Scraps and Facts.

—British beer drinkers have been catching scissors during the past few weeks. Over 70 have died under mysterious circumstances. At first the cause of the trouble was unknown; but within the past few days it has been attributed to arsenic in their beer. It seems that in the manufacture of beer large quanties of glucose are used. Bad glucose contains arsenic, and several of the large breweries have been furnished with bad lots of glucose.

—A big poultry show was opened at Monroe, N. C., yesterday, to continue until December 7. It will be the biggest show ever held in the southwest, and already about 1,000 fowls of every description have been entered. There are large displays from Parker & Miller, of Rock Hill; Open View Farm, Mountain Island; Sandy Run Poultry Yards, Ellenboro; Biltmore Farms, Belmont Poultry Yards. Shelby, and many others. One fare on all railroads.

—A Washington dispatch says that the secretary of state has completed negotiations by which the United States will be able to choose either the Panama or Nicaragua route for the proposed canal to connect the Atlantic with the Pacific. The Nicaragua route, if chosen, is to cost $5,000,000. The terms on which the other route may be secured have not yet been made public. It is understood, however, that both the United States of Colombia and Nicaragua propose to give the United States sovereign rights along the respective routes.

—The Chicago Times-Herald of Saturday says: A corner has been made on eggs. The price now is 19 cents a dozen and how high it will go no one but the men who are engineering the deal can tell. The men, Armour, Swift and other packers and dealers who control the corner, have already made about half a million dollars, and their profits have only begun. The deal is of such proportions that it makes the Phillips corner on corn seem insignificant. The deal has been engineered by the packers, Armour and Swift, who are the largest owners of refrigerator cars in the country, and have facilities for handling eggs to better advantage than regular dealers. There is also in the combination the Western Cold Storage company, the Monarch Refrigerator company, Purcell & Tinkham and C. H. Weaver & Co., all of Chicago. Haskell & Bosworth, of Beatrice, Neb., who buy at 150 stations in the country, are also heavily interested.

—Kokomo, Indiana, dispatch to the Chicago Inter-Ocean: There was a dramatic scene at the Presbyterian church in the city Saturday night, where a revival is in progress, conducted by Evangelist Merton Smith, of Chicago. On a front seat near the pulpit sat a drunken saloon porter who had wandered into the place in a dazed condition. The preacher was waxing loud and eloquent on the temperance question, when the intoxicated man arose and in a stentorian tone denounced him as a scoundrel and liar. A number of women fainted. "Don't take him out!" exclaimed Evangelist Smith, as the janitor pushed the man toward the door. "It is not the man, but the liquor in him that speaks. He is no worse than I was once." With the sot standing by his side in the pulpit, the minister continued his discourse, with the living subject for a horrible example. After the outburst the man repented and wept. It was a touching scene and there were few dry eyes in the house.

—In the town of English, Crawford county, Indiana, a monument was erected recently to the memory of the late Hon. William H. English, who ran for vice president with Hancock. English was the founder of the town and represented the congressional district in which it is located, many times. In his will he made a bequest for the erection of a monument to himself, to be put in the public square within a year of his death. Provision was made for the payment of all indebtedness incurred in carrying out his request. During the last campaign, his son, Colonel William E. English, renounced Democracy and openly espoused the cause of Republicanism. This angered the Democracy of Crawford county, and the leaders, according to the reports received, have resolved to remove the statue of the father of Col. English from the public square and place it on an out-of-the-way hill near town. Attacks also have been made at night on the monument, and stones thrown at it have broken off parts, such as the tail of the coat.

—Miss Maude Coleman Woods, of Charlottesville, Va., and Mrs. N. C. Goodwin, of New York, are the two most beautiful women in America. So says a committee consisting of August Langenbahn, sculptor; Irving R. Wiles, artist; Chauncey Depew, Conrad Diehl, Roy Crandal, J. G. Brown, Mrs. Minnie Madden Fiske, Mrs. Clarence Burns, Harriet Hubbard Ayer, and Mrs. Henry Seiga. Two of the most beautiful women of America were wanted to typify North and South America, on the official emblem of the Pan-American exposition to be held in Buffalo, N. Y., next year. The New York World offered assistance as a medium through which photographs could be solicited. Thousands of photographs were received, and the committee has chosen the two ladies mentioned, Miss Woods to represent North, and Mrs. Goodwin to represent South America. In 1897 Miss Woods was honored by the Daughters of the Confederacy as the leading beauty in Virginia. Mrs. Goodwin is a favorite actress.

