

Scraps and Facts.

Secretary Morton has let the contract for 10,125,000 packages of vegetable seeds, to be distributed to the public under the recent act of congress, to D. Landreth & Sons, of Philadelphia. The price to be paid for the seeds is \$70,000, and it is conditioned in the contract that the seeds shall be furnished in packages labeled with the name of Landreth & Sons. In addition to this purchase, a contract was also let to L. L. May & Sons, of St. Louis, to furnish 1,000,000 packages of flower seeds at one-half cent a package. The seeds will be ready for distribution within a few days.

The second will of Benjamin Franklin was admitted to probate in Boston on March 26. When Franklin died in 1790, he made two wills. One of them provided for an immediate disposition of certain property, and the other set apart the sum of \$5,000 to be held in trust for 108 years and then expended for the use of young mechanics. It was provided that the other will should be opened at the same time, and certain other property disposed of according to directions. The \$5,000 has grown to the sum of \$111,000, and the other property is of considerable value. Franklin's desires will be as strictly complied with as possible.

Senator Vest was making a speech in the senate, the other day, when Mr. Pepper arose and began to speak, and then Mr. Sherman, all three addressing the chair at the same time. Mr. Vest looked amazed, and after a minute's hesitation, called out: "Mr. President, Mr. President!" The president paid no attention to Mr. Vest, however, when the Missouri member suddenly changed his tactics by declaring his desire to make a parliamentary inquiry. This appeal was not lost on the president. "The gentleman from Missouri will state it," he said ignoring Mr. Pepper and Mr. Sherman. "I believe I was addressing the senate and had the floor," said Mr. Vest, "but it seems that I have no longer got it. If I can't get it any other way, I rise to a parliamentary inquiry to find out how I lost it." There was a ripple of laughter. Mr. Sherman apologized for his interruption, and Mr. Vest continued to hold the fort.

The great debate between Charles F. Crisp and Hoke Smith, on the silver question, took place in Augusta last Tuesday night in the presence of several thousand people. Crisp stood for the free coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1. His speech was mainly based upon the proposition that silver was demonetized for the purpose of diminishing the supply of money and thereby increasing the value of that which was left, with the result of increasing the value of interest-bearing securities. Smith took the ground that free coinage would mean silver monometallism, wages would be reduced half, and it would be a long time before they could be gotten back to where they now are. Both debaters received liberal applause; but Crisp had rather the best of it. Smith did not offer any remedy for the existing order of things; but promised to do so in a speech to be delivered in Atlanta on Thursday night.

A horrible story comes from Cuba under date of last Tuesday. It seems that five Cubans had been condemned to death by the garote, on the charge of being "murderers and incendiaries." The garote is an implement for the execution of criminals by torture. It consists of an iron loop, fastened to a post, and tightened by means of a thumb screw from behind. After the neck of the victim is adjusted in the loop, the executioner slowly does the rest. The five men were taken out to a public place in Havana, and surrounded by troops. One of them confessed that he alone was guilty of the crime for which all had been condemned. The others protested their innocence. It was clear that a terrible mistake had been made; but there was no help for it. The public executioner had deputized an assistant to conduct the affair. The assistant was much impressed by the confession and became quite nervous. He trembled so that he could not perform his horrible work properly. The first man took his seat calmly. The executioner botched his work and death followed from slow strangulation, accompanied by the most distressing cries. The second case turned out the same way. The crowd was so horrified that a demand was made that the balance of the work be done by the regular executioner. He had become so excited he could not do the work properly either, and executed two men after the manner of the first two. Then, also overcome by the horror of the thing, he ran away from the scene, leaving the fifth and last victim in the hands of his assistants.

