

Miscellaneous Reading.

NEWSPAPER HOAXES.

How Old Time Newspaper Men Laid Traps For Rivals.

Once upon a time there was absolute peace in the newspaper world of America. That was when there was only one paper in Boston and not another on the continent. When the second journal was immediately precipitated. As long as personal journalism prevailed the rivalry among newspapers took the form of editorial abuse of the enemy, but when the modern newspaper came into being the battleground was removed from the editorial page to the news columns and the circulation statement. The deliberate newspaper hoax was born of the bitter fight between newspapers of one class and another in the old days. The intentional "fake," as a whole, untrue or grossly exaggerated news item called in newspaper slang, was born of the desire of the reporters to keep up with the demand for news and at the same time escape the tiresome "leg work" necessary to find it.

Richard A. Locke wrote the first great newspaper hoax for the New York Sun. It appeared on Jan. 19, 1835. The article purported to be taken from the supplement to the Edinburgh Philosophical Journal. It described a wonderful telescope which had been invented by the eminent astronomer Sir John Herschel and set forth that Sir John had taken his telescope to the Cape of Good Hope and there leveled it on the moon. The inhabitants of the moon were plainly to be seen, being halfway between a man and an orang-outang and having wings like a bat. The article was replete with technical phrases and the stamp of scientific style. The next day the staid Sixpenny Press swallowed the bait, hook and all. One editor declared that he also had received dispatches telling of Sir John's great discoveries in the moon, which would be given to the public as soon as possible. The editor of the Albany Advertiser declared he read "with unspeakable emotions of pleasure and astonishment" of the Herschel discoveries in an Edinburgh scientific journal. The hoax deceived many men of science and was quite generally accepted by the multitude until it was exposed by the pestiferous James Gordon Bennett of the Herald.

Nine years later Edgar Allan Poe was employed on the staff of the New York Sun, and he was responsible for the second great hoax in that paper. It appeared: "Astounding News by Express via Norfolk." The Atlantic Crossed in Three Days! Signal Triumph of Mr. Monck Mason's Flying Machine! The article told of the advent of Mr. Mason and of seven other men who set out from England in the steering balloon Victoria and safely passed over to Virginia in seventy-five hours. This story was also generally believed by the public, but the other newspapers had begun to fear the inventive genius of the Sun's staff, and they did not bite.

The deliberate setting of a trap to catch another paper stealing news is a legacy from the sedate Sixpenny Press and was used before Mr. Bennett's interrupted and reformed" the journalism of the states. The ship Ajax was due from Europe. The Courier printed a postscript announcing the arrival of the ship and giving a summary of the news of Europe which she had brought over. A few copies of this paper were left on doorsteps in the neighborhood of the rival four. The Courier was printed without the Ajax news. The Journal found the papers, suspected nothing and printed in large display the supposed trans-Atlantic news received by the Ajax. Of course the Ajax had not come in, and the news was faked. Many similar incidents are told of tricks worked by newspapers of today to trap a pirate sheet.

When Horace Greeley's New York Tribune was young and good copy was hard to get its distinguished editor sought to cater to the literary tastes of his readers by publishing serially Mr. Dickens' novel "Barnaby Rudge." This was all well enough, except that Robert Bonner had been put to great expense to get "Barnaby Rudge" for the New York Ledger, then the leading weekly paper of the country. The Ledger, like all weekly magazines, was dated three or four days ahead, a copy dated Saturday being on sale the preceding Wednesday. Mr. Greeley's paper published the weekly installments of the novel on Thursdays. Mr. Bonner loudly objected. Mr. Greeley's paper calmly replied that Mr. Bonner's charges were absurd, for was not the story published in the Tribune of the day before yesterday? Earlier than that of the Ledger? Instead of the Tribune being guilty of the offense, the Ledger was plainly the offender, whereupon Mr. Bonner wrote a fake chapter of "Barnaby Rudge," in which he turned characters upside down and knocked the plot galley west. The Tribune faithfully printed it. Then the Ledger exposed the steal, and the Tribune was "caught with the goods."

