



"TO THINE OWN SELF BE TRUE, AND IT MUST FOLLOW AS THE NIGHT THE DAY: THOU CANST NOT THEN BE FALSE TO ANY MAN."

By STECK, SHELOR & SCHRODER.

WALHALLA, SOUTH CAROLINA, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 1914.

New Series No. 831.—Volume LXV.—No. 12.

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Train yourself to save regularly and systematically. With a portion of your earnings deposited in bank each week, you will rapidly accumulate money sufficient for a business of your own.

START A BANK ACCOUNT TO-DAY!

Westminster Bank.

NEWS ITEMS FROM SENECA.

Baptist Church Calls Pastor—Play to Be Given Wednesday Night.

Seneca, March 24.—Special: The play which the pupils of the high school have been preparing will be presented at the auditorium Wednesday night. There will be a mock trial given by the boys and a cantata by the girls. We make a plea to the patrons and friends of the school in behalf of the young performers. The proceeds go to the school and the program will be well worth the price of admission. Prayer meeting will be brought up a half hour on account of the two dates conflicting, and will be held at 7.30, the play to begin at 8.30.

Miss Miriam Jennings attended the State Teachers' Association at Spartanburg last week and visited relatives there in the meantime.

Miss Florence Reid visited homefolks at Rock Hill the past week.

Miss Morrison spent several days last week at her home at Clemson College, there being holiday on Fri-

day on account of the Teachers' Association at Spartanburg. She was accompanied by Miss Dorothy Jennings.

Miss Emma Stribling is visiting her brother's family, T. E. Stribling, this week.

J. W. Stribling and Brown Verner spent several days with their homefolks, coming over from Clemson Saturday and returning Monday night.

Rev. T. M. Golpin, of Hepsiba, Ga., has been called to the pastorate of the Baptist church here. Mr. Golpin preached here last Sunday and made a fine impression on his congregation, and will return at an early date in the event that he accepts the call.

C. B. Verner, of Tuscaloosa, Ala., is in New York this week on professional business and will probably stop in Seneca on his return.

Seneca had a snow Saturday covering the ground, but it did not stay long. It is feared that the fruit is all killed.

Mrs. T. E. Stribling returned Monday from Alabama and Mississippi, where she had been visiting for some time.

CAROLINA'S 1913 COTTON CROP.

Preliminary Figures Show Increase of 190,164 Bales Over 1912.

Washington, D. C., March 23.—Special: Wm. J. Harris, Director of the Census, Department of Commerce, announces the preliminary report of cotton ginned by counties in South Carolina for the crops of 1913 and 1912. The report was made public at 10 a. m. on Friday, March 20. The amounts for the different counties are given below. (Quantities are in running bales, counting round as half bales. Linters are not included):

County	1913.	1912.
Abbeville	34,280	28,975
Aiken	48,025	36,873
Anderson	73,146	54,577
Bamberg	27,692	19,932
Barnwell	58,878	43,407
Beaufort	8,168	5,920
Berkeley	13,475	10,809
Calhoun	27,960	22,231
Charleston	15,832	11,636
Cherokee	18,080	14,107
Chester	32,275	31,212
Chesterfield	31,709	31,864
Claarendo	40,268	35,469
Colleton	13,605	15,233
Darlington	38,456	40,420
Dillon	37,752	39,048
Dorchester	16,661	13,528
Edgefield	33,201	27,436
Fairfield	26,323	26,462
Florence	44,282	38,965
Georgetown	3,866	3,157
Greenville	44,651	34,585
Greenwood	33,782	30,125
Hampton	19,902	14,774
Horry	10,416	10,259
Jasper	6,196	5,142
Kershaw	27,608	25,916
Lancaster	25,634	26,144
Laurens	45,312	35,638
Lee	38,520	34,093
Lexington	26,018	22,942
Marion	17,890	18,439
Marlboro	56,582	71,208
Newberry	40,413	34,510
Oconee	20,792	15,516
Orangeburg	80,294	60,699
Pickens	19,212	14,161
Richland	22,679	21,172
Saluda	26,054	23,551
Spartanburg	73,301	57,811
Union	20,706	17,529
Williamsburg	26,494	23,894
York	40,849	40,490
Totals	1,414,409	1,224,245

ORATORICAL CONTEST FRIDAY.

Will Be Held in the Westminster School Auditorium.

The annual oratorical contest between the schools of this county will be held in the auditorium of the Westminster High School next Friday evening at 8.15 o'clock. Eight schools will be represented. The speakers having had extended time for preparation, the contest bids fair to be one of the closest and most interesting in the history of the association. The admission will be 15c. for children and 25c. for adults.

