Humorous Department.

DR. MARY AND WU.

Congressman Smith, of Illinois, tells a good story of an encounter of wit that took place between Dr. Mary Walker and the Chinese minister not long ago, says the Chicago Chronicle.

"You missed one of the best stories of the reception," said Mr. Smith, toying with his long moustache. "You know, the minister stood in the east room after greeting the president and held a regular reception of his own. Everybody knows the minister's inclination to ask questions, and when I saw Dr. Mary Walker in her male costume advancing toward Wu I knew there would be something doing. She was presented to Wu. Wu looked at her in surprise, if not astonishment, and then blurted out:

"'You are a ladee?' and when she said, with dignity, that she was, Wu asked: 'Then why do you wear men's clothes?'

"Dr. Mary looked at the minister for only a second, and then retorted:

"'You are a man?' And when the minister had declared that he was she retorted: 'Then why do you wear women's clothes?'

"Wu was taken back for a moment only, and then replied:

"'Because the custom of my country allows me to do so.'

"Dr. Mary heard, and then, as she switched herself and walked away, she said, proudly:

"'Well, the liberty of my country allows me to wear men's clothes.' That closed the incident."

THE TYPICAL BAD MAN.

A Scotchman in the far west, previously disappointed in not finding the typical "bad bad," whom he supposed to be the common product of the country, says Dr. W. D. Lyman in the April Atlantic, suddenly encountered his man on a steamboat. There he was, sure enough—ferocious moustaches, cowboy hat, fringed "shapps," buckskin coat, "gun' 'in belt, vitriolic breath, and all strictly according to Bret Harte. Our Scotchman gazed upon this "western type," sometime, and at last ventured to interrogate him. The "bad man," as soon as he heard the Caledonian tones, leaned over confidentially and exclaimed, "Hoot, mon, I'm jast oot from Inverness!" It was another Scotchman on a western steamboat who, seeing a man at the table distinguishing himself by his horrible voracity and greed, was remarking to his American neighbor, "There! Just look at that specimen of the west. We never see a thing like that in Scotland," when the "specimen" suddenly shouted, "Hi, waiter, hae ye ony mair fash?" The writer was once told by a delightful man of Hartford about going into a hotel in a California town, when a gigantic "western ruffian" stumped up to the register, and on discovering his name, thundered out, "Where is that man from Connecticut?" Our friend, though expecting that he would at least have to treat the crowd and probably get a shot through his hat, at last timidly acknowledge his identity, when the giant bore down on him with broad grin and extended hand, exclaiming, "Shake, pard! I'm from Connecticut myself.".

WHY THE YOUNGSTER HAD TO GO.—Nurse had come to bear her little charge away from the party, and the fluffy haired damsel was pleading for a respite.

"Not another second," said nurse firmly. "Come, get your coat on. There's a lamb.'

But the "lamb" still demurred, and her obvious reluctance to go enlisted the sympathy of the hostess, who rashly joined issue against the nurse.

"Do let her stay half an hour longer, nurse," she begged. "You were a child yourself once, remember. If Ida's mother is angry with you, throw the blame on me."

Nurse shook her head with stubborn resolution.

"Sorry, mum, but my young man is giving a party tonight, and if I'm not there just on the minute he'll slam the door in my face. It's force of habit with him; mum. You see, he's timekeeper in a factory."

Then, despite whimpering protests, the "lamb" was ruthlessly torn away.—London Tit-Bits.

AT THE 'PHONE.—"Hello!"

"Hello! Who is this?"

"Mr. Lloyd, of Riverside. I want to ask if ——"

"Mr. Who?"

"Lloyd."

"Can't make it out. Say it again."

"Lloyd—Lloyd."

"Molley?"

"No! Lloyd—just Lloyd."

"Gus Joy?"

"No! No! Lloyd! Can't you ——"

"Try it once more."

"Lloyd."

"Can't get it."

"Double l, o, y, d."

"'Dub lello wydee?" I don't understand Kanaka. Ring off."

(Hangs up 'phone in disgust).—Chicago Tribune.

