

The Lexington Dispatch

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Entered at the Post Office at Lexington, S. C., as second class matter.

The subscription price of the Dispatch is \$1 a year; 50 cents for six months; 25 cents for three months—invariably cash in advance.

CIRCULATION 2,150.

Wednesday, February 12, 1908.

We were in hopes that the winding up commission of the old G. M. I., would get through with its business by the end of the first year, but lo, and behold, we are told now that it will take several months longer to wind-up the business now before the committee. It looked one time like the State would reap a large sum from the workings of this committee, but it looks now like the State will be the loser in the end. If the liquor houses keep carrying their claims up higher—and undoubtedly they will if their claims are true and just—the people will lose thousands of dollars. It takes money to fight these cases; it takes "extra legal talent," and it will not be long before the amount will be gone paying attorney's fees and other necessary cost attached to such proceedings. We believe the people of the State are tired of such proceedings; we believe they have a right to protest against a continuance of these costly fights. But their protests will not amount to a row of pins; the end is not yet in sight and by the time the whole matter is finally settled, the taxpayers will be the losers. It is evident to our mind that nothing can ever grow out of any whiskey business, and we have never been surprised at anything that has been brought out by the investigating committee. Give us prohibition. It may not totally prohibit, but it will be along the line of sobriety.

All this hue and cry about "hard times" is unfounded. We have never seen the people in a more prosperous condition, especially the farmers, who have, as a rule, made good crops. The only trouble we see is, that some of the farmers are holding on to their cotton for higher prices. We are not criticizing them for this; we believe in the farmers sticking together and being independent, but we don't see any common-sense in their holding cotton—that is their entire crop—when they owe store accounts, guano bills, etc., when they could sell off enough cotton to pay their debts, and in this way not only help themselves but the storekeepers as well. The times then are just what the people make them, and that is all there is to it. For the proof of this assertion one only has to go out among the farmers. You will find cotton piled up at nearly every house and corn-cobs filled to overflowing. With these facts confronting us, we see no reason under the sun for farmers to be crying out in thunderous tones, "hard times and worse a coming." Buy what you need in supplies for the coming crop; pay your debts and put your money in circulation. Here is where the trouble lies.

We wish to thank those of our subscribers who have come forward and paid for their paper during the last few days. This enables us to continue to send The Dispatch to their address without violating the new postal law, which will be inaugurated on the first of April. We have been forced, however, to erase a good many names from our list, they not having complied with our request. We hope they, too, will call in and settle up so that we may continue to send them the paper. We have no desire to treat any subscriber unfair, but we have repeatedly called attention to the new law, and all have had ample time to respond. If The Dispatch is not worth a dollar a year to you, we certainly don't want you to have it.

Some subscribers have taken exception to the red mark on their paper. This was not intended to make anybody mad. It has long been our rule to notify subscribers in this way when their subscriptions had expired, and as it is not intended to offend any one, we hope no one will take it as such.


As yet our members in the General Assembly have made no effort towards changing the road law as applies to Lexington county. The time is passing, gentlemen, and the roads are getting no better, nor will they ever get any better under the present system. With the rapid progress other counties are making in the improvement of their public highways, it is high time Lexington county was making an effort in this direction. It is "up to" our legislators to make the start. Why, in some sections of the county, rural carriers find it almost impossible to traverse their routes on account of the condition of the roads, and, unless an improvement is made,

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we would not be surprised to see the government discontinue a number of the routes. What a spectacle that would present! Now, let's stop these complaints by building roads that will be an honor to our county for all time to come. Start the ball to rolling!

By electing Hon. C. M. Efrid judge of the Eleventh circuit the Legislature would do itself proud. They would, at the same time, confer a deserved honor upon a distinguished citizen of the grand old county of Lexington and would place on the bench a man of unblemished character and one that would fill the position with credit to himself and honor to the people who elected him. Mr. Efrid is unquestionably well qualified in every particular to fill the position to which he aspires. He is possessed of rare judicial ability and is well learned in the law. He is indeed a close student, a tireless worker and Christian gentleman—just such a man as should preside over the courts of South Carolina.

A resolution has been introduced in the Senate by Mr. Efrid for the relief of former State Treasurers; Dr. W. H. Timmerman, Dr. W. T. C. Bates and Capt. R. H. Jennings. It will be recalled that \$12,500 worth of State bonds were stolen by Bond Clerk Zimmerman while these gentlemen held the office of State treasurer. Dr. Timmerman's part of the shortage amounts to about \$10,000 and we believe that it would be unfair, unjust and preposterous to hold these gentlemen responsible for another man's rascality. Punish this man and hold his bondsmen responsible for his misdeeds. We hope the resolution will be adopted by both houses.