—Says a Washington dispatch of November 30: The largest stock of gold coin and bullion ever held in the United States is now accumulating in the treasury and its branches. The total has been rising steadily during the whole of the present year and the amount is now $474,108,336, or about $76,000,000 greater than at the close of 1899. The increase up to June 30, was about $23,000,0000, but since that time has been about $1,000,000 for July, $6,000,000 for August, $10,000,000 for September, $18,000,000 for October, and $17,000,000 thus far in November. This gold is not all the direct property of the United States; but is held against outstanding gold certificates. The amount of these, less the amount in the treasury and its branches, was $239,755,809 Wednesday. All the remaining gold, amounting to about $243,000,000 belong to the treasury as a part of the reserve fund of $150,000,000, or the free fund of $93,000,000 in the general cash. The influx of gold into the treasury comes partly from the new gold from the Klondike and other mines, but its retention is due to the pressure for currency, which leads to the acceptance of gold certificates and other paper money in preference to coin. The treasury has recently been shipping small notes in large quantities to New Orleans and other points upon deposits of gold in the New York reserve agents of the Southern banks. The gold supply of the country on the last day of 1896 was estimated at $692,947,212. The estimated amount November 1, 1900, was $1,080,027,407, and it is probable that the report for December 1 will show at least $1,100,000,000.

The Yorkville Enquirer.

YORKVILLE, S. C.: 8-

WEDNESDAY, DEC'R. 5, 1900.

THIS is the middle of the first week of the last month of the last year of the nineteenth century.

THE Union Times is doing some good work against the concealed weapon habit. If it could get all the facts and comments it has compiled, before the legislature, it is probable that practical results would follow.

IT has been suggested that Judge Hudson be returned to the bench. That would be much cheaper than the present plan of employing the judge as an extra, to do what some of the regular incumbents of the office are unable to do. If it is efficiency the legislature is after, Judge Hudson will be elected; but is the legislature really after efficiency or capacity?

THE ship subsidy bill is likely to receive a great deal of consideration during the present session of congress, and it will probably become a law. The object of the bill is government assistance to American shipping, to enable it to compete with foreign shipping in the general carrying trade. There is lots of opposition to the idea; but the Republicans favor it, and as they have the majority they will likely have it their own way.

THE legislature, some years ago, very properly enacted a law regulating the conduct of primary elections. The principal object of the law was to prevent fraud. So far as it goes, the law is all right; but it does not go far enough. A system of suffrage that makes enrollment on club rolls the only requisite to voting is all wrong. It makes easy the control of elections by floaters or by colonization. Some day the system is going to give trouble. Proper safeguards should be provided at once, and it would be a good idea for the legislature to provide them. The present primary election law should be so amended as to provide that the exhibition of a registration certificate shall be a prerequisite to voting in a primary election. The constitution and laws of this state contemplate the control of the government only by qualified voters—citizens of the state. The dangerous gaps that are now down should be put up without more delay.

THE CHINESE PUZZLE.

Negotiations with regard to the Chinese question continue to drag along without visible signs of progress, and a late dispatch suggests that there is now little probability of a settlement before next spring, if then.

As has already been explained, the principal point at issue is the execution of Prince Tuan, General Tung Fuh Sian, and other high officials who are considered to be responsible for the Boxer uprising, and all the results that followed.

Germany and Great Britain are understood to be in favor of the execution of the officials, while Japan, the United States and Russia are inclined to urge less drastic measures. Failure to agree on this point has blocked the way to the determination of other questions.

A recent dispatch explains that even if the powers were to agree upon the execution proposition, it would not be carried out with very great facility. As matters now stand, the negotiations are with the Chinese court. There seems to be a disposition not to take such a step without the sanction of the emperor and empress. Just now the court is located a long distance from Pekin, under the power of Tuan and Sian. Tuan and Sian cannot be executed very well without their consent, and it is understood that they are not in a hurry about persuading the empress and emperor to agree to such an arrangement for the settlement of the trouble. Besides this little hitch, winter has set in, and the road from Pekin to the present quarters of the court is not in very good fix for the movement of troops even if the "allies" were agreed as to what course to pursue.

Some of the London papers are saying that the whole truth of the matter is that the Chinese have been very much too smart for the allies. The papers claim that the disagreement over the question of policy has been caused by shrewd work of the Chinese diplomats, who have played one power against another, and that they have virtually won a victory. It really looks as if the London papers are pretty nearly right.

Reapportionment.

By the re-apportionment under the 12th census, Aiken, Spartanburg, Greenwood and Lexington will each gain a new member of the house. Beaufort, Charleston and Edgefield will each lose one. The membership of the house is fixed at 124 members, and with the present population of the state the counties are entitled to one member for each 10,809 people.

CONGRESS IN SESSION.

House and Senate Listened to the President's Message Monday.

Congress convened on Monday; but beyond listening to the president's message, no business was done. Instead, both houses adjourned until Tuesday out of respect to members who had died during the recess.

The president's message says legislation concerning the Philippines should be on a generous line; that lynching must not be tolerated; urges the payment of American losses by the Spanish war; recommends cables with the Hawaiian islands; wants the army to be increased to 100,000, of which 15,000 should be native Filipinos; recommends laws to restrain such trusts as are injurious and within federal jurisdiction; recommends congress to give the federal courts power to deal with lynchers of foreigners; calls attention to the need of a new treaty concerning the Alaskan boundary; wishes to reduce the surplus to $30,000,000, and wants further legislation to make currency responsive to the needs of business.