This has been an exciting week in the field, says a dispatch that was sent to the St. Louis Globe Democrat from Havana, via Key West, under date of March 25. The rebels have gained victories against great odds, splendid expeditions have landed and 250,000 men are contending for Cuba; but the marvel is not the battles, but a woman, Senorita Matilde Agramonte, of Havana, who, after marching and fighting with Maceo's soldiers, fell dead at last, riddled with Spanish bullets. Matilde was the last representative of one of the most widely known of old-stock Cuban families. The Spaniards burned the family estate, and the girl determined upon pursuing practically the only course that was open to her. She decided to join the army of General Maceo. She was the first woman soldier to bear arms against Spain but she saw but one battle. That was at the plantation at Olayita, in the province of Santa Clara. There General Maceo's soldiers lined up against a Spanish battalion and a fierce engagement ensued. The patriots were outnumbered and General Maceo was

compelled to order a retreat. To protect the main body he called for volunteers, who should remain behind and draw the fire of the Spanish and cover the retreat. Among those who stepped forward were Matilde, her uncles, brothers and a number of other patriot volunteers. They carried out General Maceo's plan to the letter and saved the troops, but they forfeited their lives, Matilde dying with the others. She was one of the last to fall, and while she stood her ground her sex was recognized by the commanding Spanish officer, who called upon her to surrender. Her reply was, "Viva Cuba Libre."

Messrs. Cole and Knapp, American missionaries at Bitlas, Armenia, were arrested a few days ago on the orders of the sultan of Turkey on the charge of sedition and murder and arrangements were being made to have them carried to Constantinople for trial. As soon as J. W. Riddle, the American charge d'affaires, heard of the matter, he informed the sultan that the missionaries must be immediately released or the United States would sever diplomatic relations with Turkey. The sultan took a second thought, and instructed that Cole and Knapp be turned loose to act as they please "until the road to Constantinople gets in better condition."

The Yorkville Enquirer.



YORKVILLE, S. C. :
FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 1896.

Senator Tillman has an engagement to speak in Denver, Col., on April 15. This, it has been suggested, is for the purpose of making arrangements to strike that much-talked-of "light in the West."

In his speech in Augusta, Tuesday night, Hoke Smith accounted for the cheering that had greeted Judge Crisp on the supposition that it came from Populists. Judge Crisp said he did not like to reply in kind; but if he desired to do so, he could truthfully say that the applause that was given Smith sounded as though it had come from Republicans. This brought forth another rousing cheer from the "Populists."

The Columbia Register seems to be of opinion that the Negro vote in this State is more formidable since the adoption of the new constitution than before. It publishes figures to sustain its position. Readers of THE ENQUIRER will remember that this paper made a very clear presentation of this proposition before the constitutional convention was held. We sincerely hope and pray that the condition we then predicted will never be realized; but we confess that, as yet, we have no occasion to feel especially assured.

The communication of Major John F. Jones, in another column, will be read with great interest by the owners of prospective mines in this section. Any commendation on our part of the sound sense in the communication is unnecessary. The facts presented fully speak for themselves, and when it is remembered that Major Jones, after studying the matter for years, is now at the head of a big company with capital exceeding \$200,000 it would look as if his information should be considered as of more than passing importance.

PORT MILL MATTERS.

Measles Break Out Anew—Personal and Other Notes.
Correspondence of the Yorkville Enquirer.
FORT MILL, April 1.—The brick mill of the late R. A. Fulp was sold at auction on Saturday last, which was knocked down to a gentleman from Charlotte at \$720.
The measles have broken loose afresh and many are victims unto them.
Mr. Howard Banks of Charlotte, spent Sunday with the family of Rev. J. B. Mack.
Mrs. Jane Wadford, of the gingham mill, died Sunday of cancer, aged 54 years.
Mr. Dal Culp, of Pleasant Valley neighborhood, who has been in bad health for sometime, has been brought to this place for treatment. Dr. T. S. Kirkpatrick, of Herring is at Rock Hill this week assisting Revs. Moseley and Little in a protracted meeting.
Mr. W. M. Phillips, who has been quite sick for several days, we learn, is not any better.
Mr. A. B. Culp arrived Sunday and he says that "The Times" will make its appearance Wednesday next. OBSERVER.

Cross vs. Davie.
Rock Hill Herald: An unusually interesting and exciting case was tried before the court in Chester recently. We secured the following facts from a very reliable source: Several months ago Colonel W. R. Davie and Captain R. M. Cross, both prominent citizens of Landsford, had some dispute. Bitter feeling was engendered and it all wound up in Colonel Davie and his son Richard compelling Cross to sign a libel. Captain Cross afterward brought suit for assault with intent to kill. The verdict of the jury was not guilty. A most exciting scene is reported to have occurred during the trial. Colonel Davie's lawyer Paul Hemphill, gave Captain Cross the libel to identify. The latter proceeded to destroy the paper and was fined \$50 and 10 days in jail by the court.