Hoaxes of latter day journalism, as distinguished from the ordinary news fake of commerce, have been put up merely for fun. The most prolific source of "whoppers" for twenty years was Joe Mulhatten, a commercial traveler in the middle west until a few years ago. Mulhatten gloried in the reputation of being the biggest liar in the world, and he would go to any extent to save that reputation. One of his best known hoaxes was the working monkey story.

He declared that Mr. James Guthrie, a prominent farmer of Shelbyville, Ky., had solved the labor problem by putting monkeys to work breaking up the soil. Mr. Guthrie had been in Africa, he said, where he found a family of monkeys which the imitative faculty was highly developed. They were strong and healthy, and Mr. Guthrie brought several of them back to Kentucky. It was necessary only to show the monkey how to break hemp, and he would immediately imitate the process and keep up the work until forced to stop. There was no talking to the monkeys, no talking or smothering them. The country credited the story, and Mr. Guthrie received many letters from people who wanted information about how to get some of the novel workers.

Fakes are not all fabricated by city reporters. The greatest faker of them all, when he is a fakir, is the country correspondent. The city reporter must exercise some care. His tales may be investigated by his own city editor, and then they are certain

to be looked into by other city editors. He must lay grounds for his fake or he will be caught. But the man in a small village who corners the correspondence for all the city papers may lie to his heart's content. So fanciful were the creations of one Minnesota country correspondent that he was induced to go to the city and enter the field of fiction. He has been writing very successful stories "from the Tall Timber" signed the Lesueur Liar. The Parkersburg Liar in West Virginia and the Milan Liar in Tennessee a few years ago created great consternation among the people of their own hometowns. Every paper in the country had a story of a murder or suicide or some other tragedy each day which had happened in Parkersburg or Milan. The Parkersburg man was induced to quit by public sentiment, while the angry citizens of Milan forced their famous liar to leave town.

A young man of a prominent family in a city on the Ohio left school and went into the newspaper business. His name was Jake. There was a hardened gang of fakirs doing police news at that time, and they had a large organization of lawyers and physicians who would "stand for" the fakes. They recognized in Jacob a promising youth with a lively imagination, and after teaching him the rudiments of the ethics of the game as they played it they set him to inventing stories while they amused themselves.

Jake did nobly for a week or two. Then his young imagination began to give down under the strain. He had recourse to some facts. His father had been a Confederate soldier, a Texas ranger. He had heard the war stories over and over again. So he wrote the story of a man who fell in a faint on the street and was taken to a doctor's office. The doctor found that there was a foreign substance pressing on the man's heart. He was quite generally accepted by the multitude until it was exposed by the pestiferous James Gordon Bennett of the Herald.

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WORLD'S FAMOUS DIAMONDS.

Some of Them Centres of Interesting Romances.

On the occasion of his birthday, King Edward VII. received what would readily be regarded as a present fit for a sovereign. The Cullinan diamond, the largest stone of its kind yet discovered, and enormously larger than even the greatest diamond previously hailed as the premier gem, was presented to the British monarch by the government of the Transvaal, not only on account of the royal love it is supposed to have for the king of Great Britain, but also in recognition of the granting of constitutional privileges to the South African colony.

Nearly every one of the historic diamonds of the world has its legend, and perhaps, if one were wanting it soon would be supplied. With the Cullinan diamond this romance is characteristic of the century in which it was found. There is no weird story of robbery, fiendish murder or dark mystery, but it has its romance. The diamond was found in the Premier diamond mine, on January 20, 1905, by an old miner, returning from his day's toil. He saw it shining as a bright point in the grass by the roadside, and, brushing away the earth, extracted the marvelous gem. The mine is at Elandsfontein, near Johannesburg, and the discovery was heralded at once throughout the world, attracting at first little credence, because it was difficult to believe that there had been found a stone weighing 3024 carats, or about 1 pound 6 ounces, avoirdupois, when the largest diamond previously known, the Tiffany, weighs but 969 carats.