He urges some measure to promote American shipping trade; urges trade reciprocity with foreign states; praises the Japanese; urges arrangement with Great Britain for a canal treaty, as Nicaragua now shows a disposition to deal freely with the canal question, either in the way of negotiations with the United States or by taking measures to promote a waterway. Overtures for a convention to effect the building of a canal under the auspices of the United States are under consideration.

He reports the sultan as yielding to American demands; commends the Buffalo Pan-American exposition; urges subsidies for the merchant marine; says the constitution of Cuba must be made adequate to secure a stable, orderly and free government.

The message says a very satisfactory settlement has been made by Secretary Long of the pending question of the manufacture of armor plate; that a reasonable price has been secured and the necessity of a government plant avoided. The message approves the recommendation of the secretary of the navy for new vessels for the navy and for additional officers and men that are required for the increased navy.

The president commends the establishment of a national reserve and of the grade of vice admiral in the navy, and provision should be made for suitable reward for special merit.

In the great prosperity of the country, congress must guard against the danger it incites to extravagance in the expenditures, and he has no doubt the representatives of the people will furnish an example of wise economy, and closes by saying: "Let us always keep in mind that the foundation of our government is liberty, its superstructure peace."

MERE-MENTION.

Lord Roberts has turned over the command of the British army in South Africa, to Lord Kitchener.....Print cloth sales at Fall River last week, exceeded the regular productions for the first time in months. This is considered to be a good sign.....A big convention was held in Fort Worth, Tex., last week in the interest of the rehabilitation of Galveston with protection against such storms as that by which it was recently destroyed.....A great crowd of people congregated on the roof of the glassworks in San Francisco one day last week to witness a game of baseball. The roof fell in, precipitating the people into the room below. Some fell into the great crucibles of molten glass. Eighteen were killed and 90 were injured.....Miss Eugenia Washington, great grand niece of Gen. George Washington, one of the founders of the Society of Daughters of the American Revolution, and president of the Society of Founders and Patriots, died in the city of Washington last Friday morning.....A New York dispatch says that Richmond Pearson Hobson is threatened with typhoid fever.....United States Consul Hollis cables from Lorenzo Marques, that Boer families, numbering 600 men, desire to take advantage of the offer made by western railroads of free farms.....A Constantinople dispatch of Monday says that the Sultan of Turkey has included the $100,000 that is claimed by the United States for the destruction of the American mission at Harpoot, in a check drawn to pay the Cramps, of Philadelphia, for a battleship.....The jury in the case of Rev. T. J. Gattis, against Dr. J C. Kilgo, W. R. Odell and B. N. Duke, has given the plaintiff a verdict for $20,000 damages. The case was tried at Oxford, N. C., and was concluded Saturday afternoon. The court overruled motions to set the verdict aside and for a new trial, and the defendants will carry the case up on an appeal.....It is about settled that Senator Lodge will succeed the late Cushman K. Davis, as chairman of the foreign relations committee.

SOUTH CAROLINA NEWS.

Senator Henderson Has Narrow Escape.

Aiken special, December 1, to Columbia State: Senator D. S. Henderson had a narrow escape from being shot last night. He was passing on the train from Charleston, due here at 9.20. When the train was pulling out of White Pond some unknown party fired a pistol from the outside. The ball passed through the window and passed just over Mr. Henderson's head, the broken glass falling into his lap. The aim was so deliberate that there is some suspicion that it was an attempt to assassinate him.

Smallpox in the Asylum.

Columbia special of Monday to the Greenville News: There are four cases of smallpox at the State hospital for the insane. The asylum authorities have an ironclad rule that no one shall be admitted unless vaccinated before sent. A Negro was committed to the Union jail before being sent here. Three days after being sent here smallpox broke out. Several cases were traced to the Union jail. Other cases are here from the Union Negro. All the inmates of the asylum are vaccinated and have been revaccinated. Those with the disease have been isolated, and there is no danger of the disease spreading.

Fight Between Chaingang Guards.

Gaffney special of Friday to the Atlanta Daily News: George L. Wilson, manager of the county chaingang, was committed to jail here late yesterday evening for shooting E. A. Hughes, one of his foremen. The trouble occurred at the gang camp near Blacksburg, and was caused by some trivial matter. Hughes was hit by the first shot, when he drew his knife and closed with Wilson and a desperate battle ensued. Wilson kept shooting and Hughes using his knife with a vengeance. After the smoke had cleared away Hughes was found to be shot in one side and through one arm, and Wilson's head and face were carved to a horrible extent. It was at first thought that Hughes would die, but later accounts give hopes of his recovery. Wilson's wounds, while severe, are not thought to be dangerous. Hughes' family lives here, but it is not thought that he is able to be brought home yet. [Since the foregoing was put in type THE ENQUIRER has learned that Hughes died last Saturday morning and that Wilson is in jail charged with murder. Public sentiment is very much against him.]

LOCAL AFFAIRS.