LOCAL AFFAIRS.

INDEX TO NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.
The Yorkville Enquirer—Offers a Komba photographic camera for a club of subscribers.
Grist Cousins—Have at their place a premium buggy, which they want people who wish to see a fine vehicle to call and examine it. It has already been sold but others can be obtained like it. Wm. B. McCaw and Finley & Brice, Plaintiff's attorneys—Summons to absent defendant in the case of J. H. Riddle, as administrator, plaintiff, against M. R. Reese, defendant.
The Ganson Dry Goods Company—Prints another three column announcement telling about the bargains they are offering the public.

ABOUT PEOPLE.

Mr. Thomas Balfour is visiting friends in Rock Hill.
W. B. McCaw, Esq., went to Savannah, Ga., last week on business.
John R. Hart, Esq., went to Columbia this week, on professional business.
Miss Nannie Aiken, of Cokesbury, is visiting her sister, Mrs. W. G. Neville.
Rev. L. A. Johnson spent several days this week with friends at Sharon.
Mr. W. H. Newbold and wife have been stopping at the Parish hotel this week.
Mrs. M. F. Jones and daughter, Miss Corrine, of Lancaster, are spending this week with Mr. Jones, at the Parish hotel.
Mr. Monroe L. Thomasson and wife, accompanied by Mr. John Hamel, are in Florida on a pleasure trip.
Miss Alice Palmer, of Charlotte, is visiting Miss Alice Woods.
We received a pleasant call Tuesday from Mr. W. T. Moore, of Clover.
Miss Maud Metts returned home yesterday after an extended visit to Miss Dunbar, in Augusta, Ga.
Rev. J. W. C. Johnson, of Rock Hill, spent last week with Rev. Robt. A. Lee.
Mrs. John J. Hunter spent several days last week with friends in Rock Hill.
Mr. Berry Cautchen, of Heath Springs, is in the C. & L. depot with Mr. H. H. Beard.
Miss Zilpah Pollock, of Blacksburg, visited Rev. L. A. Johnson's family this week.
Miss Kate Moore, of Rock Hill, visited relatives and friends in Yorkville Wednesday.
Mr. Herbert Dunlap, of Rock Hill, is taking a special course under the tutelage of Prof. A. R. Banks, with a view to standing the examination for an appointment to the West Point Military academy from the Fifth district.
Mr. T. M. Allen, of Harmony, passed through Yorkville Tuesday on his way to Columbia to attend his first meeting of the State board of control.

IT IS A SWINDLE.

"The Federal government will surely do justice to her citizens and eventually pay for emancipated slaves. It may not be next week or next year; but it is coming and ex-slave owners or their heirs should at once make arrangements to establish their claims. Make affidavit before some proper official as to the number of slaves owned by yourself, or to which you would have fallen heir had they not been emancipated in 1863, and send it to us together with \$1 if the number be less than 20; \$2 for from 20 to 30; \$3 for from 30 to 40; \$4 for from 40 to 50; and \$5 for from 50 and upward, and we will put your claim, together with all other evidence you may be able to furnish, on record against the coming time when you will get your money."
This is not the exact wording; but it is the substance of a circular that some good citizen sent THE ENQUIRER from Bethany. The concern that proposes to represent the ex-slave owners, and which want the fees referred to, styles itself as the "United States Ex-Slave Owners' Registration Bureau," with a "sub-office" in the Provident building, Savannah, Ga. Although the citizen referred to did not give his name, we take it that his object in sending us the circular is to find out what we think of it for the benefit of himself and others.
That emancipated slaves ought to be paid for, there is very little question. That they ever will be paid for, we think is altogether unlikely. Many people who never owned slaves think that such ownership was a crime, and the mere taking away of property illegally owned was indeed small punishment. These people are in a large majority in the United States, and to expect justice of them now or hereafter, is a serious mistake. However, certain swindlers appreciate the hopes of a large number of people in the South on the subject, and the alleged "United States Ex-Slave Owners' Registration Bureau," is a gigantic swindle organized for the purpose of duping these people. Under the circumstances we would not advise our readers to be in any special hurry to have their ex-slaves registered at the prices mentioned. It will be just as well to fill out the certificates inclosed with the circulars that are being sent out, have them sworn to, if desired, and then keep them in a safe place against the day of "justice." This will be just as effective and cheaper.