Presented by the Transvaal. There is some disadvantage in a diamond of such large size. First, because it is fit only for a museum. No private collector would risk possession of such a stone, keeping in mind the strange stories of the history of some of the great diamonds. The stone was valued at from \$750,000 to \$1,000,000 in its uncut state. To cut it would cost, according to an estimate, no less than \$50,000, and might result in the gem being broken into several more moderate-sized stones, thus lessening its value.

Through the influence of General Botha, who has been made Premier of the Transvaal, the latter government decided to buy the stone and present it to the king. The government is said to have paid \$750,000 for its royal gift. In order to transport the precious stone to England a stratagem was resorted to. The stone itself was rather carelessly wrapped, although securely packed, and sent to a London address by post. Another package, in which there was a large pebble, was tied up with much ceremony and red tape, to say nothing of a profusion of sealing wax and seals. Two detectives were assigned to watch this to its destination, and they nearly died of exhaustion in their attention to duty. They brought the worthless package safely to England, and did not know until after they had arrived at their destination that they had all their anxiety for nothing, for before their arrival the real stone had been safely received.

Too Heavy For Crown. Large as is the Cullinan diamond, its dimensions are 4 by 2 1/2 by 1 1/2 inches, being twenty-nine times larger than the famous Koh-i-noor, it is described by experts as being cut in the half of a crown, because there are evidences that very little of its original surface remains. The Koh-i-noor weighed, after its first cutting, 279 carats, but after it had been cut again, it weighed only 106 1/16 carats. Whether the Cullinan shall be cut does not appear to be as yet definitely decided. It is probable, however, that this will be its destiny. To add to it the British crown, as has been suggested, would make a very heavy burden for the crown. The crown at present weighs over 29 ounces, and men who ask their hatter for 6-ounce hats may have some appreciation of what this tremendous weight means to the head.

Other great diamonds which are of dimensions less imposing than the Cullinan, but have had their value considerably augmented by skillful cutting, are equally celebrated, and nearly every one has a history seldom exempt from romance. Of these the Regent, in the Louvre, a stone which weighs 136 1/2 carats, was discovered in the 18th century, in the mines at Petaul, near Goidconda, in India. At the time it weighed 910 carats, but after cutting, which occupied two years, its weight was reduced to its present size. It is valued at about \$3,000,000. Philippe d'Orleans acquired it for about a third of the price. It was added to the French crown in 1772, during the Revolution, and in 1792, and a short time afterward found in a ditch on the Champs Elysees. Napoleon desired to have the gem ornament the handle of his sword, but he was too late in guaranteeing a loan from the German banker.

Rajah and the Orloff. The Rajah, which weighs 118 carats, has never been cut. It belongs to the sultan of the Isle of Matan, and is valued at \$2,000,000. The Star of South Africa, which is in the possession of the Halpern family, weighs 125 carats. The Braganca, a stone of 367 carats, belongs to the crown of Portugal. The Orloff is another great diamond which has made history. Until about the middle of the 18th century it formed one of the eyes in the idol of Brahma, in Seringham. A French soldier appropriated it by pretending to become a convert to Brahminism. He gained the confidence of the guardians of the temple and one night entered the sacred place and stole one of the idol's eyes. He was about to detach the other eye, also a great diamond, when he was frightened off by a noise. He sold the jewel at Madras, to an English officer, for \$15,000, and passing from hand to hand, it finally reached Prince Orloff, who bought it for the Empress Catharine of Russia. He paid for the gem about \$700,000. It weighs 194 carats, is now valued at \$1,400,000 and belongs to the tsar.