The program is as follows:

1. The New South (Henry W. Grady)—By Ewart Brown, Oakway.
 2. The Death of Lafayette (Sargent S. Prentiss)—By John Coe, Richland.
 3. Hampton's Inaugural Address—By Arthur Thompson, Ebenezer.
 4. Elegy of Henry W. Grady (John Temple Graves)—By Jack Zimmerman, Westminster.
 5. Americanism (Henry Cabot Lodge)—By Ansel Umberger, Walhalla.
 6. Free Columbia (E. L. Thacker)—By Claude Dooley, Fair Play.
 7. The Supposed Speech of Regulus—By Bruce Lynch, Blue Ridge.
 8. The Death of a Traitor—By Willie Austin, Seneca.
- Report of judges and presentation of prizes.

BENTON STABBED TO DEATH.

Report Says that He Was Not Killed by Gen. Villa.

Washington, March 21.—William S. Benton, the British subject, was not shot by Gen. Villa, but was stabbed to death in Villa's office at Juarez by Major Rodolfo Fierro, according to persons believed to be conversant with the findings thus far of the special Mexican commission appointed by Gen. Carranza to investigate Benton's death.

British Consul Perceval, who has left El Paso for his post at Galveston, has forwarded a report to the British embassy here, which it is understood corroborates the report of the Mexican commission that Benton was stabbed, but does not clearly establish, it is said, by whom the act was committed.

That Major Fierro will be charged with the crime and punished is the expectation of many Mexicans here. They explain Gen. Villa's story of a court-martial as an effort to shield Fierro, who is said to be his distant relative. The Carranza commission, however, is reported to have declared its purpose of punishing Fierro despite Villa's efforts to protect him. The arrest of Fierro has been reported from Chihuahua, but confirmation is lacking.

Secretary Bryan said that while he had heard numerous statements of the Benton case killing, comment would be withheld until the Carranza commission had finished its work.

CITIZENS TO CONSIDER WATER AND LIGHTS

Meeting to be Held at Court House To-morrow (Thursday) Night at 8 O'clock—Every Citizen Urged to Attend.

The Courier has received a request to call a meeting of all the citizens and tax-payers of Walhalla for Thursday night of this week (to-morrow) at 8 o'clock, the meeting to be held at the Court House.

This is not a call for a meeting of those favoring the proposition to put in municipal lights and water, nor is it a call for those who may be opposed to the plan. IT IS A CALL FOR ALL THE PEOPLE TO ASSEMBLE, GET TOGETHER AND DISCUSS THE PROPOSITION, AND TO AGREE UPON SOME PLAN AND TAKE CONCERTED ACTION.

This meeting is for every citizen of the town and community who feels an interest in the place and in the people, it matters not what the individual opinion may be. We are going to have lights, and it is an opportunity to discuss the question as to whether we can have both lights and water. It is certain that we cannot have both unless we have concert of action, and that is the purpose of the proposed meeting—to get together, discuss ways and means, and to work together for the

betterment of conditions in Walhalla. Are you interested? Then come out to the meeting Thursday night at the Court House and let your fellows know where you stand and what you stand for.

Electric lights will be of great benefit to the town, and these are going to be within the reach of citizens within a comparatively few days. The question of water comes next, and it is well to reach a decision at once as to whether we can or cannot set a system of waterworks that will be of untold worth to the town as a whole.

Will you be at the meeting? Lay aside anything that can be put aside for the moment, attend this meeting and help to settle a question that needs settling at once.

A representative of the J. B. McCrary Company, of Atlanta, Ga., will be present at the meeting and will explain fully what it will take to secure a water system, approximately giving the cost, etc., and will be in position to give any reasonable information desired relative to the launching of such an enterprise as is felt is needed for the town.

TORREON ATTACK IS BEGUN.

Villa Makes Decided Move for Reduction of Federal Stronghold.

El Vergil, Durango, March 23.—The rebel attack on Torreon began to-day when Gen. Villa occupied Lerdo practically without resistance, and at 10 o'clock this afternoon began attack on Gomez Palacio.

The three towns are practically one in a commercial and social sense and are connected by four miles of street railway, but Torreon proper represents the military stronghold, where the Mexican Federal forces, gathered under Gen. Refugio Velasco.

Fighting of the most sanguinary character took place on the streets of Gomez Palacio. The rebels took the water tank on Cerro de la Pila, the Brittingham soap factory and the cuartel.

The preliminary skirmishing which enabled the rebels to bring their batteries into action late to-day began at daybreak and the Federals fought stubbornly until driven back on the main force on the slopes of the mountain. The rebels numbered 3,000. Lerdo lies around a shoulder of Cerro de la Pila from Gomez Palacio. It was taken last night and was occupied by the combined forces of Gens. Tomas, Urbana, Hernandez and Rodriguez.