HER RIGHT.—An exchange tells a true story of a little girl, the daughter of a clergyman who was ailing and in consequence had been put to bed early.

"Mamma," said she, "I want to see my dear papa."

"No, dear," said her mother. "Papa is not to be disturbed just now."

Presently came the pleading voice:

I want to see my papa."

"No," was the answer; "I cannot disturb him."

Then the 4-year-old parishioner rose to a question of privilege.

"Mamma," said she, "I am a sick woman, and I want to see my minister."

GOT HIS ANSWER.—A visitor at a Columbia (Mo.) school one day asked one of the lower grade classes this question, "What is the axis of the earth."

'An imaginary line passing from one pole to the other, on which the earth revolves," proudly answered a pupil.

"Yes," said the examiner, well pleased, "and could you hang a bonnet on it?"

"Yes, sir."

"Indeed! And what kind of a bonnet?"

"An imaginary bonnet, sir."

The visitor asked no more questions that day.

Wayside Gatherings.

☞ Credulity is not faith; and fanaticism is not religion.

☞ Many a man has lost his reputation by talking too much.

☞ Exactness in little duties is a wonderful scource of cheerfulness.

☞ The man is very poor who can put all his riches in an iron safe.

☞ Systematic daily study will soon turn an ignorant man into a scholar.

☞ The height of wisdom is to live each day as if it might be the last.

☞ No dust affects the eyes like gold dust, and no glasses like brandy glasses.

☞ Fame won by doing good is deplorably rare, but it is eminently Christlike.

☞ Men are just as good as their daily lives indicate them to be and no better.

☞ God wants us to find out that happiness does not come by getting, but by giving.

☞ Scripture read and correctly applied, protects from error, and guides to abiding success.

☞ In as wide a world as this there is no good reason why a man should be narrow-minded.

☞ After being pardoned, Frank Coles, a burglar in jail at Richmond, Va., declared he would be a missionary.

☞ The Great Eastern has faded into the era of small things. Her tonnage was 10,300 below that of the Celtic, just launched at Belfast.

☞ The United States is now ahead of Germany in naval strength by about 3,000 tons, and thus is entitled to fourth place among naval powers.

☞ A Pittsburg woman has asked for a divorce on the ground that her husband continually insisted on telling her about his past life, which had been bad. Who can blame her.

☞ A curious effort in behalf of temperance is noted on the part of the Belgian government. A prize has been offered for the best picture showing the evils of drunkenness.

☞ The Republic of Mexico signed the convention of the peace conference at The Hague. China, Luxembourg and Turkey are now the only countries which have not signed.

☞ There are 7,400 members of the New York police force. The number of arrests made by the New York police last year was 138,875, or an average of between 18 and 20 for each policeman.

☞ One of the laws of Texas imposes heavy fine and imprisonment on lawyers who foment suits against railroads and other corporations, or who advance money to clients to secure such cases.

☞ It is noted that the elements are playing strange pranks near Naples. First there was red rain, then red snow; now it is red mud that falls from the sky.

☞ Four sisters, according to the Salina, (Kan.) Union, registered from one ward at the city clerk's office, presenting themselves separately. Each gave her age as 21.

☞ The pathetic story of a child's love comes from West Union. Cal Rhine was lodged in jail on a peace warrant. His little 5-year old son refused to leave his father and was locked up with him.

☞ The total number of women over 18 years old employed in the factories and workshops of the British Islands, is about five hundred thousand, of whom 11 per cent. belong to trade unions.

☞ The recent census of India shows that Bengal, which has an area of 203,473 square miles—one-quarter less than the area of Texas—has a population of 74,713,000, which is equal to that of the United States.

☞ Ireland lost by emigration last year 45,288 souls, an increase over 1899 of 3347. Over 82 per cent. of these were between the ages of 15 and 35. Of the total number of emigrants, 37,765 came to the United States.

☞ According to an apparently authentic article in a French periodical, not less than 20,000 aristocrats are at present confined in the prisons of Europe. Russia stands first, with 12,000 blue-blooded lawbreakers.

