

Scraps and Facts.

There was a prize fight between Gus Ruhlin, known as the "Akron Giant," and James Jeffries, the champion of the world, in San Francisco, last Friday night.

The Yorkville Enquirer.



YORKVILLE, S. C.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 20, 1901.

Judging from his Atlanta speech which, in that respect is like all his previous speeches, Senator McLaurin's principal concern is not the formation of a new party; but the progress and prosperity of South Carolina and the South.

If some of our would-be statesmen would only give some really intelligent study to the lien system, and make an earnest effort to reform it, they would eventually earn political preferment of a kind that seldom comes to the mere political trickster.

Tom Miller was in Washington last Friday, and according to a correspondent, in speaking of Senator McLaurin, he declared: If he is a Democrat I am opposed to him; but if he is a Republican and so declares, then I am his supporter.

If the whole woof and warp of a political party be based on distribution of the public offices, as practically all of the partisan organs seem to think, we are unable to see the benefits that accrue to the rank and file that does the voting.

The Charleston Post has abandoned its half-hearted support of Senator McLaurin on the ground that it has all along been in favor of the organization of a decent Republican party in this state, and the appointment of Koester shows that to be impossible.

The Southern Express, on the Northern Central railway, was blown up by dynamite a short distance north of York, Pa., on last Saturday.

The passengers were severely shocked, but none were seriously injured. The train was crossing the bridge when the dynamite exploded.

The original object of the lien law was good. By enabling people who could not give more substantial security to mortgage their "intention" to raise a crop, the country has possibly gotten the benefit of much development that would have otherwise been delayed.

Although the people of South Carolina have devoted much labor and thought during the past thirty-five years to what is known as the agricultural lien system, it must be apparent to all who are giving attention to the subject, that many mistakes have been made and that the problem is still demanding serious consideration.

Reviewing the agricultural history of this state briefly and generally in its relation to the lien law, it seems fair to size up the situation about like this: When the system was first inaugurated, landowners, who were without means to conduct such operations as they desired, were disposed to act as general managers of their farms while they took advantage of the lien system, both in behalf of themselves and renters.

They exercised such oversight of renters as helped to ensure the best results in producing crops, generally paying the merchant all that was coming to him, and leaving a profit to the landowner. This plan is still practiced by many land-owners; but it is now the exception. The tendency, for a number of years past, on the part of landowners who are financially unable to manage their farms, and who have no inclination to engage actively in the business themselves, is to rent out to persons irresponsible or otherwise, leaving the renter to secure supplies as best they may by means of agricultural lien, and depending for their own incomes solely on the rents that are so strongly secured to them by law.

While it is a fact that many a good man has gotten his start in life as a renter under this system, there is no disputing the fact that the great majority of individuals, including a large percentage of Negroes who are at present living under this system, are a worthless set, studying not so much how they can work out their just obligations to landlord and merchant, as how they can swindle both.

The practice of renting land, giving liens, and either not planting at all, or planting less than enough to pay the liens, even with proper work and favorable seasons, has become so common as to discredit the whole system. It is almost a fact that the agricultural lien no longer furnishes even speculative security, in that most renters who would pay up a debt secured by lien,

would have paid just as surely had there been no such security, and those who intend to pay at all; will pay no more surely because of this mortgage. Although the law contemplates the fullest protection of property under lien, it is a well known fact that there are different ways by which the holder of the lien can be swindled with but little chance of detection.

During several years past, it has been the disposition of the more prudent and conservative supply merchants, not to agree to furnish goods to irresponsible renters until after landlords have waived their prior liens, and this practice is becoming more general each year. Its effect is to throw a larger share of responsibility on the landowner than the present statutes contemplate for that individual, and to make landowning purely an investment less profitable than otherwise; but the justice of it is so manifest that it is difficult to see how a merchant could be induced to take the chances that are required of him on any other basis.

There was probably much use for the lien law at the time of its passage; but the law has long since outlived its usefulness. It is doing more harm than it ever did good, and it is about time that the legislature should repeal it forthwith.