INDEX TO NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

The Parlor Grocery, S. L. Hobbs & Co., Proprietors—Tell of the wonderful array of delicacies that have been gathered from the four corners of the earth, that will please the palate of the epicure. They itemize and give prices of large quantities and varieties of goods, and assure all customers of fair and courtecus treatment. They are especially catering to the Christmas trade.

Young Ladies of the Presbyterian Church—Announce a "Mum reception" at the residence of Major Jas. F. Hart, next Friday evening.

C. E. Spencer—Tells of a reduction in the price of the Dr. J. F. Lindsay plantation and says it is especially desirable to sell the property this month.

Glenn & Allison—Talk of strong, sound mules and horses, wagons, buggies, harness, and of the way they do business.

Lowrance & Williams—Tell of a lot of the delicious things they have in stock for the Christmas trade. They give prices and say it will be to your interest to see them.

Sam M. Grist—Makes some strong statements, and says he can prove them to interested parties. Before insuring he wants you to investigate the Mutual Benefit Life Insurance company.

H. C. Strauss—Comes out in his weekly story of facts, and says a number of things that will interest prospective buyers.

Enquirer Office—Announces the loss of a gold watch on Monday, Dec. 3, and offers a reward for the return of same.

J. R. Barron and Z. M. Neill, Clover—Announce the dissolution of the firm of J. R. Barron & Co. Mr. Neill is to continue the business in his own name.

DeLoach & McCain, Attorneys at Law—Announce their partnership, and tells you where to find them.

MARRIED IN SHANGHIA

Many of the Yorkville friends of Miss Ella C. Davidson, missionary of the Yorkville Presbyterian church in China, have received announcements of her marriage. The announcement is a unique affair. It came through the postoffice last Monday. It is on a scrap of Chinese paper of a quality, which in this country would be very expensive, and is ornamented with wedding bells and monograms in silver. The lettering is also in silver and reads as follows:

Rev. Lacy L. Little,
Miss Ella C. Davidson,
Married.
Shanghai, China.
Wednesday, October Thirty-first, 1900.

THE ENQUIRER takes pleasure in extending to Mr. Little congratulations. He has a most excellent lady for a wife.

YORK COUNTY BANANA.

THE ENQUIRER begs to acknowledge the receipt of a couple of bananas, grown in the York county court house yard. They were presented to the reporter on Monday by Col. W. H. McCorkle, by whom they were grown.

Colonel McCorkle's flower yard has been mentioned before. It is in the little enclosure, bounded by the court house on the south and west, and by iron fences on the north and east. It was commenced some three years ago, with a banana tree among the first plants introduced, and since then has been in process of further development, receiving all the while not a little attention from the colonel.

The first banana crop, harvested about three weeks ago, consisted of 10 green bananas, ranging in length from 2 to 4 inches and in thickness from an inch to an inch and a quarter. They have since ripened in one of the rooms of Colonel McCorkle's office, and the two presented to the reporter were thoroughly ripe. They have the flavor of the genuine article, and are much better than no bananas; but still it can hardly be said that they are up to the tropical product.

But raising bananas would hardly pay as a regular business in this county. It requires no end of careful attention and patience. The colonel's tree has spent two winters in his office, and is again in winter quarters, not to be transplanted to the garden again until after warm weather sets in next spring.

Colonel McCorkle's flower garden, however, is quite an institution, and we think it will probably be heard from again.

ABOUT PEOPLE.

Prof. R. J. Herndon went to Lockhart last Monday.

Mr. P. R. Bratton, of Charleston, was in Yorkville last Saturday, on business.

Mr. S. M. Jones, of Chester, was up Monday to attend the sale of the F. H. Brown lands.

Rev. J. H. Simpson, of the Grier Orphanage, Hickory Grove, was in Yorkville, last Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence P. Lowrance will move into their new home on East Jefferson street, this week.

Mrs. J. Q. Wray and children, returned Sunday, from a brief visit to relatives and friends in Shelby.

Mrs. R. A. Crowell and children, of Albemarle, N. C., is visiting the family of her father, Mr. Geo. M. Lowrance.

Mr. R. T. Allison has been confined to his home for a week with a billious attack. He is still unable to leave his room.

Cadet J. McM. Schorb, of Clemson college, arrived in Yorkville on Monday morning, having left the college on account of one of the students being ill with scarlet fever.

Mr. John Williams, of St. Matthews, reports that the new firm of Lowrance, Williams & Castles is doing a splendid business at that place.

Mr. H. C. Strauss is already making preparations to install a millinery department in his store next spring. Mr. Strauss promises that his millinery department shall be a hummer.

Mr. W. P. Hobbs received a telegram from his son, E. D. Hobbs, in Tampa, Fla., yesterday, advising him not to leave Yorkville until the 10th instant. The telegram did not give particulars, and Mr. Hobbs did not know whether it was because of the strike in progress there, or because his house is not yet finished.