☞ The new naval academy at Annapolis will be a fine structure. When completed the building will cost $3,000,000, and be finer than any government building outside of Washington. It will accommodate 500 cadets.

☞ At the communion service in one of the Presbyterian churches in Washington, on Sunday recently, the bread and wine were passed by two admirals, a general, two supreme court justices and a former secretary of state.

☞ The Po, in North Italy, is 360 miles in length. The deposits at its mouth have caused the coast to gain so rapidly upon the sea that a point which in the time of Augustus was a seaport town is now 18 miles from the Adriatic.

☞ Twenty-five years ago Russia was practically dependent upon foreign ship yards for her warships. Now she has ten shipyards, and in them ten battleships and cruisers, ranging from 6600 to 13,000 tons each, are being constructed.

☞ During the prevalence of the intense cold in the Yukon region, the first two months of this year (68.5 below zero being the lowest,) there was a haze all over the country, and an epidemic of rabies seized upon the dogs of Dawson.

☞ During the last 20 years the railway mileage of the South has doubled nearly three times. In 1880 there were 19,170 miles of track; in 1900 there were 49,627. In 1880 the South produced 379,301 tons of pig iron; in 1900 the total surpassed 3,000,000.

☞ Henry H. Faxon, a well-known temperance advocate, distributed recently through the mail, 23 $100 checks to as many clergymen of Quincy, Mass., to be used "in promoting the moral, spiritual, social and political welfare of of the people," of the city.

☞ A Socialistic colony is to be set up in New Hampshire. Religion, nor clergy, nor lawyers will be allowed in it. Every one in the colony will be forced to work for a uniform rate of wages, and those who are lazy or prove themselves morally unfit will be expelled.

☞ The coronation of King Edward will take place at the end of June, 1902. Westminster Abbey, according to Truth, will be entirely closed to the public for four months prior to the event, and all services will be suspended in order to prepare the interior for the ceremony.

Miscellaneous Reading.

FROM NEIGHBORING CONTEMPORARIES.

News and Comment That Is of More or Less Local Interest.

YORK.

Clover Review, April 25: Miss Lizzie Matthews has rented the residence known as the Campbell house and moved to town this week.....Eleven bales of cotton were sold here today from Mr. D. J. Jackson's farm. It was bought by W. B. Stroup & Bro., at 8 cents.....Mrs. W. T. Beamguard has been seriously ill for some time; but we are glad to say that she has taken a turn for the better, and we hope she will soon be up and out again..... Little Mary Lewis, daughter of Mayor W. H. Lewis, of Gastonia, came down last week on a visit to relatives here, and since has taken measles. She is in good hands and is getting along nicely. .....Mr. Harry Neil went to Gastonia Wednesday.....Mr. S. M. Faires is at home again for a few days.....Prof. P. A. Pressly left for his home at Due West last week.....Miss Maggie Robinson, of Yorkville, visited Mrs. A. D. Dorsett this week.....Miss Debbie Clark, of Steel Creek, N. C., is now making her home with Mrs. S. M. Faires.....Miss Lena McCall left Wednesday for a visit to relatives and friends in and around Charlotte..... Mrs. Wylie Hanna returned to Gastonia today after a short visit to Mr. and Mrs. S. M. Faires.....P. A. Pressly, Jno. M. Smith and Oscar Neill took in the oratorical contest held in Chester last week.....Mr. J. W. Mull left this morning (Thursday) for a two week's visit among friends and relatives in Burke county, N. C.....Mr. and Mrs. W. I. Brison, Misses Lillie and Janie Brison and Mrs. F. E. Clinton went to Yorkville Wednesday.....Miss Kittie Boney, who has been on an extended visit to relatives here, left yesterday for her home in Clinton, N. C.