Koh-i-noor Very Ancient. The Koh-i-noor is a very ancient stone. In the 18th century it already was celebrated in India. About 1850 the king of Lahore presented it to the late Queen Victoria. The Florentine, a stone weighing 125 carats, but its cutting was defective and it has a yellowish tinge, which detracts from its value. It was lost by its first owner, Charles le Temeraire, on the battlefield. Picked up by a shepherd, it was sold to a merchant, and became the property of the Dukes of Tuscany. It, also, now belongs to the tsar of Russia. The Sancy, a comparatively small stone of 53 carats, was originally in India, and it, too, was owned by Charles le Temeraire, who, carrying it with him to the battlefield, lost it. It was found by a Swiss soldier, who sold it for 20 cents. It finally passed through many hands, until it was ceded by the king

of Portugal to the Grand Seigneur de Sancy, coiner to Henri III.

Swallowed the Stone. The story told of the Sancy diamond is quite as romantic as fiction. It appears that the king one day desired to see the diamond, and the owner sent to him in the care of one of his most trusted servants. On the way the man was attacked by brigands in the Jura forest. The servant defended himself and his trust with the bravery of a lion, but, being alone, he finally succumbed. The malefactors having beaten him to death, left his body where it fell. The seigneur refused to believe his faithful man had proved false to his trust and an investigation showed that the envoy had swallowed the precious stone as soon as he was attacked, thus saving it from the hands of the robbers.

"GERRYMANDER."

Two Accounts of the Origin of a Famous Word.

In the last number of the Voter, Editor Henry Bassett Chamberlin drops into Massachusetts history and tells "where the gerrymander was born." His version is as follows: "The word gerrymander came out of Massachusetts during the year these United States tried conclusions with Great Britain for the second time. The Apportionment Act of February 11, 1812, suggested the name, owing to the fact that some of the districts were formed into fantastic shapes. Towns were separated and single towns were isolated from their proper counties. As a matter of history it stands almost alone as the rankest bit of work of the character ever attempted in American politics. The redistricting of today is equitable and sincere as compared therewith. There is not a body of politicians extant that would have the nerve to even suggest the proposition which became a law in those days."

"Nathan Hale, one of the editors of the Boston Weekly Messenger, published a map exhibiting the two Essex districts in the edition of his paper of March 6, and the paper stated at that time: 'The county of Essex had been divided into two districts, * * * to which the ingenious carvers have been unwilling to assign names. The district of which the extremes are Salisbury, on the north side of the Merrimack river, and Chelsea, * * * may be properly called by the name which children give to a letter in the alphabet, 'Crooked S,' or one district may be denominated concave and the other convex, as one of them fits into the other very much as the half of a small egg may be put into half of a larger egg.' The map was displayed by J. G. Cogswell, afterward librarian of the Astor library, at a dinner at Col. Thordike's house, in Summer street. Here it was examined and discussed, and some one remarked that the outer district but needed wings to resemble a prehistoric monster. The suggestion was at once acted upon by the artist, Elkanah Tisdale. Some one called for a name for the figure, and a guest proposed the term salamander. Another guest thought to be Mr. Cogswell, and suggested that the word 'gerrymander' be used, as Governor Gerry had signed the bill and permitted it to become a law. It should be named after him—hence the word gerrymander."

"This version differs widely from the story of the coining of the word as told by John Fiske in 'Civil Government in the United States.' Mr. Fiske's account, which is drawn from 'Winsor's Memorial History of Boston,' runs thus: 'In 1812, while Gerry was governor of the state, the Republican legislature reconstituted the districts in such wise that the shapes of the towns forming a single district in Essex county gave to the district a somewhat dragon-like contour. This was indicated upon a map of Massachusetts which Benjamin Russell, an ardent Federalist and editor of the Sentinel, hung up over the desk of his employer, the celebrated painter, Gilbert Stuart, coming into the office one day and observing the uncouth figure, added with a pencil a head, wings and claws and exclaimed, 'That will do for a salamander!' 'Better say Gerry-mander,' growled the editor, and the outlandish name, thus duly coined, soon came into general currency."

