

The Yorkville Enquirer.



YORKVILLE, S. C.:

SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 1899.

— We see numerous difficulties in the way of the formation of J. Sterling Morton's proposed "Conservative" party. The very fact that a man desires to go into it would furnish prima facie presumption against him.

— The letter of Augustus Deal, published today, paints in rather lively style the demoralization of army life, and the delicate touch with which the brush is handled seems to lend additional charm to the work.

— The manner in which the Filipinos are fighting for their liberty seems to show that they are capable of making pretty good American citizens. That this country should be under the necessity of conquering such a people, however, is certainly a pity.

— A correspondent writing to The New and Courier from Matanzas, Cuba, has something to say of the personnel of the engineer corps stationed there, and which is said to have been doing excellent service. The corps is in command of Colonel D. D. Gaillard, and Henry C. Davis is a major. Both officers are West Point men and both have distinguished records. They are represented as being from York county. This county would be delighted to claim both of them; but it happens that the correspondent has made a mistake and credited York with an honor that is due to the county of Fairfield.

— While we believe we have made the purpose of THE ENQUIRER perfectly plain in regard to the Confederate re-union ticket contest, we are especially anxious that there be no misunderstanding. In our judgment, it will be more pleasing to all if the people elected happen to be men to whom transportation will be a consideration. There are few Confederate veterans in this section, we are happy to say, who, if they set their minds on it, cannot raise the means with which to take in the Charleston re-union. There are hundreds, however, who do not feel that they can well afford the trip in justice to themselves and their families, and who will be kept away for that reason. To these, no doubt, a round-trip ticket would prove very acceptable. We would rather see them voted for directly; but still, as elsewhere suggested, we do not propose to offer any restraint in voting, except to confine it strictly to Confederate veterans.

CLEANER POLITICS.

If there is any one thing that this country needs more than another to elevate the moral tone of the people, it is cleaner political methods than have been in vogue for a number of years past. We do not refer especially to York county. While the demagogue has had his day to a greater or less extent here, we honestly believe that upon the whole, York county has not suffered nearly so much as many other counties in the state; but if the plain truth is to be told, the political conditions in South Carolina, nor in any part of it, are nearly what they ought to be.

When we say that demagogues have been abroad in York county, we do not feel that we are in danger of being pressed for proof. If we should be pressed for proof, we would feel more or less embarrassed, because we do not care to take upon ourselves the unpleasant office of mentioning names. But it is hardly necessary to do so. While our public offices generally are filled by high toned gentlemen, there is hardly an intelligent individual in the county who is not aware of more or less demagoguery, unscrupulous slander and political trickery from time to time practiced upon our people.

To trace our unclean politics back to its inception would be difficult. It existed previous to the war, to a greater or less extent; but was not nearly so bad then as since. There was not so much slander, falsehood or trickery. The worst period of the state's history came immediately after the war, and though we may be loath to admit it, one of the most serious disease spots in conditions as they exist today, probably had its origin in the methods used in working the revolution of 1876. No man, however, hightoned or honorable, can regret that revolution. The situation justified bloodshed. It really called for a great deal more blood than was shed. But, instead, it was deemed best to resort to different methods. All the older people of today are fully aware that in the revolution of 1876 there was more recourse to trickery—to cheating—at the ballot box

than there was to either intimidation or force. And the evil effects have been with us since. By the precedent established then, there has since been justified slander, abuse, ballot box stuffing and other political crimes too numerous to mention.

We do not care now to condemn anything that was done back in 1876. It is too late for such condemnation. What was done cannot be undone; but it is not too late to forget these things as a precedent. However justifiable they may possibly have been then, they cannot possibly be justified now. At this day, and under present conditions, in a white man's country, restored to white men, no man of honor can continue to practice the frauds that were once perpetrated with impunity, and for men without honor to continue to practice them is something the people cannot, with regard to their own safety, permit any longer.

England, perhaps comes more nearly to having a government of the people, for and by the people, than any other country on the face of the earth. We proudly claim to have such a government ourselves. But ours, especially in high places, is a government of the politicians and for the politicians. This is not a pleasant reflection; but it is true. Education and intelligence govern everywhere, when they try. There is more education among the English masses than among the masses of any other country. The Englishman prizes his civil rights much more than we Americans do. He keeps thoroughly informed with regard to those rights, and as between Englishmen, especially, he loves absolute justice. Therefore, the demagogue does not and cannot flourish to any considerable extent in England. Knowing the truth when they see it, and demanding nothing but the truth, Englishmen are not easily deceived. High or low, rich or poor, our people are as honest, individually and collectively, as are the English people; but lacking education or general information, they are not such difficult prey for the demagogue. It is easier for unscrupulous politicians, bound together by ties of mutual selfish interests to dupe the people for their own personal benefit, while the people believe that they themselves are their own real sovereigns.

