements and more intelligent cultivation. Politicians may prate about "Cuffy" wanting social equality and to rule over the whites, for political effect and self aggran-

dizement, but there is no real foundation in the cry of alarm, except for the reasons stated above, as Cuffy himself does not wish nor desire social equality, as such a thing does exist even among their own color. All they want is justice before the law and having secured this a desire for a means to earn an honest livelihood will naturally follow. o.

R. F. D. Information.

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

I am notified by the Post Office Department of the inauguration of rural service from Lexington, S. C., on February 1st, 1905. This route, I understand, will be of great convenience to the people of that section. For several months, have had an agent of the department in my District investigating pending petitions for this service, and while his work has been entirely satisfactory to me, and a number of new routes have been recommended, at the same time I have been somewhat disappointed at the seeming lack of interest upon the part of many of our people with respect to rural delivery.

I have been quite active, as you know, in urging our people to get up and submit petitions for consideration by the department, and yet, I was able to give the agent only about eighteen petitions from the five counties in my District. He ought to have had double that number. I can do nothing toward getting this service without the co-operation upon the part of the people who desire it. It is necessary first, that a petition be signed and forwarded to me, for my endorsement, before we can get the wishes of the people before the department in such shape as to command its consideration.

The system is firmly established in our postal policy, and we are spending large sums each year for its continuance and extension and I want my people to get their proportionate share. Of course, my District is fairly well covered, considering the difficulties, but in my judgment, there is room for many more routes.

I send herewith a circular entitled Instructions as to Rural Free Delivery, which will give all the information relative to the manner in which it is gotten. I will thank you to give your readers such of it as will help them in getting up petitions. Please state also that I shall be glad to furnish blank petitions and all necessary instructions to those interested, who will write me at Washington.

Very truly yours,
A. F. Lever,
Mem. Con., 7th Dis., S. C.
January 6, 1905

Many a girl who is proud of her big hat is ashamed of her big shoes.

A mouse scares a woman almost as badly as a milliner's bill scares a man.

It is kind of interesting figuring out if a girl is as thin as she looks.

Not nearly so many people would be bad if being good were more exciting.

Lots of people pray for the poor—and let it go at that.

The Legislature.

Up to last Saturday night, the 14th inst., after having been in session four days, the house of representatives has about become organized. Thursday was another day spent in desultory fashion, there being only two bills on the calendar, one to fix upon February 11th as the day for final adjournment and the other being a resolution to authorize the speaker to appoint a committee of one from each county in the eighth circuit to draw up a bill in reference to the time for holding court in that circuit. The author of the final adjournment measure was not prepared to have it argued. The other resolution was passed, and this concluded the consideration of the calendar.

The doorkeepers in the house are Messrs. T. A. Scott, Jno. F. Blanche and E. C. Batson; journal clerk, Christie Bene; bill clerk, S. B. Moore; mail clerk, W. F. Norton; keeper of speaker's room, J. M. Pearman; pages, A. J. Culley, Stephen Richards, Malcolm Johnson, J. B. Patrick.

NEW BILLS.

After the introduction of new bills, the house adjourned until 10 o'clock this morning. Following are the new bills presented:

To require all parents and guardians to cause their children or wards to attend school for eight weeks in each year.

To regulate the drawing and summoning of jurors.

To provide for boards of jury commissioners.

To make the obstruction of any street or road by any railroad or person a misdemeanor.

To declare the seduction of any woman under promise of marriage a crime.

Senate.

The dispensary law seems to be the chief subject of interest in the senate. Not content with the other two bills that have been introduced Senator Brice Thursday put in still another. This is not an investigating bill but seeks to change the law and is along the line of the celebrated "Brice" local option bill introduced by the senator from York in 1904.

It substitutes for the present section 7, the following:

"Sec. 7. There may be one or more county dispensers appointed for each county, the place of business for each to be designed by the county board of control, but the State board of control must give consent before more than one dispenser can be appointed in any county, and when the county board designates a locality for a dispensary, 20 days' public notice of which shall be given, it shall be competent for a majority of the qualified voters of the township in which the dispensary is to be located to prevent its location in such township by signing a petition or petitions to the county board requesting that no dispensary be established in the township. Any incorporated city or town may secure the establishment of a dispensary or dispensaries within its limits in the following manner: Upon the petition of one-fourth of the qualified voters of such town or city, as shown by the

registration books of the same, an election either upon the question of the establishment or removal of dispensaries therein being filed with the intendant or mayor of such town or city, he shall order an election submitting the question of 'dispensary' or 'no dispensary' to the qualified voters of such town or city, which election shall be conducted as other special elections, by managers appointed by the town or city council, and if a majority of the ballots cast be found and declared to be for a dispensary, then a dispensary may be established in said town or city, but if a majority of the ballots cast be found to be against the dispensary, then no dispensary shall be established therein, and any dispensary already established shall be closed. Elections under this section cannot be held oftener than every four years.

"No dispensary shall be established in any county, town or city wherein the sale of alcoholic liquors was prohibited prior to July 1, 1893, except as herein permitted. Provided, That where dispensaries have been established in such county, town or city, they shall remain established until removed or closed as permitted in this act. Provided, a dispensary shall not be established in any town or municipality without a majority vote for such establishment."

Mr. Blease, the Senator from Newberry, wished to have his dispensary investigating bill brought up Thursday, but it was made a special order for Tuesday.

Among the new bills were:

Close season for certain birds. This provides that no one shall kill or trap wild turkey, partridges, quail or pheasants between February 1st and December 1st. It shall be unlawful to hunt these birds by fire light or to rob the nests at any time.

Amending the code relating to change of venue. This bill changes the time of notice from ten to five days with right of opposing side to waive, and giving the judge authority to shorten or lengthen as he may see fit.

Fixing the salaries of sheriffs. This is an omnibus bill.

Requiring suburban trolley lines to furnish conveniences. This includes water closets and coolers.

To dispose of all direct tax funds.

Relating to charter fees of building and loan associations.

Joint resolution to establish a commission to investigate the terrapin, oyster and shell fish industry in this State.

Concurrent resolution to allow the Presbyterian College of South Carolina to have the charter amended. The college charter now stipulates its place of residence at Clinton and this will allow it to be changed to any point that is wished.

Joint resolution relating to pardons and commutations. This establishes board of pardons.

Appointing a committee to revise the general free school law and report to the next general assembly.

The senate adjourned for a time to the house to witness the counting of ballots for governor and lieutenant governor.

Gov. Heyward has stated informally that the inauguration would take