Gomez Palacio and Lerdo are without important natural defenses, and in previous revolutions never have been seriously defended. The real test of strength is expected to come soon, when Villa huris his force against the defenses of Torreon. On this battle, it is conceded, hinges the fate of the revolution.

The entire valley is reported to be in a state of defense, with barbed wire entanglements and trenches. Irrigation ditches in some instances have been flooded while others were left dry to shelter the Huerta forces. Federal batteries everywhere occupy the hills, which close in on Torreon from all directions.

AMERICANS FIRE ON MEXICANS.

Soldiers Pursuing Rebels Checked on Border—Several Greasers Killed.

Eagle Pass, Texas, March 23.—Mexican Federal soldiers, who fired at a defeated Constitutionalist force escaping to the United States for safety, met sharp resistance yesterday from United States cavalry of the border patrol at McKee's Crossing, above Del Rio, Texas. When three soldiers held by the American troops had been shot down the Americans returned the fire across the Rio Grande, and after the exchange of shots the Mexicans withdrew, bearing with them dead and wounded.

No American was hurt. How many of the Mexican soldiers were killed or wounded is not known.

Official reports of the occurrence to Col. Sibley, commanding at Fort Clark here, caused orders for all available cavalry of the border patrol to proceed to Del Rio. One troop and a machine gun platoon left Eagle Pass to-day. Another engagement between Mexican Federals and Constitutionlists is expected to-morrow in the same territory.

Cause of the Clash.

The clash across the international line was precipitated, according to official reports to headquarters here to-day, by persistent firing of the Federals at the fleeing Constitutionlists who had gained American territory and surrendered to United States troops. Three horses held by American cavalrymen were killed. For ten minutes Capt. Winterburn, of Troop E, 14th cavalry, signalled to the Federals to cease firing, but reported that his signals were disregarded and his own men were in

NOW FIGHTING IN TORREON.

Reported Huerta Soldiers Driven at All Points—Losses Heavy.

Juarez, Mexico, March 24.—The rebels, under Gen. Villa, sweeping onward after their victory at Gomez Palacio, were fighting to-day in the very streets of Torreon, the great objective of the campaign, according to a telegram received here late to-day. The message was from Col. Trevino, an official on the staff of Gen. Aguirre Benavides, to his brother in this city, and said that Benavides had taken two cuartels or barracks in the city of Torreon.

Gen. Villa and Gen. Benavides have concluded to take breakfast in the plaza at Torreon.

Many Dead in Streets.

El Correo, a Spanish newspaper, to-day prints a statement that many dead are lying where they fell in the streets of Gomez Palacio. No official statement of losses on either side in yesterday's fighting could be obtained to-day.

If Trevino's private message does not prove misleading it is said to show that Villa, after his long and careful preparations, has conducted a whirlwind campaign. Beginning Friday he swept down from the North and took Bermejillo, about 30 miles north of Torreon. Without halting his forces he pressed southward and drew in from other directions until Gen. Velasco and his Federal troops were cut off from the outside world.

Majimi, Matamoros, Brittingham Junction and numerous other small railroad towns fell in the course of the next two days, and last night the big railroad city of Gomez Palacio, only three miles from Torreon, fell after what is reported to have been sanguinary fighting in the streets.

In five days, if Trevino's report proves true, Villa has all but accomplished the object of his first campaign. He has been quoted repeatedly as intending to start from Torreon on the 707 mile trip to the City of Mexico.

Dies as Citizenship is Restored.

Savannah, Ga., March 22.—Frank S. Van Geisen, the Savannah magistrate who was fined \$500 several months ago and removed from office for malfeasance, died this morning, just a day after Governor Slaton removed his political disabilities.

Van Geisen, who was indicted on eleven charges of malfeasance and one of usury, pleaded guilty to one of the malfeasance charges, and Judge Charlton, in the Supreme Court, made the fine as light as possible. The sentence provided that he could never hold office again. Governor Slaton was induced to restore him to citizenship. Van Geisen was one of the best known men in this section.

danger. He then ordered the Americans, a detachment of eight troops, to fire and a sharp fusillade followed, lasting for about five minutes.

The Constitutionlists defeated Sunday were members of a scouting party led into a trap by the Federals, who earlier in the day had captured Las Vacas, opposite Del Rio. They abandoned the town, but returned suddenly to attack the rebel scouts. About 45 Constitutionlists were cut off by 300 Federals at McKee's Crossing, on the Rio Grande, where the rebels put up a stubborn resistance until overpowered by numbers. They then began retreating across the river to the American side, where Capt. Winterburn's detachment of cavalrymen was on duty to preserve the neutrality laws.