Rock Hill Herald, April 27: Mrs. Ira B. Dunlap is visiting friends in Richburg.....Miss Carrie Adams has returned from a visit to Gastonia..... Mrs. J. M. Green, of Charlotte, is visiting Mrs. H. E. White.....Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Buchannan spent Thursday in Charlotte.....Prof. H. B. Bruist is still quite sick at his home in Oakland. .....Mrs. Jno Mallard, who has been sick for the last three weeks, is now able to be up.....Miss Rosa Steele, of Yorkville, visited her brother, Mr. Will Steele, here this week.....Rev. A. S. Rogers left yesterday for Winnsboro, where he will conduct a series of meetings....Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Reid spent Thursday in Chester with their daughter, Mrs. W. H. Brice....Misses Lillian Massey, Rhea Wachtil and Mary Lyles, of Chester, spent Wednesday in the city with friends.....The building for the Deas Repair and Manufacturing company is nearing completion. It is located near Black street in the rear of the postoffice.....Miss Mea O'Bryan left Wednesday morning for Greenville to attend the State Federation of Woman's Clubs, as delegate from the Music Club of this place. She will go to Spartanburg to attend the May Festival before returning.....Mr. G. W. Mayers, of the United States geological survey, was in the city Tuesday. He went out to the Catawba that day and made a survey of the river, and he left a note for The Herald stating that "the extreme height reached by the river at 11 a. m., April 21st, was 10 feet on gauge, being a rise of 18.7 feet above dead low water. This is the greatest flood during a period of six years, during which time the daily records of water height have been made, and one of the greatest ever known in the river.".....Mrs. Therly Jane Wylie, widow of the late Thomas Wylie, of the Edgemoor section of Chester county, died in this city Wednesday of this week at the home of her only child, Mr. Frank Owens, of pneumonia, which followed a month's sickness of grippe. She was the fourth child of Green and Telitha Owens, and was raised in the Harmony section of this county. She was 77 years and 11 days of age, and with the exception of Mr. Allen G. Owens, of Owens, Mississippi, was the last of a family of 11 children.

CHESTER.

Lantern, April 26: Mrs Tucker, wife of Prof. Beverly Tucker, of Virginia Military Institute, who was visiting her sister, Mrs. Benj. Huger, at Dillon, this state, was burned to death Wednesday afternoon. She was sitting in front of the fire and her clothes caught fire in some way.....Mrs. Drucilla Reighley, wife of Mr. George Reighley, aged about 65 years, died at the Eureka Mills Wednesday....Mrs. Margaret Ann Byrd, wife of Mr. William Byrd, died yesterday morning, aged about 69 years, at their home east of town, on the Lancaster road.....Mr. Joseph Neely Miller, of Camden, Ala., announces the marriage of his daughter Sara to Mr. Jno Miller Bonner, on Thursday, April 18th, 1901. Miss Miller, now Mrs. Bonner, we suppose, spent a year in Chester with her aunt, Mrs. A. G. Brice, and attended school, and few girls ever made more friends in the same length of time or gained higher esteem of the best people. Mr. Bonner is a very lucky man.....Wednesday, Mr. J. D. Henson, of Rossville, brought to this office the tap root of a cotton stalk that he plowed up a few days ago, which shows the inclination and capacity of the cotton plant to find moisture. The root was 32 inches long and went straight down into the ground. The land is black-jack and the subsoil inclined to pipe clay. Such roots explain how cotton can so successfully weather a drought. It is not probable that roots would reach so far down into the earth in a wet season; but when it is dry the plant sends them down in search of water.....Some of our exchanges are suggesting that the two United States senators meet in joint debate. We do not believe that the suggestion will be acted upon, and we hope for the sake of decency and the best interests of society, that no such meetings will disturb the peace and dignity of the state. It would decide nothing. Tillman's friends would not be convinced by McLaurin's arguments, nor would the latter's followers be won over to Tillman, and each would be more embittered toward the other. Those who have no partiality for either, would view the contest with the same interest they would a prize fight, and it would be just about as demoralizing in its effects. In fact, it would not be a debate at all; but a contest in vituperation, and we have had too much of that already. If our senators wish to make a spectacle of themselves by throwing mud, the greater the distance they are apart the better for the public. It will be far better still for each to discuss issues without any reference to the other.

GASTON.