Mr. Harry Wylie, of Rock Hill, supervising manager of the India Hook Power company, was in Yorkville, on Monday. He promised to contribute to THE ENQUIRER at an early date, an article on trees, and those of our readers who would like to read on this subject after one who knows, will do well to be on the lookout.

Mr. Thomas W. Speck received a telegram last Saturday announcing the death of his grandfather, Mr. Thomas Wells, at Lincolnton. Mr. Wells was 83 years of age and was the oldest Odd Fellow in North Carolina. Mr. Speck was unable to attend the funeral. There was not time after the receipt of the telegram to catch the train.

Rev. J. C. Johnes remarked to the reporter a few days ago, that he did not see how THE ENQUIRER managed to collect for and present in each issue such a large amount of local news as it collects and presents. That is a proposition that is calculated to puzzle quite a number of people other than those who, like Mr. Johnes, have had experience in newspaper work. But one of the secrets lies in industry and perseverance.

THE FIRST MONDAY.

The first Monday in December is always a lively day in Yorkville, and last Monday was no exception, unless the exception lay in the fact that the crowd of visitors was larger than has been known on a similar occasion for years.

As usual, a few of the van leaders arrived on Sunday afternoon; but the main body did not begin to put in its appearance until about 8 o'clock Monday morning. From then on until about 11 all the roads that centre at the court house poured in a continuous stream of humanity. The people came literally in cavalcades, buggies and horses entering the different hitching lots, a full dozen at a time.

There were not a great many ladies—not nearly so many as on salesday for November. It was probably because of the threatening weather, and as it afterward turned out it was well they did not come. The rain would have made it very disagreeable. Otherwise they would have found nothing to mar their pleasure. There was no disorder or rowdyism. The crowd was of the kind that has now become characteristic—wellbehaved and respectable.

Of course many people came to attend the auction sales; but not all of them. At one time, for perhaps half an hour, the court house was pretty well filled. The whole building—up-stairs and down—would have hardly furnished standing room for half the visitors had they tried to get into it. Treasurer Neely, assisted by Auditor Boyce, was busy all day, the stores were pretty well crowded, the supervisors of registration were kept close at their books, and the horse and mule dealers had their hands full.

There was some whisky in evidence, more than on the previous salesday; but it was not demonstrative. The police had little to do but watch. They made no arrests.

WITHIN THE TOWN.

—The Parlor Grocery will be moved into the Kuykendal building, across the street, on January 1.

—Mr. H. C. Strauss commenced the sale of his household and kitchen furniture on Monday; but had to postpone it on account of the rain.

Local cotton buyers have bought about about 4,500 bales of cotton so far this season. The receipts are somewhat larger, as compared with the same date last year.

—Ladies of Yorkville gave the K. M. M. A. cadets a delightful reception last Friday night. A large number of young people were invited, refreshments were served, and there was a pleasant hour of it that was thoroughly enjoyed by all who participated.

Mr. S. L. Hobbs ordered a big lot of Kalamazoo celery for Thanksgiving. It did not arrive, however, until after the feast. The celery was worth $6.40 and the express amounted to $7.70. But notwithstanding the delay the people were hungry for celery and most of it is gone.

—On account of the bad weather, Dr. A. Y. Cartwright, executor, decided to sell the household and kitchen furniture of the late J. H. Riddle at the residence of Rev. B. H. Grier, instead of before the court house door. Quite a large crowd attended the sale and generally good prices were realized.

—There are at the South Carolina and Georgia Extension depot, some unusually heavy cars of freight for Gastonia. The reporter understands that they are to be shipped via the Carolina and North-Western, and if so, the transfer from one depot to the other will involve a considerable task.

The capital stock of the York Cotton Mills will likely be increased to $500,000, or maybe $600,000. These are the figures that a 40,000 spindle plant will call for. Under all the circumstances, there will probably be less difficulty in raising the increase than there was in getting up the first $50,000.

—Captain Moore, of the Jasper Light Infantry, has received from General Floyd a letter with reference to the recent inspection. With the exception of a number of rather dirty guns, General Floyd is evidently very much satisfied with the report from the Jasper Light Infantry. The probability is that the company will be ranked with the best in the state.

—Rev. B. H. Grier preached a strong temperance sermon last Sunday. He handled this rather trite subject in a new way—from the standpoint of plain, every day common sense. After showing very conclusively the right and duty of a minister of the gospel to talk about such things, he gave some interesting historical facts with reference to the development of drunkenness. He put a fearful load of responsibility on temperate, or moderate drinkers. There was a large congregation out and the sermon was well received.

—The young ladies of the Presbyterian church announce a "Mum reception," next Friday evening. It is to be held at the residence of Major James F. Hart. The practical object of the reception is to raise funds to pay for a pipe organ the Presbyterian congregation has in contemplation; but an incidental object of less less importance, is social enjoyment. There will be special attractions for the children, and also, of course, refreshments will be served. The ladies who have charge of the proposed entertainment know exactly how to make a success of it and that is what they will do.