Mr. Henderson and Mr. McLaurin. Elsewhere in this issue is a pretty full synopsis of a speech that Mr. D. S. Henderson, candidate for the United States senate, delivered in the court house last Monday.

The speech, as will be noted, is directed against the issues that have been raised in South Carolina by Senator McLaurin, and to people who are still willing to take such matters strictly on faith, it is a strong presentation of Mr. Henderson's side of the case. As a genuinely instructive educational effort, however, it is somewhat of a failure, not only because of certain inaccurate statements of facts; but especially because it puts Senator McLaurin in positions that gentleman, has never occupied, and in which, had he been present, he would have only remained long enough to reiterate what he has said time and again before.

Although quite interesting, Mr. Henderson's differentiation between Republicanism and Democracy is a trifle confusing. One of them, he says, controls the people and the people control the other. If this is all the difference it would seem very like a case of twelfth dum and twelfth die, and the man who would undertake to identify the Republican government at Washington and the Democratic government at Columbia by this test alone would, we think, find himself up against somewhat of a puzzle. Surely the contrast must be more marked than has been indicated.

Also, Mr. Henderson leaves us in doubt as to where he stands on expansion. Although condemning the acquisition of the Philippines, which fell into our hands through the chances of war, because they are ten thousand miles away, and the people desire no affiliation with us, he approvingly suggests the annexation of Canada and Mexico. It is by peaceful means of course; but who thinks that either of these countries was to be annexed? Referring to Louisiana and Florida, he speaks of the annexation having come about at the request of the inhabitants; but he does not tell us which inhabitants, and neither does he have anything to say about the Indian population into which we had to shoot good behavior as we are doing with the Filipinos. Had he desired, he could have told us truthfully that a handful of whites also requested the annexation of Hawaii, and that there are more annexationists in the Philippines today than there were in Florida and Louisiana at the time they were annexed. If Mr. Henderson really meant what he said, he is more of an expansionist than is Senator McLaurin. Senator McLaurin was an expansionist in the case of the Philippines because he did not believe the government could afford to let loose, and in suggesting the annexation of Canada and Mexico, Mr. Henderson would take in territory upon which we have not the slightest claim and which has no claim upon us.

The reason given by Mr. Henderson for the decline of our merchant marine sounds plausible enough; but is it correct? It is true, that from about 1850 to 1860, we had about the finest merchant marine there was in the world, and that the American flag was to be seen in almost every port. It is also true that those were good old Democratic times, and that although there was a tariff, it was not what would now be called a protective tariff. But let us look a little further. The principal item of export in these good old days was our southern cotton, practically all of which went to Europe, and the balance of the freight cargoes was made up of articles manufactured in Europe for export to America and elsewhere. We had a good freight business all right; but otherwise we did not amount to much commercially. However, what ended this epoch? The protective tariff idea did not begin to attain full sway until after 1865. The merchant marine, however, had begun to disappear as early as 1861. If Mr. Henderson will brush up somewhat on his history, he will probably come to the conclusion that the Alabama and certain other Confederate cruisers and privateers had more to do with the matter than did the protective tariff. American competition having been removed, foreigners were slow to take advantage of the situation, and they promise to hold that advantage until we come down with liberal subsidies.

Somewhat, we are not much impressed by what Mr. Henderson says about possible appeals to the Negro. Since 1876 the white people of South Carolina have shown that they can abide the will of the majority as to almost any kind of a man, and it does not seem less difficult to yield on a question of measures. The very fact that the Negro score is so frequently used, as in this case, in the hope of accomplishing a kind of political intimidation, is about the best possible evidence that it will never again materialize in fact. The thing is too horrible for contemplation, and the white people of South Carolina will not put up with it again.

Mr. W. G. Neville returned from Spartanburg on Tuesday morning. Miss Frances Parish is teaching school at Glendale, near Bethel post-office.

Mr. George L. Riddle, of Zeno, is reported as being confined to his room again.

Miss Nannie Grist, of Winthrop college, spent Sunday in Yorkville with relatives.