MANEUVERING FOR POSITION.

The tilt of Tuesday afternoon between Major Hart and Solicitor Henry over the question of allowing Mrs. Ellen Anderson's demand for trial to go on the minutes of the court, was resumed on Wednesday morning. Solicitor Henry said, in effect:
"When this matter was brought up unexpectedly, I saw no reason why this privilege should be granted, and upon investigation I am confirmed in my opinion. The statute under which this right is claimed is that regulating the writ of habeas corpus and kindred rights. A writ was issued in this case and the parties admitted to bail. The statute refers in terms to persons committed and persons imprisoned, and this defendant is neither. Again, the statute requires that before they can enter anything upon the minutes, they must come either by prayer or petition so as to complete the formal record. The statute has not been complied with, and, therefore, the party has no right under it."
In reply, Major Hart said that the defendant is a woman. She demanded a preliminary hearing. This was refused. She was committed to the custody of constables. She applied for and obtained bail. Now one of her bondsmen surrenders her to the sheriff. She is again in custody, and in imminent danger of being committed to jail. She applies for a speedy trial, and this not being granted, she is entitled to have her request entered upon the minutes.
Major Hart was proceeding to describe the treatment that the defendant had

received at the hands of the constables, when Solicitor Henry interrupted with the statement that the defendant's counsel was discussing a question of fact, not law. It seems to be his idea to get up sympathy for the defendant. As he did not refer to the matter on yesterday, I had nothing to say on this point; but now I will say that if the public prints are to be believed, he has complete control of all the defendants and can jerk them in or out of court at pleasure. After a little more sparring of this kind, Major Hart, still maintaining that the defenseless woman had been rudely treated and badly used at the hands of the law, insisted, in conclusion, that her demand for a speedy trial be entered upon the minutes.
Judge Witherspoon said that he was not yet fully determined in the matter; but if he did decide to allow the defendant's demand to be entered upon the minutes, he would also have entered the statement that was made by the solicitor on Tuesday afternoon.

LOCAL LAONICUS.

UNTIL JANUARY 1897.
THE TWICE-A-WEEK ENQUIRER, OR THE WEEKLY ENQUIRER will be furnished from this date to January, 1st, 1897, for \$1.42.
Bear In Mind,
That the production of a tax receipt showing that all taxes for last year have been paid, is an absolutely necessary requirement before applicants for registration can secure certificates.

Railroad Earnings.
The railroad commission has reported the earnings of the various railroads in the State for the month of December in 1894 and 1895. In December 1894, the Chester and Lenoir earned \$2,351.10, and in December, 1895, it earned \$2,572.45. The O. R. & C. earned \$16,514.25 in December 1894, and \$19,537.17 in December, 1895. The G., C. & N. shows an increase from \$70,732.56 to \$103,673.19. The Atlanta and Charlotte Air Line is dropping below the building of the latter road. Its earnings are only \$82,394.99, in December, 1895, against \$88,388.80 in December, 1894.

Want It Re-Established.
A petition is in circulation for the re-establishment of Fodder postoffice at the residence of Dr. T. B. Hough, on the Charlotte road, eight miles from Yorkville, with Mrs. Lula Hough as postmaster.
A Heavy Loss to Mr. Reid.
Mr. T. B. Reid, who lives on the plantation of Mrs. S. E. Oates, about three miles southeast of Rock Hill, had the misfortune to lose his barn and contents by fire last Monday morning at about 9.30 o'clock. In the barn was 150 bales of hay and 60 bushels of corn. Two hogs were roasted to death in a nearby pen before anything could be done for them. The origin of the fire is unknown.

THE CIRCUIT COURT.