So if our people would work out their own best interest, they must give closer attention to public affairs. We do not mean that all should become politicians or candidates. The man who serves his people in any public capacity is highly honored; there is no question of that fact. Fortunately, only a few are needed in public capacity. It is extremely important, however, that only the best and fittest be honored with public positions, and this is why the whole people should give their close attention to public affairs. It is necessary that they should be in a position to distinguish the competent man from the ignoramus, the patriot from the demagogue, the hightoned gentleman from the hypocrite. When they qualify themselves to unerringly make these distinctions, the day of dishonest politics in this country will be done, for when the general information of our people is advanced to the standard of their honesty, such mistakes as have sometimes been made in the past will be impossible.

— A special dispatch to the Chicago Tribune from Omaha, Neb., credits J. Sterling Morton, formerly a member of Cleveland's cabinet, with the intention of forming a new political party, which he declares will be the greatest political organization since the formation of the Republican party. Discussing the proposed new party and the sidelights likely to develop therefrom, Mr. Morton says: "I have the utmost faith in the plan. A party will be organized July 4 that will stand for conservatism pre-eminently. No doubt the platform will contain some elements common to all parties; but the keynote will be conservatism. There is a vast field for the new party's operations. The late war and its monotonous issues, the struggle of the two great parties over bimetalism, the rise, the decline and absolute decay of Populism, all these elements contribute to a situation as pregnant as those which gave birth to the Republican party on the approach of our civil strife."

— The navy department is bending forth every energy to the hurrying of ships and sailors to Manila. It is in answer to a telegram that was received last week from Admiral Dewey. The admiral explains that with the force at hand, it is impossible for him to patrol the Philippine islands, or even those on which the war is being waged with such vigor, sufficiently close to keep out arms and ammunition. It seems that the Filipinos have plenty of money and the conditions are such as to make the proposition of selling contraband of war an inviting one. The probability is that all the available naval force that can be spared from this country will be sent to Manila.

MEMORANDUM.

Up to last Saturday, 27 bodies had been recovered from the ruins of the Windsor hotel. The Second United States infantry has been ordered to go to Cuba from Anniston, Ala. The Chicago was expected to arrive at Fortress Monroe yesterday, with Senator Sherman on board. The cruiser Raleigh is expected to arrive in New York from the Philippines shortly.

LOCAL AFFAIRS.

INDEX TO NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.
Grist Cousins—Stop!
Mrs. T. M. Johnson—Tells you what Miss Res and Miss Maggie Glenn are doing in the millinery line. Mrs. Dobson wants you to remember that she is selling Red C Oil.
The Ganson Dry Goods Co.—Reminds you that their challenge sale continues.

ABOUT PEOPLE.

Mr. Philip L. Moore has secured a position as guard at the state penitentiary.
Mr. C. R. Simmons, of Forest City, N. C., was in Yorkville Thursday and Friday.

Mr. John A. Neely, of Rock Hill, spent Sunday in Yorkville with his father's family, Mr. H. A. D. Neely.

Mr. J. Donnom Witherspoon, of Mountville, Laurens county, is visiting relatives and friends in and near Yorkville.

Mr. C. G. Parish, traveling representative of the Rock Hill Buggy company, is at home spending a few days with his family.

The result of the quarterly examinations at the South Carolina college has been published. We note York county boys referred to as follows: G. W. Witherspoon, (Senior class) proficient in political science, political economy and philosophy of religion; R. L. Parish, (Junior class) proficient in constitutional law, psychology and Latin; J. E. Ardrey, (Freshman class) proficient in history and biology.

Mr. J. H. Norment, traveling representative of the Charleston News and Courier, was in Yorkville on Wednesday and Thursday in the interest of that excellent paper. Mr. Norment has done a considerable amount of valuable work, especially in the matter of writing up resources of the state. It was his first visit to Yorkville. He was delighted with the town, and the people who had the pleasure of meeting him were delighted with him.

AT THE OPERA HOUSE.

There has been a plethora of shows in Yorkville this season, especially within the past few weeks. Some have been very good, some indifferent and some poor, or in a more expressive term, "rotten."

The Murray-Hart company, which played an engagement of three nights beginning last Monday, was one of the best that has yet been in the opera-house. It is not as large as many of the other companies; but is composed of thorough-going professionals who seem to know their business, and who are possessed of unquestioned talent.