Miss Josie Camp, of Winthrop college, spent Sunday with her mother, Mrs. Maggie Camp.

Mrs. Rudolph Brandt, of Chester, is visiting the family of Mr. John L. Rainey, near Blairsville.

Rev. A. J. McKelway, who was announced to preach in the Presbyterian church last Sunday, failed to arrive.

Rev. J. S. Grier and family, of Sharon, after spending several weeks in West Tennessee, have returned to their home.

Mr. W. H. Gwinn, who has been traveling the state of Texas for L. B. Price & Co., of Norfolk, is in Yorkville for a few days.

Mr. John G. Neely, of Gastonia, has moved his family to Yorkville, and will occupy the Lowry house, on South Congress street.

Mrs. R. H. Cousar, of Lancaster, is seriously ill at the home of her daughter, Mrs. R. N. Plaxco, near Bethany. It is hardly probable that she will survive.

Mayor Willis says that if he had somebody to stand by and tell him when the boys are fighting and when they are playing, he could really enjoy a game of football.

LOCAL AFFAIRS.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

H. C. Strauss & Co.—Say that the people who buy bargains are coming to them, and quote prices on clothing for men and boys.

Jas. M. Starr & Co.—Talk about the good qualities of Nunnally's candles, and give an assortment that they have in stock.

Sam M. Grist, Special Agent—Prints a letter from W. W. Klugh in regard to the Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Co. of Newark, N. J., and also publishes a letter from J. S. Klugh, executor.

J. F. Pursley, Clover, S. C.—Wants you to see him before buying paint, and says he can give you close prices on any color and any quantity wanted. He also wants to sell you groceries.

C. E. Lowrance & Co.—Call on people who owe them for groceries to come up and settle without further delay.

T. Baxter McClain—Has a lot of articles, including farming implements, blacksmith's tools, shafting, belting, pulleys, etc., which he wants to sell. S. C. & Ga. Ex. R. R. Co.—Publishes a change of schedule for trains between Blacksburg and Gaffney.

M. C. Willis, Mayor—Prints a warning in regard to smallpox, and urges everybody to be vaccinated.

C. E. Spencer, Attorney—Offers the J. J. Wallace tract, 124 acres, in Bullock's Creek township, for sale or lease.

Miss Mabel Berry is visiting friends at Gastonia.

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WITHIN THE TOWN.

Mr. W. I. Witherspoon found the gold ring for which he advertised in the last issue of THE ENQUIRER within a short time after the paper appeared on the streets of Yorkville.

The time in which it was prescribed that town taxes could be paid without penalty, expired last Friday. Treasurer Love reports that collections were about as close as last year, there being only a few delinquents and not more than two white men claiming that they did not know taxes were due.

Messrs. J. J. Keller & Co. have erected an additional storehouse at their wood working plant on the C. & N. W. railroad, between East Madison and East Liberty streets. Heretofore they have been keeping coffins in the upper story of the main building; but they have found that the room is needed for machinery. The firm is doing lots of work now and also selling a considerable quantity of goods.

There is to be a presentation of "Quo Vadis" at the opera house on Wednesday, December 4, with Mr. James A. Young appearing in the role of Vinicius. It is represented as something unusually good. Quo Vadis was presented here sometime ago; but in some respects the audience was very much disappointed. It developed that the scenery carried by the company was unsuited for use on the small stage here, and in several other respects the play failed to come up to expectations. Mr. James Young has made himself famous in this play, and the fact that he is with the company now booked to present Quo Vadis, carries assurance that there is no reasonable probability of another disappointment. An agent of the company was here last week, and among other things he invited Manager Moore to send a committee to see the play in Charlotte or Chester, in order to make sure of the strong claims he was making. This agent made a careful inspection of the opera house and said that he had scenery to suit. He told Manager Moore, furthermore, to have no hesitation in assuring the local public that there would be no disappointment this time. Quo Vadis is certainly a great play, and properly presented as it will be by the company led by Mr. Young, lovers of the drama, could want nothing better.