On Wednesday morning Hyder Wylie colored, was tried in his absence on the charge of violating the dispensary law and convicted. His honor left with the clerk of the court a sealed sentence.
A sealed sentence was also filed in the case of Randall Berry, colored, convicted in a like manner of the same offense.
One of the most interesting cases of the session was that against Scott Regsdale and James McGill, and charged with hauling contraband liquor in the night-time.
It seems that the two men had been to North Carolina after liquor. On their way back they were captured by Constable J. T. Thomasson. In their wagon were several packages of liquor, containing amounts ranging from 1 to 2 1/2 gallons, and aggregating something over 5 gallons.
The testimony showed that the parties had left North Carolina in the daytime. They were detained on the way by a rain-storm. Some of the packages belonged to them and others belonged to other parties. All were properly labeled. The defendants claimed that their own packages were for personal use, and that the others were for the personal use of the parties to whom they were to be delivered.

By an agreement on the part of Mr. W. B. Wilson, representing the defendants, and Solicitor Henry, representing the State, the case was practically made a question of law, leaving the issues as to whether the liquor was for personal use to the jury.
Mr. Wilson argued that under the interstate commerce law, the parties were allowed to transport the liquor for their own personal use and quoted Judge Simon's recent decision. He claimed that while the party defendants were not common carriers, they had a perfect right to deliver any commodity of commerce from a citizen of one State to a citizen of another. While the packages labeled for the other parties were not for the personal use of the defendants, they were for personal use all the same, and came under the provisions of the law. He said that the quantity made no difference, as it would be unreasonable to designate any particular amount as sufficient for personal use.
Solicitor Henry argued in the first place that the parties did not have the right to bring the liquor into the State for personal use; and if they did have such a right, they were not common carriers and did not have the right to bring liquor for other parties.
Judge Witherspoon sustained Mr. Wilson in every important particular. He held that the parties had a right to bring liquor into this from another State. If he had a right to bring it for himself, he had the right to bring it for another. To say what amount should be allowed for personal use, he said, would be unreasonable. The main question for the jury was to decide whether or not the liquor was really brought for personal use, or for the purpose of evading the dispensary law. It brought for the purpose of evading the law, the verdict should be guilty. The jury remained out about three hours and returned a verdict of not guilty.

Moses Blake, colored, plead guilty to violation of the dispensary and was sentenced to three months on the chain gang, or a fine of \$100.
Tate Freeman also plead guilty to the same offense and received a like sentence.
Richard Belk, the Negro who fell from the top of the jail not long ago while attempting to escape, plead guilty of larceny of live stock and was sentenced to the penitentiary for two years.
Nick Cornelius, colored, was convicted of violation of the dispensary law and sentenced to three months on the chain gang.
In the case of J. J. Massey, charged with violation of the dispensary law, the jury returned a verdict of not guilty.
The case of the State against George

Cashion, Robert Moore and Robert Wray, charged with perjury, was not prossed. This case grew out of a dispensary case that was tried at the last term of the court. The witnesses swore point blank against Constable Newbold on a matter of date. The verdict of the jury sustained the evidence of the constable, and he brought the case against the witnesses for the purpose of vindicating his position. The defendants afterward signed a written admission that they were probably mistaken, and Constable Newbold agreed to drop the case.

The last case taken up was that of the State against Dr. John May, charged with violating the dispensary law. The alleged violation occurred in January, 1895. The case came up at the last spring term of the court, and went up to the supreme court on an alleged irregularity in the indictment, in which the indictment was sustained. The solicitor gave out a new indictment at this term, and the grand jury returned a true bill. Mr. J. C. Lilly appeared as the prosecuting witness and testified that he had bought liquor at Dr. May's store from a Negro and paid money for it to Dr. May. Dr. May denied that he had sold the witness any whiskey. The jury remained out from 4 o'clock Wednesday until 10 minutes after 12 o'clock Thursday morning. The verdict was guilty. Dr. May was sentenced to pay a fine of \$150 or go to the chain gang or State penitentiary for a period of six months.

All but 12 of the petit jurors were discharged on Wednesday afternoon, and the remaining 12 were discharged on Thursday morning. The sessions court was adjourned sine die at about 11 o'clock on Thursday.

REPORT OF THE GRAND JURY.