People, as a rule, are prejudiced against corporations, especially railroads, and it is wrong. Corporations, like other enterprises, are run by private individuals, and their money is just as precious to them as to anybody else. People seem to forget that the railroads pay the greater portion of the taxes and that in this way, if in no other, they contribute largely to the resources of our great commonwealth. We want to see the railroads get a fair deal, just the same as private individuals, yet we want to see them treat the travel fair and just.

We do not believe that the senate will be so foolish as to squander the people's money on "extra" lawyers to prosecute the dispensary grafters. We believe the majority of the members of the Senate are men of too large a calibre to consider seriously any such foolish proposition. The taxpayers of Lexington county are opposed to their money being spent in that direction. It will be money spent for naught, and we hope the Legislature will not acquiesce to the wishes of a few men who are anxious to get in the lime light.

The Columbia State, ever ready to lend its aid to the needy, has announced that subscriptions will be received at their office and forwarded to Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Ballington, at Gilbert, who, it is said, are in needy circumstances. It will be remembered that Mr. and Mrs. Ballington are the parents of triplets and twins—five children in two years. The State is to be commended for the interest manifested in these people.

They tell us Lever is getting serious. Proposals of marriage are coming from every quarter of the globe. The rich, the poor, high and low, the old, the young, the middle-aged, old maids and widows—all want the young Lexington county congressman for a husband. We again protest against his promising to marry any woman until all applications from Lexington county have been carefully considered.

Politicians are beginning to get a move on them. While no announcements for office have been made in this county as yet, it is a known fact that something will happen soon that will startle the natives. Come on, Mr. Candidates; let your wants be known. The sooner you do it the better for you.

Build the free brides Mr. Supervisor and County Commissioners. The people of the Dutch Fork have been greatly inconvenienced during the last few days. Many of them had to go by Columbia to get to Lexington to attend court. Build the bridges; the people will stand by you!

It looks now like a commission will have to be appointed to "wind-up" the old State dispensary commission. They are now working without pay, so we are told, so anxious are they to complete their work and bring out all the facts in the graft cases. A generous set of fellows they are.

It will be Judge Efrid before the close of the General Assembly and all our people will rejoice.

It seems that Mr. Appelt's very "reliable information" caught him to have to take a back seat.

Items From Near Peak.

To the Editor of The Dispatch: Rev. J. B. Haighler spent Thursday with Mr. H. H. Count's family.

Mr. Carl Fulmer and sister, Miss Blanche, went to Kinard's last week to attend the marriage of their brother, Mr. Sankey Fulmer.

Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Chapman are spending a few days with their son, Mr. George Chapman in Columbia.

Miss Lillian Jones spent Wednesday with Miss Ola Counts.

On last Tuesday night the young folks of this section enjoyed a nice pound party given by Mr. and Mrs. Geo. M. Fulmer.

Messrs. Jas. E. Hope, Brooks Haltiwanger, W. H. Epting, John A. Huffman and Levi Stuck, all attended court last week at Lexington.

Mr. and Mrs. Cal Cannon, of Columbia, are visiting their daughter's, Mrs. W. J. Derrick.

Mrs. Geo. M. Fulmer is spending a few days with her daughter, Mrs. Claude Gregory, at Winda, Ga.

This community was shocked on last Saturday when the news reached here of the death of Mr. Charley Summer. At the time of his death he lived in New Brookland. He was the son of Mr. J. Andrew Summer, who lives near Peak. He leaves an aged father, a wife, two grand-children, four children, two brothers, four sisters and a host of other relatives and friends to mourn his departure. The remains were interred in Caper's Chapel church yard on Sunday, in the presence of a very large congregation. The entire family has the heartfelt sympathy of this writer.

Violet and Rose.

Peak, Feb. 9.

Carnegie Gift For Newberry.

Newberry, February 10.—Special: Dr. James A. Scherer, president of Newberry College, has received from Mr. Andrew Carnegie an offer of \$25,000 for additional endowment of Newberry College on conditions the fulfillment of which is already assured. This means that the endowment of Newberry College is to be increased by \$25,000 from Mr. Carnegie through the efforts of President Scherer. The endowment for the College has been raised during the past several months to a sum beyond even the most sanguine hopes of the institution's most loyal supporters, and this additional sum of \$25,000, the offer of which has been announced by Dr. Scherer, comes as a most agreeable surprise. Newberry College is now one of the leading educational institutions in the Southern States and her future is bright, with promise of greater achievements.—News and Courier.

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250 acres on Southern railroad 2 1/2 miles from Barr, 4 miles from Gilbert—2 buildings, good orchard, 50 acres open land.
1/2 acre and three room house near town of Lexington.
1 acre lot—two story building, at Irene, S. C.

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Jan. 20, 1908—3w15

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