LEE AND McCLELLAN. An Incident of the First Meeting of the Two Soldiers. The first meeting between General George B. McClellan and General Robert E. Lee happened in Mexico during the war with that country. McClellan was a lieutenant of engineers, and Lee was a major on the staff of General Winfield Scott.

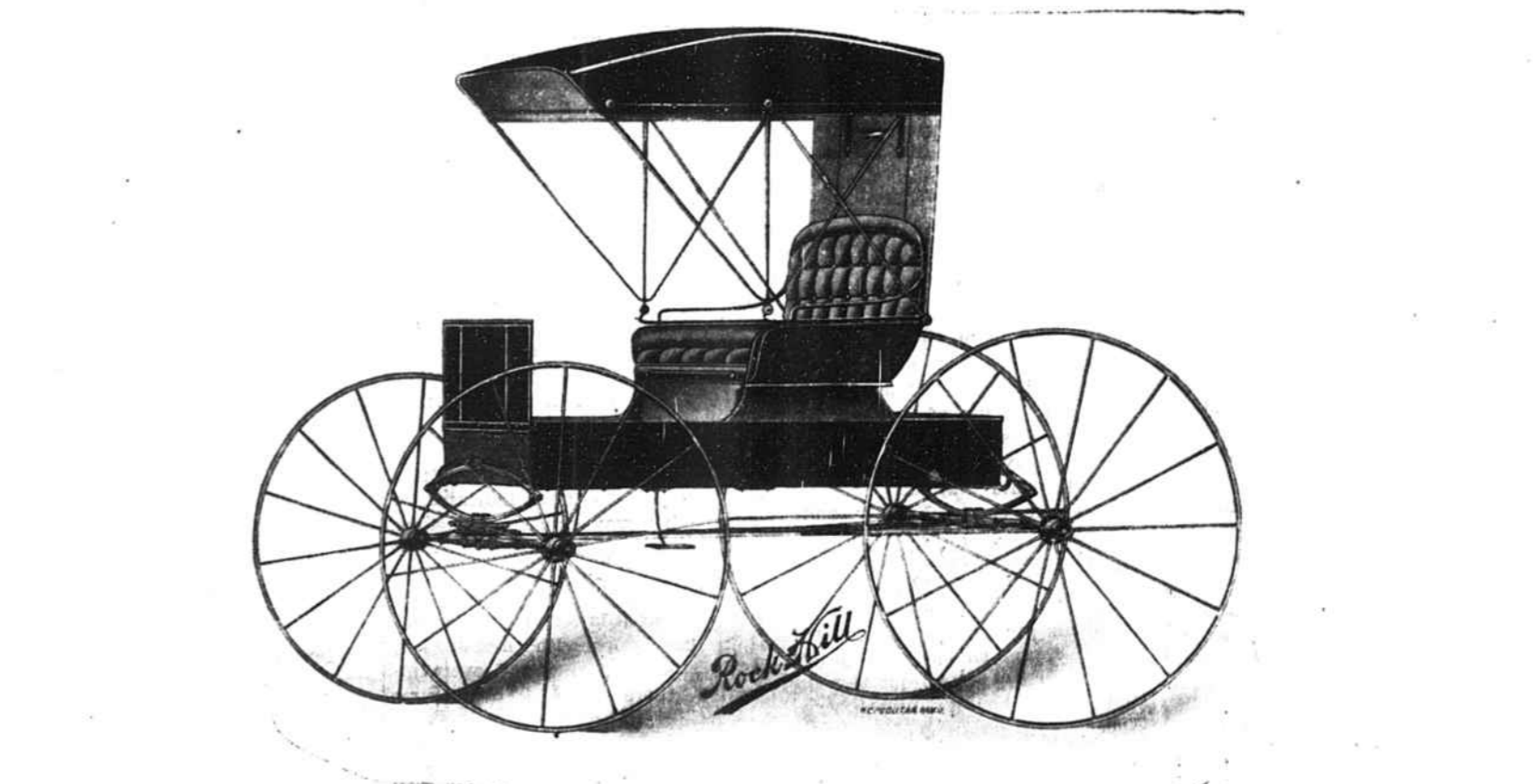
One day McClellan was walking across a field when he saw General Scott and his staff approaching on horseback. As they drew near he asked Lee to lead him to the quarters of the lieutenant. He did not know that he was disobeying orders. His tone was sharp and angry. McClellan answered that he was not aware of any disobedience and asked for an explanation. Lee replied that all officers had been told to remain in their quarters, awaiting orders, and asked for the lieutenant's name. McClellan gave his name and said that no order of that kind had reached him. But Lee in a peremptory tone ordered him to go to his quarters and remain there. Then he rode off and re-joined General Scott and the staff, who had not stopped. McClellan went to his quarters, as he had been directed to do, but was quite indignant at the way in which Lee had treated him, for he had not knowingly committed a breach of discipline.