The grand jury concluded its labors on Wednesday afternoon and submitted the following:
To his honor I. D. Witherspoon, presiding judge, of the Sixth circuit: We, the grand jury of York county, beg leave to submit this, our final report:
We have acted upon all the bills handed out to us by the solicitor.
A committee composed of members of our body has investigated the management of the county home, and finds that the same is in a satisfactory condition and well managed. The inmates are properly cared for and there is every evidence that business principles are being applied. We suggest that the members of the county board of commissioners build an additional barn there.
We have also investigated the jail and find that the safety of the prisoners demands that some repairs be made without delay, and we would call especial attention to the fact that one cell is unsafe on account of the damage done to it by some prisoners in a recent attempt to escape. We would recommend that the county board of commissioners secure estimates on the cost of a furnace for heating the jail, and if the same can be economically done, would recommend that one be purchased and put in.

We have inspected the stockade at the county convict camp, and find it in good condition. The prisoners are well fed and clothed and treated and are doing good work.
It has come to our knowledge that Samuel L. Pursley, coroner of York county, Meek Capps, together with Boyce Faries, have been engaged in a disturbance or riot in violation of the laws of the State, in which Pursley was seriously injured by the said Capps. We would respectfully ask that a thorough investigation be made and the said parties be brought to a strict account for said disorderly conduct.

We also present the following parties for general riot: John Pursley, Meek Capps, Aaron Howell and Frank Carpenter. All of the above disturbance occurred in York county, S. C., on or about the 21st day of March, 1895, at the store of James L. McGill. Following are witnesses: John A. Falls, Jack Ford, James L. McGill, Will Erwin, Mack McCarter, Newton Glenn. Attending physician, E. W. Pressley.
We have investigated the books and management of the dispensaries at Tirzah and Blacksburg. We find the following irregularities at the former: A number of requests to purchase liquor without any date, and we saw one sale of liquor made without the written request being signed at the time of the purchase. These irregularities are in violation of section 11 of the dispensary law, and should be corrected. In all other respects we found the management of the dispensary in accordance with the law.

We find the following irregularities in the management of the dispensary at Blacksburg: A number of prescriptions for liquor (given, as the dispenser states, on the Sabbath day) without any date, the larger number being signed, "Ramsey, M. D." We find many of the written requests for the purchase of liquor are signed by the dispenser, in the place of the purchaser, the same being also attested by him. We also find that said dispenser does not in every instance ascertain or inquire the age of parties purchasing liquor as required by law.
It has been reported to us that Trial Justice W. D. Camp is often intoxicated, and is on that account, at such times, incapacitated and unable to properly discharge the duties pertaining to his office.
We call attention to the fact that J. J. Waters, trial justice, as we are informed, has been negligent in the matter of looking after the interest of the State in certain cases, in that he has admitted parties to bail on worthless or what is commonly called "straw bonds."

It has been brought to our attention that Trial Justice M. S. Carroll, of York township, has resigned his office and that no one has been appointed to succeed him. We recommend that this again be brought to the attention of the governor of the State, and that some suitable person be appointed to the said office.
All of which is respectfully submitted.
A. M. BLACK, Foreman.
Judge Witherspoon thanked the grand jurors for the careful and intelligent attention they had given to their duties and said that the special matters mentioned in their presentment would be looked after and properly disposed of. He then dismissed the grand jurors until the next term of the court.

SETTLE IT BY A PRIMARY.

Editors of The Enquirer:
The time for our municipal election in Yorkville is fast approaching, and I respectfully suggest that we nominate the intend and wardens by a white Democratic primary. This will prevent any friction and the plan works admirably in our sister towns.
CITIZEN.

BEWARE OF THE MIDDLEMAN.