—The recent decree of Judge Klugh in the case of the Rock Hill graded school does not affect the Yorkville school except in the case of the per capita tax of 10 cents. Such is the opinion of local attorneys. While the judge's order requires the trustees to admit all students under 21 years of age, without charge, it does not require, and cannot require, non-paying students to be advanced beyond the common school limit. The trustees will be warranted in holding non-paying students back in the free public school grades. This will probably be done. It is either this or more taxes for the support of the school.

—At the suggestion of a gentleman who was interested in the wheat article in the last issue of THE ENQUIRER, the reporter, on Saturday, collected information as to the quantity of fertilizers sold in Yorkville this fall for use on wheat. The figures, as gathered, are as follows: J. M. Starr & Co., 40 tons, against not over 20 last year, and none two years ago; W. H. Herndon, 10 tons against 5 last year, and none the year before; Beard & Carroll, 60 tons, against not over 15 tons two years ago; Louis Roth, 25 tons; Riddle & Carroll, 100 tons this year, against 40 tons last year, and about 20 tons the year before; York Implement Company, 20 tons. The total local sales this fall have amounted to 255 tons, and possibly more. Accurate figures as to the sales in other parts of the county could not be procured; but from such information as is obtainable, dealers all about have made unusually large sales.

CONFERENCE APPOINTMENTS.

The 115th annual session of the South Carolina Conference of the Methodist Episcopal church, South, which convened in Chester on last Wednesday, adjourned on Monday to hold its next session in Columbia. The last act of the conference was the reading of the assignment of preachers for the next year. These assignments are as follows:

CHARLESTON DISTRICT.

A. J. Stokes, presiding elder. Allendale, C. W. Creighton; Beaufort, A. B. Earle; Black Swamp, A. E. Holler; Charleston, Trinity, J. W. Daniel; Bethel, E. O. Watson; Spring Street, H. I. Stephens; Cumberland, J. L. Harley; Cordesville, J. W. Durant; Cypress, J. L. Mullinax; Ehrhardt, E. M. McKissick; Grover, D. A. Calhoun; Hampton, E. K. Moore; Hurleyville, S. D. Vaughan; Hendersonville, O. N. Rountree; McClellanville, J. E. Strickland; Mt. Pleasant, to be supplied; Pinopolis, supplied by W. T. Patrick; Port Royal, R. E. Turnipseed; Ridgeland, W. R. Buchanan; Ridgeville, R. W. Humphries; Round O, J. C. Davis; Summerville, W. L. Wait; St. George Station, G. P. Watson; St. Paul's Mission, supplied by W. H. Murray; Walterboro, W. C. Kirkland; Chaplain Port Society, P. A. Murray.

COKESBURY DISTRICT.

R. A. Childs, presiding elder. Abbeville, R. H. Jones; Antreville, J. H. Graves; Butler, H. W. Whitaker; Cokesbury, Henry VIII Stokes; Donnalds, W. T. Duncan; Greenwood, P. L. Kirton; Greenwood and Abbeville Mission, A. S. Lesley; Kinards, T. F. Gibson; Lowndesville, J. L. Daniel; McCormick, S. T. Blackman; Mt. Carmel, H. C. Mouzon; Ninety-Six, M. M. Brabham; Newberry, Johnston Street, W. I. Herbert; O'Neal Street, B. D. Lucas; Newberry circuit, D. P. Boyd; Parksville, supplied by J. D. Miller; Phoenix, J. F. Way; Princeton, S. W. Henry; Prosperity, W. B. Wharton; Saluda, J. C. Counts; Verdery, S. J. Bethea; Waterloo, E. W. Mason; Cokesbury Conference school, W. S. Stokes, rector.

COLUMBIA DISTRICT.

E. T. Hodges, presiding elder. Columbia, Washington street, M. L. Carlisle; Main street, S. H. Zimmerman; Greene street and New Brookland, E. P. Hutson; Granby and Richland, B. R. Turnipseed; Edgewood, R. S. Truesdale; Hyatt's Park, to be supplied; Edgefield, G. W. Davis; Fairfield, R. W. Spigner; Fort Motte, supplied by F. S. Hook; Graniteville, J. E. Mahaffey; Johnston, T. J. Clyde; Langley, S. H. Booth; Leesville, J. F. Anderson; Lewiedale, J. M. Lawson; Lexington, supplied by J. N. Wright; Lexington Fork, J. S. Abercrombie; Ridgeway, W. S. Goodwin; Upper St. Matthews, C. D. Mann; Warrenville, D. A. Lewis; Winnsboro, E. P. Taylor; Epworth Orphanage, G. H. Waddell, superintendent; T. C. O'Dell, assistant; Paine Institute, G. W. Walker, president; Southern Christian Advocate, J. O. Wilson, editor; Columbia Female college, W. W. Daniel, president; Missionary secretary, J. A. Rice; Batesburg, J. D. Crout.

FLORENCE DISTRICT.