But from a financial standpoint, even this last named company was not successful. Its receipts were sufficient to pay expenses; but not a great deal more. The audience Monday night was a fairly large one, and the play was excellent. There was a still better audience Tuesday night and a still better play. Quite a number of ladies were out Wednesday night; but otherwise the house was discouragingly small and the effect was noticeable on the players. They did their best, of course; but the play did not go off nearly so satisfactorily as the night before.

The company made a splendid impression upon the play-goers of Yorkville, and also upon a number of people whom they met socially. If it should ever come back here again, it will, no doubt, be welcomed with crowded houses.

CLEAN OUT THE STREAMS.

There is an interesting suit in progress down in Bullock's Creek township, brought to enforce the law relative to the removal by landowners, during the month of August, of all trees, rafts, timber, driftwood, etc., from streams running through their lands.

The prosecutor is Mr. Wm. G. Mc. Bailey, of Olive, and the defendants, as the proceedings were originally instituted, were Messrs. Willis, Kirkpatrick, Crawford and Hardin, all of whom had failed to clean out their streams in accordance with the law.

The matter came up before Magistrate Plaxco on last Wednesday; but it developed that the name of Mr. Willis had been omitted from the summons, Mr. Kirkpatrick was not the owner of the land in question last August, and for various other reasons, principally technical, it was decided to postpone the trial until next Thursday, when the case would be pushed against Messrs. Crawford and Hardin.

As to just what the merits of the case are, THE ENQUIRER is not fully informed. The reporter has heard it stated that Mr. Willis, and probably one or more of the others, had cleaned out streams as the law required; but failed to do certain blasting that was necessary. About this, however, we have nothing definite. It is understood also, on the authority of rumor only, that Messrs. Crawford and Hardin have entirely neglected the portion of the stream in question running through their lands.

There has been some question among the lawyers as to the constitutionality of the act requiring landowners to clean out streams; but that is all settled. A recent decision of the supreme court, just reported, holds that the act is constitutional, and that prosecution under it is equally within the province of private individuals or the county board of commissioners. The recent change in the county government law

does not in the least affect the status of the law.

The outcome of the prosecution instituted by Mr. Bailey, is being watched with much interest. This is the first case in this county that has gone beyond the county board of commissioners, and the result of it will probably have much to do with further proceedings in different sections in the same direction.

THE SECOND PRIZE.

Mr. G. W. Knox, of Clover, the maker of the second largest club in THE ENQUIRER's recent premium contest, came down to Yorkville on Thursday, accompanied by Mrs. Knox and their little daughter, to see about the prize—a \$50 suit of furniture.

It happened that Messrs. W. B. Moore & Co., from whom the furniture was to be procured did not have on hand a \$50 suit of the kind offered; but he had a \$60 suit, and proposed that Mr. Knox might take that, without any extra charge. The suit indicated was about as fine as is ordinarily brought to this market, and Mr. and Mrs. Knox very sensibly suggested that they would be better satisfied with more utility and less show.

Mr. Moore was again equal to the occasion. He suggested that Mr. and Mrs. Knox might take out the value of the suit in whatever furniture they desired and that they could just go ahead and make their selections the same as if they were planking down the cash. This suggestion was duly acted upon, and after careful deliberation here is what they got. Handsome suit of oak furniture, a very pretty and substantial sofa, half a dozen dining chairs, a big arm rocker, and such a baby carriage as would be in appropriate keeping with the original \$50 suit. Mr. Knox was satisfied, Mrs. Knox was satisfied, Mr. Moore was satisfied, and THE ENQUIRER is satisfied. The fact is, the whole business was a very pleasant transaction all round.

FREE TRIP TO CHARLESTON.

The Charleston re-union comes on May 10 and lasts until May 13, and among those who will desire to make this trip, there will, no doubt, be many who cannot afford the expense. It is the desire of THE ENQUIRER to give every old Confederate in the county a few days of outing, and if we could, we would be glad to send the last one of them to Charleston, and not only pay their railroad fare; but also their other expenses. This, of course, is out of our power; but we can do something in this line, and we hereby offer to pay the railroad fare of at least nine of them from Yorkville to Charleston and return, on the occasion of the re-union.