Major John F. Jones Gives Valuable Points to Owners of Mining Prospects.
Editor of the Yorkville Enquirer.
Your article in yesterday's issue referring to our Reduction works suggests to me the need, or rather the advisability, of making known to farmers, and to others in our county who own mines, real or prospective, how they can best protect their interests.
As suggested in your article, the plant erected by myself and friends has awakened a new interest and perhaps given a new value to the mining properties in this section. I refer especially to such properties as contain refractory ores, for we know that the ores can be successfully treated by our process. Had we not known it, we would not have spent so much money as we have.
Now that the ice has been broken, I have every confidence in the proposition that sooner or later every mine in York county, and, indeed, in this whole section, will acquire a value that is not heretofore possessed, and the knowledge that, under the circumstances, it is not reasonable to presume that the average mine owner understands how to best get the benefit of his property, prompts this letter. I think I am in a position to say something that will be of value to the people.
It is often the case that the first people to approach the owners of good mining prospects are not those who actually propose to develop the properties; but brokers, agents or middlemen. It is usually their object to secure an option or contract that will enable them to eventually sell the property to actual developers at a higher price and to pocket the difference. While this is legitimate business, it is not always to the best interest of the owner of the property. Often, by an apparently innocent, but cleverly worded contract, the middleman speculator referred to is enabled to get an advantage that the owner does not suspect until it is too late, and sometimes he finds it to his interest to tie up the property for an indefinite period to the great detriment and perhaps loss of the owner.
Now it is understood by persons with experience in the business, that a "prospect" is not a "mine." There may be every promise of rich ore in paying quantities; but the mine must be actually developed and the vein exposed to sight in such a manner as warrant a reasonably correct conclusion as to its extent before it can be sold to the best advantage.
Suppose some farmer happened to own a valuable prospect. If he gives such an option as has been referred to on it, he is in the hands of a speculator. A better way than this is for him to do the developing himself. He can pick his own time, when the crops are laid by, for instance, and work on his prospect. As his ore accumulates, if he is able to see a profit in it, he can have it treated, and with the returns may proceed to sink shafts, drive tunnels, make open cuts, and in this way fully determine the value of his possession. Then if he has a good mine, susceptible of profitable treatment, either by the caloric or other process, he is in a position to enlarge his operations by an increased output, to put in machinery, to lease on the royalty plan, or to sell, whichever course he may see fit to adopt. If he has a good mine, he need have no fear of being unable to find a purchaser. The purchaser will find him.
Then there is another thing. It is not well for the inexperienced to take too much risk. This is easily avoided. Assays can be secured in various places. A piece of ore small enough to be sent through the mail will serve as a test. The owner can easily select an average of his ores, or his best, as he sees fit, and after securing an assay, can tell about how much inducement he has to continue his developments. To facilitate information of this kind we have opened an assay office at our works, and undertake to assay and report on gold bearing ores for the nominal sum of \$1.50 for each sample. Not only this, we will take pleasure in advising with intending developers of their own property as to the best methods of procedure in different cases, and will give them such other information as we think may be of value to them.
In conclusion, please allow me to say that I know that good ores and splendid mining prospects are scattered in every direction over the length and breadth of York county. Had I not known this, it is not reasonable to suppose that myself and friends would have gone into the establishment of our plant here on such a tremendous scale. Notwithstanding what we have done, I can but feel that we have just started, and I hope there will be no misunderstanding as to the occasion of this letter. Besides entertaining a feeling of gratitude to our people for their uniform kindness and consideration in affording all reasonable assistance to our efforts, I realize that individual success and profit in the development of the numerous prospects everywhere abounding, will just to that extent indirectly help us. Then again, satisfied that there must necessarily be almost unlimited developments in gold mining properties in this section, and that with very little more delay, I want our own people, who at present own most of the property to be developed, to be in position to realize the advantage and appreciation of values that will belong to them.
Very respectfully,
JOHN F. JONES.
Blacksburg, S. C., April 2, 1896.

ROCK HILL HAPPENINGS.

Religious Services—Improved Fire Facilities—Personal.
Correspondence of the Yorkville Enquirer.
ROCK HILL, April 2.—During this holy-week, special services are being held at the Church of Our Saviour. The hours for service are 7 a. m., and 8 p. m. except on Saturday. On Good Friday there will be a service at 11 a. m. Notwithstanding the unusual hour, the attendance is good.
On Sunday night there was a union meeting of all the congregations in the Presbyterian church. This is one of the results of the ministerial association founded here not long ago. It was thought that the meeting would prove more interesting if the addresses were made by laymen. For the evening the programme related to church work in our midst. Prof. E. P. Moses, of Winthrop college, made a very interesting talk on the duty of the church towards the non-attending part of our population; stating the claims of this class and the feelings which have led to the develop-