Gastonia News, April 26: The Hardin bridge lodged about half a mile below the factory. It broke in two there, one half remaining lodged against some trees, and the other half floating out into some bottoms about half a mile further and sinking to the ground as the water subsided. Mr. Carpenter is at work getting the lumber out so as to replace the bridge. Some of the lumber was, of course, broken in the crash; but as the bridge was erected when the old bridge became too rotten to be safe, two years ago, much of the lumber will be of service in rebuilding. .....Sunday, at one of the mills here, some boys were down in the street trying to get a bicycle mended so that they could continue their journey. While thus engaged, Worth Johnson, a gentleman zealous in the holiness faith, passed by and seeing them engaged in "labor" on the Sabbath, knelt down and began to pray lustily. The boys were frightened and ran away; but Mr. Johnson continued his petition on their behalf. When through prayer he arose and began a sermon and quite a number of people at the mill, struck with the novelty of his manner in holding services unappointed, gathered around him, and in that way a complete Sunday service was held.....Joe Henry and Pete Allen, two of the Negroes who escaped and were captured, gave the $50 bail for appearance at court for gambling. When out on the streets they made their boast that they were the ones who had broken jail once and could do it again. So they were arrested again for breaking jail. They failed to give bonds of $100 each for appearance at court for breaking jail, and were lodged in jail. During the interview with Sheriff Armstrong, Henry was asked if he wasn't the Negro who had been doing some ditching in South Point. The Negro's dignity was insulted. He said he didn't have to ditch for a living. Pete Allen, however, claims that he is a laboring man..... Tuesday night the front glass of the Lula mill store, of which P. S. Baker is owner, at King's Mountain, was broken open and entered. Four pistols and probably other goods were taken. Tom Biles, colored, was arrested and carried before Squire Will Shely. Satisfactory evidence that the Negro was guilty, did not develop; but he was brought here yesterday by the policeman at Baker's in default of bond for his appearance at court. It is thought he is one of the guilty parties, and it is hoped that evidence will develop by court.....Wednesday, Mr. Albert Rankin retained O. F. Mason, Esq., and papers were drawn, in a libel suit for $20,000 damage against Mr. G. W. Ragan, based on Mr. Ragan's card in Tuesday's News. When Mr. Ragan heard of the proceedings he had gone to his home; but went at once to his office so that the papers might be conveniently served. Sheriff Armstrong was out of town, however, and they were not served Wednesday. Yesterday morning Sheriff Armstrong served the papers, and he says he had not found Mr. Ragan in a jollier mood in a long time. The papers have been filed in the office of the clerk of the court of Gaston. Mr. Ragan and his friends are confident that there is no ground for a successful suit, and that it is instituted for political purposes solely. Mr. Rankin and his friends assert with confidence that the suit is bone fide, and that it will be pushed to the full extent of the law.

UNION.

Times, April 26: Wednesday morning, when the up passenger was nearing Monarch mill, a driver attempted to cross the track ahead of the train. The team baulked and was struck by the engine. One of the mules was killed and the wagon torn up. The driver and the other mule escaped injury. We have not learned if the signal for road crossing was given or not.....Mrs. Bennett Hancock, mother of Miss Ada Hancock, of Union, died at her home in Fairfield, near Alston, Tuesday morning. The remains were brought to Carlisle Wednesday and interred.....A shooting scrape occurred at Pacolet Sunday between two Negroes, Joe Haris and Jim Scott. They both used the ever-ready pistol. Harris was shot in the arm and Scott got shot in the hand. A woman was the cause of the row.....Some time Wednesday night a party entered the store of Mr. Jeff Hughes, at Lockhart Junction, and called for a plug of tobacco. When Mr. Hughes went to wait on the party he was attacked and badly beaten over the head until he was rendered unconscious. The store was then robbed and $12 to $15 taken; also a pistol. The police and a posse with bloodhounds are after the party who did the dastardly deed, and it is to be hoped they will find their man.....At a recent meeting of the stewards of Grace Methodist church, Mr. Ira S. Harris was elected trustee, to fill the place made vacant by the death of Judge W. H. Wallace. .....On last Sunday afternoon, after the evening mail had been put up, some letters, five or six in number, were purloined from the drop letter box underneath the delivery window at the postoffice, taken to the door and thrown down after each had been torn open, and contents rifled. It is presumed that this is the work of some small boys, as only a very small hand could be inserted in the slot. This is a dangerous thing to do, and it is probable that the parties who did it will be severely dealt with if they are ever caught. It is supposed they were hunting letters which contained money. It is not supposed that they found any money, however, in either of the letters.