It appears that there is no foundation for the recently published statement to the effect that soldiers who are entitled to an additional bounty from the government.

The story was first published in the leading daily papers of the north about September 23, and in the South Carolina papers last week. It was to the effect that a Brooklyn lawyer had discovered an old law under which New York state was bound to pay each volunteer the sum of \$34, and that the United States was found to pay the sum of \$19.

Although rather vague in its original terms, it appears that as the information became more widely disseminated, it became more clarified until it had a shape something like this: Under the laws passed during the civil war, and which have never been repealed, all volunteers for active service are entitled to bounties of \$100, and that Attorney General Knox has about been convinced that such bounties must be paid.

As the result of the publication in South Carolina, Senator John L. McLaurin has received quite a number of inquiries for further information, and is sending out in reply a circular that has been prepared on the subject by F. E. Rittman, auditor of the treasury for the war department. A Yorkville soldier who has received one of these circulars from the senator has handed it to THE ENQUIRER for publication. After reviewing the whole matter, the circular winds up as follows:

"Furthermore, no law has ever been passed by congress, granting any bounties whatever to any soldier for service in the late Spanish-American war of 1898 and 1899. Certain laws were passed, giving extra pay to such soldiers in certain cases, in lieu of a furlough or leave of absence. But in nearly all such cases the soldiers who were entitled to such pay have been paid. It is only necessary to say, in conclusion, that there is no foundation whatever for any such statements as are set forth in said dispatch, as far as the United States is concerned, and it is hoped that those interested in this matter will not be induced to make useless inquiries or to file worthless claims on account of such misrepresentations."

The fall term of the circuit court for York county, convened in Yorkville on last Monday, his honor, Ernest Gary, presiding as judge.

Fifteen grand jurors answered to their names upon the call of the panel, and a sixteenth came in before the jury retired to its room.

All of the petit jurors drawn for the first week, save one, were present, and no time was lost in proceeding with the business at hand. The grand jury general already been charged as to its general duties, his honor did not deem it worth while to give further instruction, and the work of passing upon bills of indictment was commenced forthwith.

During Monday cases were disposed of as follows: James Bratton, charged with forgery, plead guilty and was sentenced to one year on the chain-gang, or in the penitentiary and to pay a fine of \$5.

John Barber plead guilty of larceny and was sentenced to imprisonment in the penitentiary or on the chain-gang for eighteen months and to pay a fine of \$5.

William Worthly plead guilty to the charge of housebreaking and larceny and was sentenced to five years in the penitentiary or on the chain-gang.

Giles Dennis, convicted of larceny, was sentenced to eight months on the chain-gang or in the penitentiary.

Saul Lewis, convicted of housebreaking and larceny, was sentenced to eight months in the penitentiary or on the chain-gang.

Attention they gave manifested the deep interest they always feel in the subject. And why is this discussion necessary? The answer brings up boldly the issues involved. You are represented in the United States senate by two well-known gentlemen—Mr. Tillman and Mr. McLaurin. During the last session of the senate, Mr. McLaurin made a bold speech against imperialism, expansion and colonialism, and when the time came to vote shortly afterward, he voted the other way. Not only that, when a caucus of the Democratic party was called he did not attend. He refused to allow your representatives, the representatives of the people who elected him, to suggest the line of political action he should follow. Then, when congress adjourned, at Charlotte, Greenville, Gaffney and elsewhere, he stood up for what he called the "New Democracy," declaring the party to which he owed his election old and effete. He almost asked for the formation of a new party, and I must say that I would have more respect for him had he done so, because he advocated doctrines which, if endorsed by the Democratic party, will take the people of South Carolina and the south, horse, foot and dragoons into the Republican camp.

I am here to meet those doctrines, not from the standpoint of mere opposing partisanship; but to show how they do not and cannot contribute to the welfare and best interests of the people of the south. Now then, let us see what he advocates and wherein his doctrines differ from those held by the Democratic party to which he claims allegiance.