He had just finished telling his brother officers the incident when he was informed that an officer was outside the tent asking for him. On going out he was much surprised to see Major Lee, who saluted him with respect. "Lieutenant McClellan," the major said, "I am afraid that I was not courteous in my manner to you a little while ago, and I have called to apologize."

"I assured him that it was all right," said General McClellan in telling the story, "and he rode off after making a low bow, leaving me in admiration of a superior officer who so promptly and generously repaired an error."

Considerable lead has been found in the ice cream, fruit ices, etc., sold in Rome. The receptacles used in freezing are lined with an alloy of lead and tin, and this not only dissolves in the ice cream but particles are rubbed off in turning the freezer. An Italian chemist, proving the presence of these metals with copper, concludes that lead poisoning accounts for much of the digestive troubles of the ice cream season.

Make a Club for "The Enquirer!"



\$655 Worth of Rock Hill Quarter Top Buggies to Be Given Away

A BUGGY FOR EACH TOWNSHIP

The Clubmaker of Each Township Returning and Paying for the Largest Number of Names to Get a Seventy Dollar Quarter Leather Top Buggy!

There Are Liberal Premiums For All Clubs of Whatever Size.

THE YORKVILLE ENQUIRER IS THE MOST THOROUGHGOING FAMILY NEWSPAPER IN SOUTH CAROLINA. It is primarily a County paper, and there is not a paper in this state that fills its field more completely or more impartially in this respect. It seeks to promote the material and moral welfare of its readers, and in defending and developing all that is best in their educational, political and social life. It is owned and controlled absolutely by its publishers, who hold themselves responsible only to their subscribers as a whole on a basis of the Ten Commandments and the four Gospels. As the best recommendation of the integrity of its conduct, and of the rightness of its controlling motives it points back to a record of fifty-two years of earnest endeavor, and the present support of NEARLY TWO THOUSAND PAID SUBSCRIBERS.

A BUGGY FOR EACH TOWNSHIP

THE CLUB OFFERS OF THE ENQUIRER have all along been the most liberal of any that have ever been made by South Carolina newspapers, and for the 1908 campaign they are far more liberal than ever. Heretofore the leading premiums have been Two Buggies—one for the largest and one for the second largest club. In this campaign we are OFFERING NINE QUARTER LEATHER TOP ROCK HILL BUGGIES—ONE OF THEM WITH RUBBER TIRES. One of the Buggies is to go to the Clubmaker making a Larger Club than any other Clubmaker in his Township, and the Buggy of the Clubmaker who makes the LARGEST CLUB of the entire competition is to be equipped with RUBBER TIRES.