☞ The snowfall of the past winter throughout Southern Russia was altogether phenomenal, and up to the middle of March there had been no break in the cold weather. For a considerable period that part of the country was cut off entirely from all communication with the rest of the world, except by telegraph.

COUNTRY POSTMASTERS.

Some of the Humorous Features of the Rural Service.

Few people know just exactly where a fourth-class postmaster gets his pay. His patrons, more often than not, know the least about the matter, and not many others know that, humble as the fourth-class office is, it serves the greatest number of people in the United States. There are over 70,000 of these offices, while there are just 4,500 of the third, second and first-class, or salaried offices. The lowest salary paid these is $1,000 and the highest salary is $8,000 a year. The fourth class offices must rustle for their own pay. Sometimes that is as low as $1 a month, and sometimes as high as $60 a month; that is, some offices send out just that amount of cancelled letters each month, but the fourth-class postmaster is not allowed to keep the $60 a month; not at all. He keeps just 16 1-3 dollars as his own clear cash, and every dollar over that he divides up with Uncle Sam, giving him 40 out of every 100 cents, until his office gets to the importance of cancelling over $33 a month; then he must hand over 60 cents out of the dollar instead of 40. Out of what is left he pays his office rent, his light and fuel bills and his clerk hire when sick or absent. The department furnishes nothing; not even the box, except what stamps, postal cards and other stamped paper he needs.

Very few fourth-class offices cancel stamps to either the great or small amount I have named. The majority of them range from $8 to $20 a month. When an office averages about $10 a month, then it becomes a money order office, and while the revenue towards the postmaster's pay is not perceptibly increased by this addition, his bond and responsibility are. Some years years ago a fourth-class postmaster was allowed a percentage on all the stamps he sold above the cancellation, but it was found that he hustled around and offered inducements and a share of the proceeds to those who would buy stamps from him, and the department shut down on this. Now, if he sells $2 worth of stamps a day, but only cancels on letters 10 cents worth, 10 cents is all he gets for that day's work. The remainder of the $2 at the end of the quarter goes to the department.

The fourth-class postmaster is brought into closer relationship with his patrons than the postmaster of a salaried office, and trials and tribulations are about the extent of his pay for this. He is expected to be ready for a social chat with them; to answer all questions; to write many letters for those who cannot write or have left their spectacles at home; to advise them as to the best papers or magazines for which to subscribe, and so on, and so on. Besides this he is to blame for all the mail lost or delayed; there are always one or more women who blame him of opening their letters; there is the pompous citizen, who is very certain that he is careless with his particular mail, and the old fellow whose family takes just one paper, and that a monthly, but every day the old fellow would ask if that "dog-rotted book of his'n had come yet?" and though it never missed showing up at the appointed time, and he took home every copy of it, he would declare that it was the beatenest thing to miss he ever seen, and he'd be blamed if he'd ever take it again.

In the majority of these offices strictness is the rule. The fourth-class postmaster is called to task for neglect of the slightest duty, the same as though the government was paying him a good salary for his work. But in very small offices I have heard of postmasters who have it all their own way. The office is too small for a new postmaster to be easily found if the old one is turned out; the patrons would not allow it to be discontinued, and so the authorities turn away nonplussed and leave him to his own devices. I heard of one postmaster of this kind who would shut up his office to attend to anything he felt was worth attending. He would go off a dozen miles to a show, a prize fight or the county fair, and sometimes stay two or three days, and there was no getting in his office to get your mail or deposit letters until he came back. Another postmaster, having just loaned a friend all the postal funds, amounting to some $2 or $3, an hour after saw a postoffice inspector making his way leisurely toward the office. Knowing from past experience that the inspector would make just as big a kick about that $3 as he would about $1,000 being out of pocket in the office, the postmaster did some quick thinking.