First, he stands for territorial expansion; second a high protective tariff; and third ship subsidy. These are the three questions around which all the other questions revolve. The Democratic party is unalterably opposed to a high tariff, and in its last national convention it declared specifically against expansion and ship subsidy. So here we find Senator McLaurin claiming to be a Democrat, and in these three doctrines antagonizing the party in all of its fundamental principles.

Now, where does Democracy start? Away back at the beginning of this government out of two opposing ideas there was evolved the two parties of today. Thomas Jefferson, who was the father of the Democratic party of today, maintained that the people should rule the government, and Alexander Hamilton, who was the original exponent of Republicanism, maintained that the government should rule the people. Upon these two opposing ideas, with their variations, the two parties have come down to us as they are known today.

The close of the Civil war found the Republican party in power, and in pursuance of a fundamental principle that party inaugurated the present system of protection, under which the manufacturers, by keeping out European competition, are enabled to sell goods to the farmer at an advance on legitimate prices. Out of the protective tariff have come the trusts, which still further restrict competition, and this is the condition that is approved by Senator McLaurin and those who believe with him.

Now, as to expansion, Commodore Dewey was ordered to find and destroy the Spanish fleet. There was at that time no idea of seizing the Philippines. After the destruction of Spanish power, however, and when it became apparent that this territory was within our grasp, the greed of those who have control of the trusts, impelled them to insist that these islands be held, thus committing us to a policy of expansion, and increasing the power of the trusts.

In the name of heaven, what do we want with any more land. We now have as much as can be developed by all our capital and enterprise. If, however, we want more territory, let us go down into Mexico, where we can secure the consent of the people to erect four additional states, or let us negotiate with Canada for annexation. Why should we go ten thousand miles after a people who want no affiliation with us?

Mr. McLaurin points to Florida and Louisiana as Democratic precedent for expansion; but any child who can read history knows that this territory was annexed by request and with the consent of the people who were to be brought under our government.

But where will this matter of the forcible annexation of foreign territory lead us to? We will have to make alliances with other nations in Europe and Asia, and when they get into trouble over matters about which we have no concern, we will have to assist them with our army and navy. It will bring interminable turmoil and strife. It has been said that the development of our foreign trade will encourage cotton production and cotton manufacturers. There is no man more in favor of these things than I; but what is the use of going to war to enlarge our trade so long as there seems to be no limit to the peaceful development of the markets we already have? Again they tell you cotton planters, that the annexation of the Philippines will bring you a better price for your cotton. Cotton can be raised in these islands, and with the cheap labor there can be raised cheaper than here. The price of cotton is controlled by supply and demand, and how increased production is going to raise the price is a proposition that no Commercial Democratic has yet been able to answer.

Then again, they say that they want to get more land in the name of religion; that we want to take the soldiers on one side and the missionaries on the other side, and that we must shoot, kill and baptize all at the same time. If that doctrine is to become the doctrine of this great nation of peace and good will, then I am at a loss to know the meaning of our religion.

Next, Mr. Henderson took up the ship subsidy question, which he explained as a proposition, that the government should pay bounties to ship builders at the rate of \$3,000 a ship until the amount reaches \$200,000,000. This he declared to be in contravention of the fundamental Democratic principle of equal rights to all and special privileges to none. He said that we

had no more ships on the seas for the reason that trade had languished on account of our high protective tariff. Between 1850 and 1860, the American flag and American shipping was to be seen all over the world. The Democratic party was in power then and there was no protective tariff, and we will restore conditions to what they were between 1850 and 1860.

Mr. Henderson spoke of the reciprocity treaties pending in the senate and said that the reason that they were not ratified at the last session, and the reason they will not be ratified at the next session, is because Republican professions in behalf of reciprocity have been a sham and a humbug.

But as a crowning reason why the people of South Carolina should not accept these new doctrines, Mr. Henderson said that they could not afford to divide. Senator McLaurin had accused us of raising the cry of the "Negro in the Woodpile;" but it is a fact that the Negro is there. The Negro registration is now same, it is true; but the white people of the state cannot afford to divide within the Democratic party or outside of the Democratic party. With a division, and white men on both sides, the Negro will be called in to settle the dispute little by little until he is registered and entitled to vote in his full strength.