Of the 45 Constitutionlists only 27 reached the Texas bank. Several were killed in the water, their bodies floating down stream.

THE CLOSING DAYS OF COURT.

Biemann-Verner Case Attracted Interest—Other Cases.

The civil side of Court for Oconee came to an end last Friday with the closing of the Biemann-Verner case, which attracted considerable attention. When this case had been concluded it was found that there would be no need for the third week jurors' call and summons, and steps were taken immediately to notify all jurors, witnesses and others that there would be no session of the Court for the third week. Not a juror, witness or litigant appeared Monday of this week, all having evidently received due notice of the termination of the session one week earlier than at first scheduled.

The first case to be disposed of following the conclusion of our last week's proceedings was that of Baxter Roach, plaintiff, against the Oconee Farmers' Mutual Insurance Company, defendant, the case being a suit for recovery on a fire insurance policy. The verdict of the jury was: "We find for the plaintiff \$695," this being the amount sued for. Notice of appeal has been given.

B. R. Moss, plaintiff, against W. A. Grant, defendant. Suit for commission on sale of land. Order of non-suit granted.

Jas. H. Darby, plaintiff, against Western Union Telegraph Company, suit for damages. Order of non-suit granted.

Mrs. Katherine Adams (nee Biemann), Mrs. Annie H. Hughes (nee Biemann), Gertrude J. Biemann, Rieppe Biemann et al., plaintiffs, against John D. Verner, defendant. Suit for partition. Verdict in favor of the plaintiffs.

John D. Verner, plaintiff, against Mrs. Katherine Adams, Mrs. Annie Hughes, Gertrude J. Biemann, Rieppe Biemann et al., defendants. Complaint for betterments and relief filed.

Notice of appeal was given in the case of Biemann vs. Verner. This is one of the most far-reaching cases that has been tried in the Courts in Oconee for many days, involving title to numerous pieces of town property and some farm lands, rentals for some twenty years for property sold under provision of a will in connection with mortgage of property. Involved also in the case is the consideration of betterments of property since the defendant gained possession of the property under the sale to satisfy mortgages held by him. There are involved accountings for rents on the one side, and betterments, judgment debt and interest on the other. Notice has been filed of appeal to the Supreme Court from the decree of the Circuit Court, and this will be heard at the May sitting of the Supreme Court. It is understood.

Ray Ivester, plaintiff, against the Southern Railway Company, defendants. Appeal from magistrate's court (two cases). Appeals dismissed and judgment affirmed.

Frank Feaster, plaintiff, against Martha Owens, defendant. Judgment granted by default and decree of sale entered.

Ervin L. Haley, plaintiff, against Jasper G. Daniels, defendant. Order of reference granted.

Brenard Manufacturing Co., plaintiffs, against J. & S. Carter. Ordered that the defendants have leave to answer complaint.

Francis I. Brown, plaintiff, against Jos. R. Robertson et al., defendants. Writ of partition issued and order of reference to commission of five granted, with instructions to investigate and report to the Court.

Mrs. Rosa Steffens, plaintiff, against Albert Cobb et al., defendants. Judgment entered by default, with decree of sale of real estate.

Brown et al., plaintiffs, against Rankin et al., defendants. Motion for new trial was argued and overruled.

Brown et al, plaintiffs, against The Enterprise Bank, defendant. Motion for new trial was argued and overruled.

GIRL LOSES HER LIFE

By the Accidental Discharge of a Gun Near Pomaria.

Pomaria, March 21.—Lillian Lominick, 15-year-old daughter of Mrs. Sallie Lominick, was accidentally shot in the leg yesterday by a gun she had taken out of the house for her brother to kill a hawk. The hawk had gone when she arrived with the gun, and her brother told her to take the gun back. She put the gun up against the back door. She went back out in the yard and the next time she entered the house was from the front side, and forgetting that the gun was against the back door opened the door and the gun was discharged. The contents penetrated the leg near the knee. The leg was amputated and all the medical attention possible was given her, but the physicians could not save the young life. She died at 6 a. m. yesterday. She is survived by her mother, four sisters and a brother, with a host of relatives.

Nurses Have Resigned.

Columbia, March 20.—Miss Fannie Irvin, head nurse, who has been connected with the asylum many years, has resigned, and Miss Bessie Smith, another nurse, will leave April 1st, was the announcement made yesterday by Dr. T. J. Straif, the new superintendent of the State Hospital for the Insane.

No Substitutes

RETURN to the grocer all substitutes sent you for Royal Baking Powder. There is no substitute for ROYAL, Royal is a pure, cream of tartar baking powder, and healthful. Powders offered as substitutes are made from alum.