In a jiffy he had barred the window and run a red bandana handkerchief out of a side window. When the inspector haughtily demanded that the door be opened the postmaster asked him if he didnt know what a red flag meant, and if he didn't want to know he'd better not stop to investigate. By this time the little burgh was in a panic over this hint of smallpox and without waiting to add anything to the panic the inspector immediately made himself scarce in that region.

Another case was where, time and again the department had been made aware of the gross irregularities in the management of the office away in the wilds somewhere. At last an inspector was ordered out to look up the matter.

At the wayside station nearest this postoffice the inspector learned that it was kept by an old mountaineer named Saunders, who owned everything in sight around it, and on this account could hold the office against all applicants. The inspector was forced to wend his way afoot to the place. Its general wildness caused a slight feeling of apprehension in his mind and he approached it with some stealth, taking an inventory of it from behind a tree. The office was a rough pine structure, in front of which sat a man, as rough looking as the shanty, tilted back in a split-bottomed chair, placidly smoking a pipe. Presently he laid his pipe down, and pushing his hat back from his eyes, peered over in some bushes beyond the office, called out as he peered: "I see you Jim Larkin; you needn't come sneakin' 'round here. I've tole an tole you that you can't hev no mail as long as you owe fer them taters you bought last fall. Now, git!"

From behind the bushes a shaggy head now popped up and a voice said, pleadingly: "Saunders, I've heern there's now two letters here fur me; thet one thet come three months ago an' one thet come the tother day. I'd like to hev 'em; I'm feered some of my folks is sick, or they wouldn't be a-writen so offen."

"Nary a letter do you git till them taters is settled fur!" The postmaster's voice was decisive.

"I've got part of the money to pay, an 'Mary said fur me to not dar' come home without them letters ef I had to wallup you to get 'em." And now Larkin advanced, holding out some silver, and disclosing himself as something akin in build and age to Saunders. The postmaster took the money and, going into the house, came out with one letter.

"There's half yer mail, Larkin," he said; "now, ef you want the tother half you'll hev to do what Mary said fer you to do. Come on."

The next moment, without any preliminary skirmishing, at one another they went. In less than two minutes Larkin was completely knocked out.

"There!" said the postmaster, brushing the dust from his check shirt and overalls, "I need jest' a leetle such exercise ev'ry day to keep me in good health. Tell Mary I feel so good over wullupin' you that ef she comes over herself she kin hev the letter an' I'll scratch the rest of thet tater money off'n the book."

The inspector, feeling that in this case discretion was the better part of valor, turned tracks for home without interviewing Saunders, and reported him at Washington as "Running his office on strict business principles."—Exchange.

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Dec. 8 s 1y

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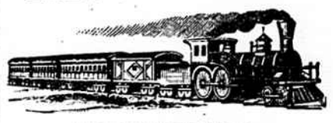
THESE mills are now being put in thorough repair by us, and from now on we expect to give the public FIRST-CLASS SERVICE or know the reason why. Bring your wheat and let us show you that we know how to treat you. REED & CO.
W. J. REED, Manager. w3m

SOUTH CAROLINA & GEORGIA EXTENSION RAILROAD CO.



TIME TABLE NO. 4.

In Effect 12.01 a.m., Sunday, Dec. 24, 1899.

BETWEEN

CAMDEN AND BLACKSBURG.