"But I have been over the state a great deal," said Mr. Henderson, "and I do not see that this McLaurin movement amounts to much. I think it is quietly passing away." We are told that there is no politics in it; but still we see Mr. Koester appointed as a Gold Democrat, at the instance of Mr. McLaurin, who is understood to be the grand mogul in control of the Federal patronage of the state, and Mr. Koester appoints as his first lieutenant, George Washington Murray, the blackest Negro in the state! Is that the kind of Democracy that the grand old county of York will stand by? [Applause.]

Referring to the fact that Mr. John B. Cleveland, of Spartanburg, had introduced Senator McLaurin in that city as the exponent of electrical Democracy as opposed to the old ox-cart Democracy, Mr. Henderson concluded his speech with a story. A dapper young man, riding a little quick mule, passed on the road an old farmer driving an ox-cart. The young man commented to the farmer on the slow progress of the ox-cart as compared with that of his mule, and boasted of how much sooner he would get there. The road was dreadful. The young man hurried ahead and the farmer plodded along slowly. After awhile the farmer saw in a mud puddle what looked like the hat of his former comrade. Pushing the hat aside with his ox-goad, he uncovered the man's head and remarked, "ain't you in a hell of a fix?" In reply the fellow smilingly asked: "Well if I am in a hell of a fix, what have you to say about the fix my mule is in?" [Laughter.] In applying the moral, the speaker put Senator McLaurin's followers in the position of the mule and had the senator taken care of by the president.

Throughout his speech, Mr. Henderson had the close respectful attention of his audience, and although there was no applause, except when he made a very sarcastic reference to the appointment of the Negro Murray, and when he told the funny bad roads anecdote, he undoubtedly made a good impression upon all who heard him. At the close of the speech, Mr. Brice thanked the audience for its attention and the crowd dispersed.

LOCAL LACONICS.

Deceased Death Rate. A coffin salesman who passed through Yorkville last week, said that the death rate in this section, and in the whole Piedmont, is less than it has been for a number of years past. He based his statement on the number of coffins that are being sold by his own and other firms.

Price of Hay. Hay that sold on the streets of Yorkville last summer at from 20 to 30 cents a hundred pounds, is now bringing from 50 cents to 60 cents a hundred pounds. One local livery firm bought \$1,500 worth of hay at prices ranging from 20 cents to 60 cents, and is still buying.

Summer School. The second weekly meeting of the York county school for teachers, was held in Rock Hill last Saturday under the instruction of Professors J. C. Cork, A. R. Banks and Jackson Hamilton. The following teachers were in attendance: Mesdames Barron, Hanna, Culp, Misses Roach (2), Barron, Gettys, Messrs. Hutchison, Clark, Kee, Hall, Owens, Carroll. The meeting was not so largely attended as was that at Yorkville; but the session was quite satisfactory. The next meeting is to be held at Clover next Saturday.

The smallpox situation in Bethesda township, about which information was published in the last issue of THE ENQUIRER, is causing widespread concern. As will be noted by the publication in another column, the Yorkville town council, board of health and cotton mills presidents have taken cognizance of the situation, and are urging the people of the town and community to immediately submit to vaccination as the only safeguard against a general spread of the disease. Upon representations from leading citizens of the neighborhood infected, the grand jury has undertaken a thorough investigation of the matter, and will make a full and complete representation to the governor on the subject. That the situation is very serious is quite apparent, and in the opinion of members of the grand jury, the governor should forthwith direct against the pest in this locality all the power of the state board of health. In the meantime there is nothing better for individuals than to voluntarily resort to vaccination.

It is not thought that the report of the Schley court of inquiry will be made until within a few days before the convening of congress. Mrs. Sarah Elizabeth Griswold Morse, of Samuel F. B. Morse, the inventor of the electric telegraph, died in Berlin, Germany, last Thursday. Orders have been issued by the war department directing the 27th infantry to get ready to sail for the Philippines as soon as transports can be provided.

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