HERE IS THE PROPOSITION

The Contest is open to all who desire to enter it. NOW is the time to begin. Let each Clubmaker send in his names as rapidly as he gets them, so that they may be properly entered and papers started at once. Let money be collected as rapidly as possible and sent in for credit as rapidly as collected. The Club of each Clubmaker will be kept on a separate list, and no one Clubmaker will be permitted to know what the others are doing. The names of all Clubs Returned and Paid For by Six O'clock, p. m., Saturday, March 29, 1908. And on that day the Buggies will be awarded as described. The Buggies we are offering are of the Standard Carolina grade made by the ROCK HILL BUGGY COMPANY. They are of the quarter leather top that will go for the largest club and the Retail Price of that is \$65.00. These Buggies carried off all the premiums at the last Georgia State Fair, and it is better Buggy to be had in the United States for the price. There are hundreds of these Buggies running in this section and they are giving general satisfaction. They may be seen on exhibition at the mammoth factory of the common. Many in Rock Hill, or in the warehouses of different dealers in this section, Messrs. Carroll Bros., of Yorkville; W. F. Harris & Sons of Port Mill; S. J. Kimball & Sons of Rock Hill. Because of the large number we are taking many in Rock Hill, or in the warehouses of different dealers in this section, Messrs. Carroll Bros., of Yorkville; W. F. Harris & Sons of Port Mill; S. J. Kimball & Sons of Rock Hill. Because of the large number we are taking many in Rock Hill, or in the warehouses of different dealers in this section, Messrs. Carroll Bros., of Yorkville; W. F. Harris & Sons of Port Mill; S. J. Kimball & Sons of Rock Hill. Because of the large number we are taking many in Rock Hill, or in the warehouses of different dealers in this section, Messrs. Carroll Bros., of Yorkville; W. F. Harris & Sons of Port Mill; S. J. Kimball & Sons of Rock Hill.

CLUBMAKERS

ALL PERSONS who desire to do so, whether they live in York county or elsewhere, are cordially invited to act as Clubmakers. All will be entitled to participate in the competition for the Buggies, and those who are unable to get the largest clubs in their respective Townships, will be paid for their work in other premiums, commensurate in value with the value of the work performed or in cash as they may prefer. Should it develop at the windup that the Largest Club of the entire contest has been returned by a non-resident of the county, he will receive a Ninety Dollar Rubber Tired Top Buggy.

WHAT A CLUB IS

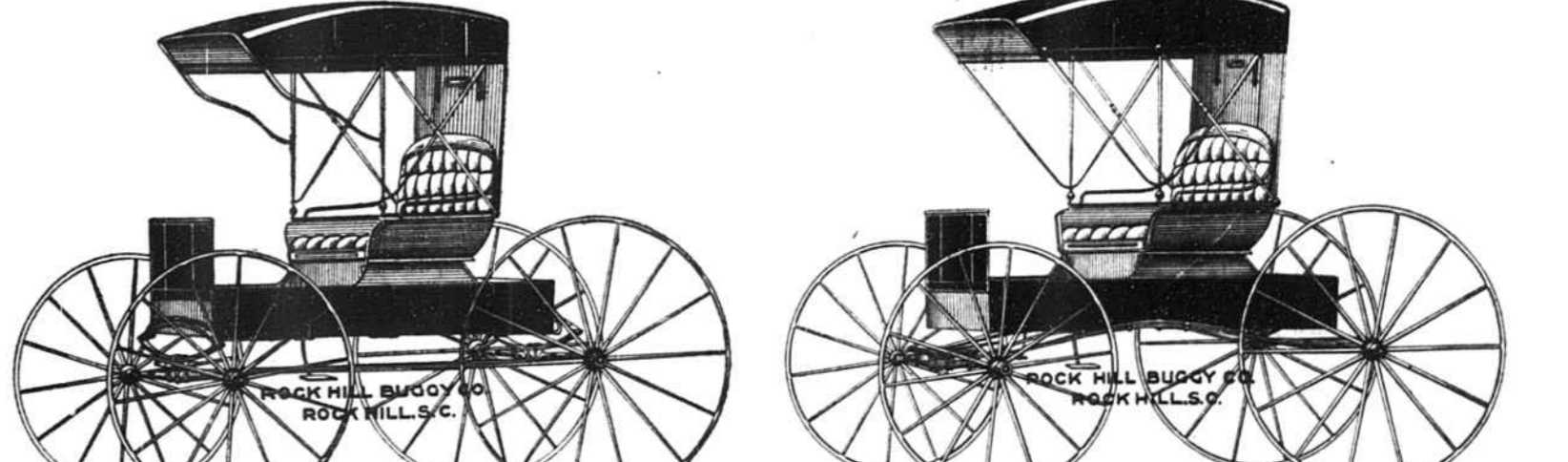
The price of a Single Subscription is \$2 a year, or \$1 for six months. In Clubs the price is \$1 for six months, or \$1.75 for a year. A Club consists of two or more names returned by the same Clubmaker. The names may be OLD or NEW—that is, people who are now taking THE ENQUIRER, or who have not been taking it since the 15th day of last March—and may be sent in one, two or more at a time, with or without the cash, to suit the convenience of the Clubmaker.