WEST.		EASTERN TIME. STATIONS.	EAST.	
35. 2nd Class. Daily Except Sund'y	33. 1st Class. Daily.		32. 1st Class. Daily.	34. 2nd Class. Daily Except Sund'y
P. M.	P. M.		P. M.	P. M.
8 20	12 50	.....Camden.....	12 25	5 50
8 50	1 15	.....De Kalb.....	12 02	4 50
9 20	1 27	.....Westville.....	11 50	4 30
10 50	1 40	.....Kershaw.....	11 35	4 10
11 20	2 10	Heath Springs.	11 20	3 15
11 35	2 15	..Pleasant Hill..	11 15	3 00
12 30	2 35	....Lancaster....	10 55	2 35
1 00	2 50	....Riverside.....	10 40	1 00
1 20	3 00	....Springdell....	10 30	12 40
2 30	3 10	Catawba J'c'n.	10 20	12 20
2 50	3 20	.....Leslie.....	10 10	11 00
3 10	3 40	....Rock Hill ...	10 00	8 40
4 10	3 55	..... Newport.....	9 35	8 20
4 45	4 02	.....Tirzah	9 30	8 00
5 30	4 20	.....Yorkville....	9 15	7 20
6 00	4 35	.....Sharon	9 00	6 50
6 25	4 50	Hickory Grove	8 45	6 20
6 35	5 00	.....Smyrna.....	8 35	6 00
7 00	5 20	...Blacksburg....	8 15	5 30
P.M.	P. M.		A.M.	A.M.

BETWEEN

BLACKSBURG, S. C., AND MARION, N. C.

WEST		EASTERN TIME. STATIONS.	EAST.	
11. 2nd Class. Daily Except Sund'y	33. 1st Class. Daily Except Sund'y		32. 1st Class. Daily Except Sund'y	12. 2nd Class. Daily Except Sund'y
A. M.	P. M.		A. M.	P. M.
8 10	5 30	...Blacksburg...	7 48	6 40
8 30	5 45	.....Earls.....	7 32	6 20
8 40	5 50	Patterson Spr'g	7 25	6 12
9 20	6 00	.....Shelby.....	7 15	6 00
10 00	6 20	....Lattimore.....	6 55	4 50
10 10	6 28	...Mooresboro..	6 48	4 40
10 25	6 38	.....Henrietta....	6 38	4 20
10 50	6 55	....Forest City...	6 20	3 50
11 15	7 10	Rutherfordton	6 05	3 25
11 35	7 22	..... Millwood...	5 58	3 05
11 45	7 35	.Golden Valley	5 40	2 50
12 05	7 40	.Thermal City.	5 37	2 45
12 25	7 58	... Glenwood....	5 17	2 20
12 50	8 15	.....Marion.....	5 00	2 00
P. M.	P. M.		A. M.	P. M.

GAFFNEY BRANCH.

WEST.		EASTERN TIME. STATIONS.	EAST.	
First Class.			First Class.	
15.	13.		14.	16.
Daily Except Sunday.			Daily Except Sunday.	
P. M.	A. M.		A. M.	P. M.
1 00	6 00	...Blacksburg...	7 50	3 00
1 20	6 20	Cherokee Falls	7 30	2 40
1 40	6 40	.....Gaffney.....	7 10	2 20
P. M.	A. M.		A. M.	P. M.

Trains Nos. 32 and 33 connect at Blacksburg with trains on the Gaffney Division.

Train No. 32 connects at Camden with the Charleston Division of the Southern Railway for all points South.

Train No. 33 leaving Camden at 12.40 p. m., going West, makes connection at Lancaster, S. C., with the L. & C. R. R., at Catawba Junction with the S. A. L., going North; at Rock Hill with the Southern Railway going North.

Train No. 11 connects at Blacksburg with the Southern Railway from the South. At Marion, N. C., with the Southern Railway going West.

SAMUEL HUNT, President,
A. TRIPP, Superintendent,

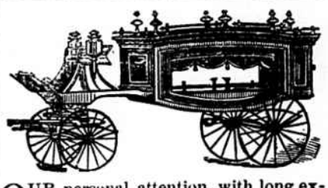
☞ TAKE COUGH EASE. It cures.
YORK DRUG STORE.

MONUMENTS AND TOMBSTONES.

HAVING recently removed to Yorkville, I am opening up my Marble Works in the rear room of the KENNEDY BUILDING, opposite the postoffice.

Call and see me and get an estimate on any kind of MONUMENT or TOMBSTONE that you may desire. My prices will be reasonable. I am in position to furnish all styles of Iron Fencing.

I am Yours Very Respectfully,
F. HAPPERFIELD.



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