Although nine round trip tickets will present a pretty good contribution for one business concern, we have determined on that number, for the reason that there are just nine townships in the county, and it is our desire to send one representative from each township, and then again we do not wish to show any partiality in this matter. So to avoid any sign of it, we want to leave the selection of the old soldiers, who are to receive the tickets, to the readers of THE YORKVILLE ENQUIRER. Here is the plan by which we propose to proceed:

On the last column of the third page of each issue of THE ENQUIRER, up to and including the issue of May 3, will be found a blank ballot, which, when made out with the name of the veteran to be voted for and the township in which he lives, and returned to this office within the time fixed, will be accepted as one vote for the veteran named. While it is our earnest desire that the beneficiaries of the complimentary transportation that we are offering, be veterans to whom such transportation will be a consideration in inducing them to enjoy the pleasure of attending the re-union, still this is a matter that we will not pretend to try to control arbitrarily. All coupons properly made out in the names of Confederate veterans living in any of the several townships of York county, will be counted for the veterans designated, and if the veterans elected happen to be men to whom such tickets would be but a trifling consideration, then these veterans will have the privilege, if they do not see fit to use the tickets themselves, of bestowing them upon other veterans of their own selection, in their respective townships. It is our purpose to see to it, however, that none of the tickets will be good except in the hands of bona fide Confederate veterans.

The terms under which the elections are to be conducted are as follows:

1. All voting must be done on coupons clipped from the last column of the third page of THE ENQUIRER. No other votes will be recognized.
2. Coupons may be sent in at any time; but in order to facilitate the count and classification that will be necessary, we prefer as little delay as possible.
3. Coupons will be accepted only in sealed envelopes; but may be forwarded to THE YORKVILLE ENQUIRER either by mail or by hand. There will be no objection to a number of coupons for the same veteran or for different veterans in the same envelope. But in all cases, the envelopes should be

plainly marked "Confederate Veteran Ticket Contest."

4. Coupons will be published in each issue of THE ENQUIRER up to and including May 3. None will be published after May 3. The competition will close with the arrival of the last mail to Yorkville at 9 o'clock on the evening of May 4. No coupons will be counted that are received after that hour. If possible, the names of the fortunate veterans selected will be announced in the issue of THE ENQUIRER for Saturday, May 6. This will give these veterans until the following Tuesday—May 9—to make other necessary arrangements for the trip.

All of the tickets that we propose to distribute are to be over the "Old Reliable" South Carolina and Georgia railroad. We have selected this route for the reason that it is the most direct, most convenient, can go through without change of cars, and is most satisfactory as to schedules. All the tickets will be good from Yorkville and return.

WITHIN THE TOWN.

Court convenes next Monday. Next Monday is salesday for April. A committee of four members of the Daughters of the Confederacy has been canvassing the town during the past few days in behalf of the Confederate re-union. One of the ladies reported on Thursday morning subscriptions to the amount of \$29 and collections to the amount of about \$26. The other members of the committee were also doing well. The result of the canvass will be made known later. The regular monthly meeting of the county board of commissioners takes place next Wednesday.

The northbound Carolina and North-Western passenger train brought the southern mail last Wednesday morning. It was on account of delay at Chester. The reporter has not learned the cause of the delay; but it was suggested on the street during the day that probably Mr. A. C. Izard, of the Southern, carried out his promise to put the heavy freight train across the track of the Narrow Gauge.

Mr. A. F. McConnell reported yesterday morning that the municipal registration up to that time aggregated 141 names. This includes nearly all of the citizens of the town who have state registration certificates. There are a number of citizens who have never been registered to vote in state and county elections. Such registration is prerequisite to municipal registration. The office of the county supervisors of registration will be open next Monday, salesday, for April, and those citizens who are still without registration certificates, will do well to call on the county supervisors. The town registration books will be closed on April 29, and after next Monday there will not be another opportunity to secure a state registration certificate until the first Monday in May. The town registration now is larger than it has ever been; but still every citizen who is otherwise entitled to vote should, by all means, provide himself with a registration certificate.

The town council is making repairs on the fountain in the courthouse yard. Mr. A. Cody is doing the work, and, of course, it is being done right.

EQUALIZATION BOARD.

The county board of equalization met in the office of Auditor Boyce last Tuesday and organized by the election of Major A. H. White, as chairman. Major White becomes an ex-officio member of the state board.

The most interesting development of the meeting was a controversy over the representation of Bullock's Creek township. It seems that Dr. J. H. Saye, who is a resident of Broad River township, had been appointed a member of the Bullock's Creek board, and the other two members elected him chairman, by virtue of which office he became the representative of Bullock's Creek township on the county board.

Certain citizens of Bullock's Creek township appeared at the meeting to protest against this arrangement. They began their attack with a protest against the action of the board in raising certain returns. It was quickly made to appear, however, that the action of the Bullock's Creek board had been unanimous. The action of a majority of the township board is binding. There was no question as to the status of the other two members, and, therefore, with or without Dr. Saye, the work of the board was entirely regular. Then came up the main issue as to whether Bullock's Creek township could be legally represented by a citizen whose place of residence was in Broad River township.