OTHER PREMIUMS

Besides the Buggy premiums, which are to go as full and complete reward to the Clubmakers making and paying for the largest clubs in their respective Townships, we are offering SPECIAL PREMIUMS for all smaller Clubs, including from four names up. FOR FIVE NAMES.—A Stylographic Fountain Pen, a handsome Three-Bladed Pocket Knife with name and address on the handle, or one of the late new Novels that retail for \$1.00.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

THE CONTEST BEGINS NOW and will come to a close on SATURDAY, MARCH 29, at 6 o'clock sharp. Each Clubmaker will be held personally responsible for the payment of the amount due on all names returned by him or her. Where it is desired to stop a subscription before the close of the Club contest, the Clubmaker may do so by paying the amount due at the time of such stoppage. Where a subscription has been paid in full, it cannot be discontinued. The Clubmaker, however, may, if he sees proper, transfer the unfulfilled portion of the subscription to another subscriber, provided the person to whom the transfer is to be made was not a subscriber at the time the original name was entered on our books. No name will be counted in competition for a premium until the subscription price has been paid, nor will any premium be delivered until the Clubmaker has either paid or made made satisfactory settlement for all the names on the list. In cases of contention by two or more Clubmakers over the right to a name, preference will be given to the one who pays for the name FIRST; but where both pay, we shall not attempt to decide the matter except by crediting the name for one year for each such payment. After a name has been entered on our books, no transfer will be permitted. This is positive and emphatic, and where Clubmakers attempt to make such transfers, they must concede our right to take such steps as may seem necessary to protect the fairness of this provision. The Clubmaker who returns names must pay for them. Clubmakers who try to return names for names already regularly returned by others will be called down, especially if there is evidence of an understanding between the Clubmakers. This is not for the protection of the publishers; but as a guarantee of the fairness of the competition. Any and all Clubmakers will have the right to Get Subscribers Wherever They Can. It is not necessary that all the names shall go to the same address. The fact that a name was returned on a certain club last year does not give that Clubmaker a right to return it this year. All subscriptions must be forwarded to us at the expense of those sending them, and we will be responsible for the safe transmission of money only when it is sent by Draft, Registered Letter, Express or Postoffice Money Order. We keep a separate list of the names sent by each Clubmaker, and are at all times able to tell in a few moments how each Clubmaker stands. In sending names, Always give correct name or initials, and present postoffice address, and if possible say whether the subscribers are NOW taking the paper. Careful observance of this will be the means of avoiding much trouble and confusion. In the case of a tie for any of the Buggy premiums TWO WEEKS will be allowed for the working off of the tie. After the close of the contest on SATURDAY, MARCH 29, at 6 o'clock, the price of a year's subscription will be \$2.00 unless New Clubs are formed.



L. M. Grist's Sons, Publishers, YORKVILLE, S. C.