Marion Dargan, presiding elder. Cartersville, supplied by Wm. Ruff; Cheraw station, L. P. McGee, Cheraw circuit, J. B. Weldon; Claussen, J. L. Ray; Clyde, W. M. Hardin; Darlington, P. F. Kilgo; Darlington circuit, A. R. Phillips; Florence, J. T. Pate; Georgetown, W. M. Duncan; Georgetown circuit, J. A. White; Hartsville circuit, J. J. Stevenson, Johnsonville, J. R. Sojourner; Kingstree, W. S. Martin; Lake City, J. E. Rushton; Lamar, J. B. Traywick; Lanes, R. M. DuBose; Rome, to be supplied; Salters, W. H. Thrower; Scranton, supplied by W. C. Kelly; South Florence, O. L. Durant; Timmonsville, H. J. Cauthen.

GREENVILLE DISTRICT.

J. B. Wilson, presiding elder. Anderson, St. Johns, J. B. Campbell; West End, O. M. Abney; Orrville and Anderson mission, B. M. Robertson; Easley and Bethesda, W. E. Wiggins; Fountain Inn, G. C. Leonard; Greenville, Buncombe street, G. T. Harmon; Highland and City Mills, J. W. Speake; St. Pauls, M. B. Kelly; Greenville circuit, T. J. White; Greers, J. C. Roper; McLure, J. W. Bailey; North Pickens circuit, supplied by C. L. McCain; Pelzer, T. G. Herbert; Pendleton, R. E. Stackhouse; Pickens, R. R. Dagnall; Piedmont, Peter Stokes; Reidville, J. W. Shell; Seneca and Walhalla, G. F. Clarkson; Starr and Iva, L. L. Inabinet; Townville, supplied by S. M. Jones; Travelers Rest, B. G. Guess; Walhalla and Newry, supplied by C. W. Burgess; Westminster, D. W. Keller; West Pickens, J. P. Attaway; Williamston and Belton, A. J. Cauthen, Jr.; Williamston circuit, J. M. Rogers; assistant Sunday school editor, L. F. Beatty; Williamston Female college, S. Lander.

MARION DISTRICT.

W. C. Power, presiding elder. Bayboro, supplied by I. N. Stone; Bennettsville station, C. B. Smith; Bennettsville circuit, J. W. Arial; Blenheim, J. E. Beard; Brittonsville, W. B. Baker; Brittons Neck, W. E. Barre; Buckville, J. C. Welch; Centenary, J. S. Porter; Clio and Beulah, T. M. Dent; Conway station, J. W. Elkins; Cool Springs and Conway, T. B. Reynolds; Dillon station, C. C. Herbert; Latta, Dove Tiller; Little Rock, J. A. Campbell; Loris and Smith River, M. F. Dukes and H. L. Singleton; Marion station, J. E. Grier; Marion circuit and Mills, E. F. Scoggins; McColl circuit and Bennettsville, E. M. Merritt; Mullins, A. B. Watson; North Marlboro, T. J. Belvin; North Mullins, G. R. Shaffer; Waccamaw, G. W. Gatlin.

ORANGEBURG DISTRICT.

H. B. Browne, presiding elder. Aiken, F. H. Shuler; Bamberg, M. W. Hook; Branchville, W. A. Wright; Boiling Springs, J. T. McFarlane; Denmark, G. E. Stokes; Edisto, A. J. Cauthen; Lower St. Matthews, J. C. Yongue; Orangeburg circuit, W. A. Rogers; Orangeburg circuit, W. A. Pitts; Orange circuit, J. D. Frierson; Prudence, B. M. Grier; Bowesville station, J. C. Chandler; Smoaks, W. C. Gleaton; Springfield, E. A. Wilkes; Swansea, supplied by J. L. Tyler; Wagner, supplied by J. K. Inabnet; Williston, G. W. Dukes.

ROCK HILL DISTRICT.

H. W. Bays, presiding elder. Blacksburg, D. M. McLeod; Blackstock, R. W. Barber; Chester station, T. E. Morris; Chester circuit, G. M. Boyd; Chester and Lancaster Mills, B. G. Murphy; Chesterfield, N. L. Wiggins; East Chester, E. H. Beckham; East Lancaster, W. C. Winn; Fort Mill, R. A. Yongue; Hickory Grove, P. B. Ingraham; Jefferson, L. L. Bedenbaugh; Lancaster, J. M. Steadman; Lancaster circuit, J. W. Neely; North Rock Hill, W. H. Arial; Richburg, N. B. Clarkson; Rock Hill station, J. S. Beasley; Manchester and Mount Holly, J. B. Harris; Van Wyck, supplied by J. I. Spinks; Yorkville, A. N. Brunson; York circuit, J. M. Smith.

SPARTANBURG DISTRICT.