The board of equalization declined to attempt to decide the question, on the ground that it had no power to do so. It had the work of the Bullock's Creek board before it. That work was legal in that it had been sanctioned by two members, the status of whom could not be questioned. There was nothing in the law to show that the members of the board had to be residents of the townships they represented. Besides this, Dr. Saye was a regular appointee of the governor, and there was no other power with authority to name his successor. So, under these conditions, it was only possible to leave

matters in statu quo and proceed with business, which was done.

Dr. Saye is not to blame in the least for the controversy. It was quite embarrassing to him. He had been appointed a member of the equalization board for Bullock's Creek township without his knowledge or consent. Although he had no desire to serve, he was perfectly willing to discharge his duty in the matter, and it was upon legal assurance of his eligibility that he presented himself at the meeting of the county board. As to how the whole thing will be straightened out has not yet developed.

LOCAL LAONICS.

It Was Not Reese.
The story of the capture of Reese in Arizona turns out to be another fleeting vision of that \$1,000 reward. O. P. Bishop, the man who wrote the governor that he "had 'em" etc., now writes Sheriff Logan that it was all a mistake. It developed that the man suspected as being Reese, has been in Arizona for several years, and that he is a drinking man, while Reese was not. The tendency of that \$1,000 reward is to make suspicious characters out of almost any two strangers; but the request of the sheriff for photographs is a test that usually punctures the bubble.

The "Catawba Bridge."
Mr. C. P. Blankenship, accompanied by Mr. C. T. Crook, of Fort Mill township, came over to Yorkville last Monday on account of the meeting of the equalization board, of which Mr. Blankenship is a member. They left home shortly after daylight, and did not reach Yorkville until about 8 o'clock. It was on account of bad roads and the river. They had to go up to Wright's ferry, and after crossing the river, had to travel several miles before they could get across the creek. The equalization board had adjourned before they reached Yorkville. Both gentlemen suggest that their experience seems to emphasize the necessity for the proposed Catawba River bridge.

Idle Yarns.
There have been stories to the effect that the South Carolina and Georgia railroad was to be sold. First to the Southern, then to the Seaboard, and then to the Atlantic Coast Line. The News and Courier has had a talk with General Manager Sands on the subject who said in part: "Mr. Sands said it was certainly gratifying to the management of the road to know that so many people desired to have it. All he could say was that the present owners were vigorously pressing forward work on the road in a way that must end in immense advantage to Charleston. The Sumter branch was largely graded, and in a month or two trains would be reaching to a territory which could not now trade with Charleston. On the Ohio River and Charleston, or South Carolina and Georgia Extension, as it is now called, the line would soon be at Clifton and Spartanburg and open up new connections for the road and the port of Charleston. So far as the main line of road was concerned, already nine miles of 70-pound steel rail had been laid in the last few weeks, nine more are now being put down and 18 more miles in the course of the summer, making 32 miles of new iron altogether. The terminals of the road had been vastly improved and its connections in the way of foreign trade by water and with the interior by rail were being extended continually."

SOUTH CAROLINA NEWS.

Bakewell the Suspect.
Reports from Charleston indicate that suspicion is centering on Benjamin B. Bakewell as the murderer of Thomas C. Pinckney. Bakewell is the Pittsburg society man who is engaged to Miss Barden, the young lady near whose house Pinckney was killed, and whom the young man had visited on the night of the murder. It is rumored that the grand jury will probably indict Bakewell. It will be remembered that at the coroner's inquest, Bakewell claimed to have arrived in Charleston the next morning after the murder. Many people have suspected that he was in town that night. If there is any evidence of his presence in Charleston at the time of the murder, it has not yet been made public.

The Pinckney Investigation.
Charleston Post, Tuesday: The grand jury is in session today working on the Pinckney case. It has summoned Lieutenant McManus, of the police department, and he will be put through a close examination. The witness has not appeared before the grand jury, nor did he testify at the coroner's inquest. No one knows what information Lieutenant McManus is in possession of. It is said by some that of late he has been making a secret investigation and has come into knowledge of some important facts; but how true this is cannot be said at this time, and is given for what it is worth. For the past few days the jury, it is said, has been trying to solve the mysterious disappearance of Mr. Pinckney's hat on the night he was shot. The members of the jury cannot understand why he was bareheaded when he was found on the sidewalk just a few minutes after the shots were fired, since the hat was not found near the spot. They take it that had his hat been on and afterwards fallen off, it would have certainly been