W. P. Meadors, presiding elder. Belmont, M. L. Banks, Jr.; Clifton and Cowpens, W. J. Snyder; Cherokee, J. N. Isom; Clinton, J. M. Friday; Campobello, A. H. Best; Enoree, W. H. Miller; Gaffney, W. H. Hodges; Gaffney circuit, D. A. Patrick; Jonesville, D. Hucks; Kelton, S. T. Creech; Laurens station, W. B. Duncan; Laurens City mission, J. F. Fowler; North Laurens circuit, J. K. McCain; Pacolet Mills, E. S. Jones; Pacolet circuit, S. A. Nettles; Santuc, C. B. Burns; Spartanburg, Central, W. R. Richardson; Duncan, W. A. Fairey; Bethel and Glendale, R. L. Holroyd; Union, Grace church, W. A. Massabeau; Union Mills, E. Z. James; Whitmire, W. B. Justus.

SUMTER DISTRICT.

J. W. Kilgo, presiding elder. Bethany, J. R. Copeland; Bishopville, A. C. Walker; Camden, J. L. Stokes; Camden circuit, supplied by G. P. Penny; Foreston, F. E. Hodges; Heath Springs station, D. A. Phillips; Jordan, W. A. Betts; Kershaw, R. C. McCoy; Lynchburg, J. W. Humbert; Manning station, P. B. Wells; New Zion, G. R. Whitaker; Oswego, J. H. Thacker; Packsville, supplied by S. D. Bailey; Richland, A. F. Berry; Santee, A. T. Dunlap; Smithville, W. C. Smith; Sumter, Sumter station, J. A. Clifton; Magnolia street mission, W. A. Kelly; Sumter circuit, to be supplied; Wateree, R. E. Mood; Wedgefield G. H. Pooser; secretary of education, J. W. Kilgo.

AUCTION SALES.

As was generally anticipated, the auction sales of last Monday were largely attended. The considerable acreage offered by the clerk was the principal attraction. People were here from all parts of the county, either as prospective bidders or interested spectators.

A disagreeable downpour of rain that set in about 9 o'clock, broke into the "before the court house door" tradition for the first time within the recollection of the oldest citizens. There was every reason to believe that the sale of the F. H. Brown lands alone would consume three or four hours, and to avoid the necessity of keeping the people standing in the wet all that while, Clerk Wylie consulted the lawyers about holding the sales inside the court house. It was agreed that if the notice of sale should be read as provided in the decrees of the court, before the door, there could be no objection to conducting the sales inside the building. That is the way it was managed.

The first sale made was a tract of 65 acres in Bethel township, in the case of Elizabeth A. Woods and others, against Mary E. Barnett. It was bought by G. W. S. Hart, attorney, for $8 an acre.

The next sale was 95¾ acres in the case of Emily E. Wright against the estate of James H. Wallace. Bought by Thomas F. McDow, attorney, for $430.

All the F. H. Brown lands had been appraised by Mr. T. M. Oates, and with each tract offered, the clerk announced the appraised value. The sales were as follows:

Tract No. 1, 92 acres, appraised at $7.50 per acre; bought by Henry Massey for $9.35 per acre.

Tract No. 2, 131 acres, appraised at $7.50; bought by W. B. Wilson at $5.95 per acre.

Tract No. 3, 116 acres, appraised at $8; bought by W. L. Plaxico at $7.

Tract No. 4, 100 acres, appraised at $8 per acre; bought by S. A. Robbins at $5.80.

Tract No. 5, 172 acres, appraised at $8; bought by W. B. Wilson for $5.55 per acre.

Tract No. 6, 121 acres, appraised at $8.50; bought by W. B. Wilson for $9 an acre.

Tract No. 10, 144 acres, appraised at $10; bought by A. T. Neely at $9.

Tract No. 15, 81 acres, appraised at $8; bought by C. E. Spencer for $7.50 per acre.

Tract No. 16, "Home tract," 252½ acres, appraised at $12.50 an acre; bought by W. A. Brown at $13 per acre.

Tract No. 14, 118½ acres, appraised at $10; bought by C. E. Spencer, attorney, for $8.25 an acre.

Tract No 13, 108 acres, appraised at $9; bought by W. J. Miller for $7.95.

Tract No. 11, 160 acres, appraised at $9; bought by G. W. S. Hart, attorney, for $10.55.

Tract No. 12, 111 acres, appraised at $8.50; bought by G. W. S. Hart, attorney, for $9.05.

Tract No 17, 102½ acres, appraised at $9; started at $3, and bought by C. C. Hope at $8.25.

Tract No. 18, 103½ acres, appraised at $7.50 an acre; bought by C. E. Spencer, attorney, for $7.25 an acre.

Part of the Avery tract, containing 250 acres; bought by S. M. Jones at $5.05 an acre.

The "Adkin's tract," 145½ acres, appraised at $8.25 an acre, started at $5.50; bought by S. M. Jones for $7.95 per acre.

The "Sandifer tract," appraised at $8 an acre; started at $6, and bought by Thos F. McDow, attorney, at $6.65.

The "Dr. John Johnson place," 235 acres, appraised at $8; bought by J. C. Wilborn at $7 an acre.

The "Hope tract," 16 acres, appraised at $10; bought by C. E. Spencer, attorney, for $22 an acre.

The "McIlwain tract," containing