

From the Edgfield Advertiser.

Letter from Hon. Hugh A. Shaw, of Edgfield.

HAMBURG, S. C., March, 1879.

Dear Sir—I regret that ill health has caused me to delay for so long a time in replying to your letter of February, 1879, in reference to the management of the South Carolina Penitentiary.

I was not a little surprised to learn that a majority of your board of Directors are "eager to commence huge operations for the benefit of Columbia, especially in the re-opening of that canal as a State enterprise."

As to the "huge operation" cannot cost much less, if any, than \$500,000, and that your Board of Directors propose to use the pitiful sum of \$11,000 (which was appropriated to increase the present water-power within the walls of the Penitentiary) to commence this "huge operation"

to the people from one end of the country to the other. This "huge operation" would not look like the "huge operation" of the "huge operation" of the "huge operation"

The language of the act referred to might be construed to mean this "huge operation" urged by the majority of your Board; but to commence such a work with an appropriation of \$11,000, and not look like the "huge operation" of the "huge operation"

This might be called mania; and if our State was in a condition to spend a million of dollars, without material inconvenience, I might not object to this undertaking; but, sir, what is the money to our financial condition? As you know, our State debt, as it now stands, in round numbers, is \$6,000,000.

The old South Carolina Bank bills are variously estimated from \$800,000 to two and a quarter millions. My estimate is about, or not less than, \$1,800,000. Our railroad contingent liabilities are very large, and recent events convince me that the State will have to pay the most of these bills.

Our annual appropriations usually amount to from thirty to ninety thousand dollars. Our last appropriation for the Penitentiary will aggregate about \$57,000, with almost a positive certainty that there will be a large deficiency. At this important juncture in our financial troubles, I am disposed to look at this matter from a narrowed point of view; at the same time we should not lose sight of the fact that we are the only population who must be fed, clothed, garbed, worked at "hard labor," and at the same time comparatively comfortable.

Edgfield has at this time twenty-five bridges, and a pressing demand for at least fifteen more that the County Commissioners have not been able to construct, for the want of money.

What should be done with our convicts, few or many, is the important question, not so much the time as at this time. Reports from most of the Southern States give satisfactory proof that so long as the convicts are retained within the walls of the Penitentiary, it will require large annual appropriations to feed, clothe and guard them.

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In the first place, we should divert our minds of the idea that convicts cannot be securely held outside of the walls of the Penitentiary.

Now, sir, what can we do to save this money? Railroads, canals, &c., naturally present themselves as a class of work that could be done successfully by convict labor; but it is not practicable for a long term of years; it will do to "fill out" with, but not for constant work.

Some of our people believe the convicts could not live in that climate during the late summer and fall months, but I am satisfied by the best physicians of this section that with proper caution (such as the State could enforce) they could be perfectly safe, and after one or two seasons, would be as safe as the natives.

You think they should be worked on the phosphate beds of the State as a prosecuted by other appropriations from the State amounting to at least \$500,000, or, as it is a State enterprise, perhaps to \$1,000,000.

Has it ever occurred to you that the counties could take their respective proportion of this labor and work it as cheap, as safe, and to greater profit to the country, and consequently to the State?

When this system is in operation, we would not lose money by any and every speculation of this sort.

You may ask what the counties could do with this labor? An average county would have at this time about, or perhaps a little over, 20 convicts, with a yearly increase.

When the State was rich and out of debt, it was not thought prudent to employ this "huge operation," and I think it would be prudent to give the legislators of South Carolina credit for, at least, common sense.

THE YOUNG MAN FROM TEXAS WHO RESPONDED TO THE FIRE ALARM—A young man, whose exterior indicated that he was a fresh importation from the rural districts, entered a barber-shop yesterday, and extending himself at full length in the only vacant chair, requested the barber to give him a clean shave.

THE BARBER THINKING HE WAS ABOUT TO lose his customer, shouted "stop! stop!" but the rustic kept putting in his best licks until the engine house was reached.

THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS should have discretionary powers as to what class of work the convicts should do for the benefit of the county, but I submit for your reflection what has occurred to me they could do to build up the county and State.

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Terrible Account from Africa.

A letter from the United States consul at Tangier, Morocco, March 19, 1879, gives the following terrible account of the suffering from the famine and starvation.

All who can are now running away from this most unfortunate country, where famine, cholera, typhus have and more than decimating its population.

Parents eat their children, and at Magador, Luff and Cassabianca the starving Arabs eat their dead. The atmosphere is impregnated with deadly poisons, emanating from the thousands that are half buried and the many left exposed to the sun and rain.

There is great drought in the blue grass region of Kentucky. It has not affected the wheat crop as yet. That never needs water.

Gov. Hubbard, of Texas, proudly acknowledges that he does not think that any reason why he should carry favor with the coalman who carried his daughter.

MODERN CHEMISTRY.—By the chemical skill of Dr. Price, we have now for our ices, cream and pastry, the most delicious fruit flavors.

45 Years Before the Public. THE GENUINE DR. C. McLANE'S CELEBRATED LIVER PILLS.

DRAIN in the right side, under the edge of the ribs, increases on pressure; sometimes the pain is in the left side; the patient is rarely able to lie on the left side; sometimes the pain is felt under the shoulder blade, and it frequently extends to the top of the shoulder, and is sometimes mistaken for rheumatism in the arm.

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SMITH'S LIVER AND BILIOUS REMEDY. This important organ weighs but about three pounds and is the most delicate part of the human system.

SMITH'S WORM OIL! The Liver is the seat of malarial diseases. The Liver Investigator has been used in my practice in the treatment of Bilious Attacks, Jaundice, Constipation, Dyspepsia, Healthy Action, Bowel Complaints, Headache, and other Disorders.

SMITH'S LIVER AND BILIOUS REMEDY. Price 25 Cents and \$1.00. GLOBE FLOWER SCREW. THE Fidelity of Consumption and Throat and Lung Diseases, arising from the Opium or Morphine treatment, which simply drives the disease from the lungs.

SMITH'S LIVER AND BILIOUS REMEDY. Price 25 Cents and \$1.00. WATER WHEELS. MANUFACTURERS OF THE POOLE & HUNT LEFFLER TURBINE. STEAM ENGINES AND BOILERS.

SMITH'S LIVER AND BILIOUS REMEDY. TO HOUSE-KEEPERS! EVERYBODY SHALL KNOW IT THAT F. G. MASSEY HAS ON HAND THE LARGEST AND MOST COMPLETE STOCK OF CHINA, STONEWARE, GLASSWARE, and in fact everything usually kept in a first-class Crockerware Establishment.

SMITH'S LIVER AND BILIOUS REMEDY. F. W. WAGENER & CO., SOUTH CAROLINA. Cotton Factors, Wholesale Grocers, and LIQUOR DEALERS. AGENTS FOR Oriental Gun Powder, Fruits and Flowers Smoking Tobacco, Celebrated Reversible Cotton Tire, Wagener and Georgia Grange Fertilizers.

SMITH'S LIVER AND BILIOUS REMEDY. CARBOLATE OF TAR INHALANTS. A terrible disease. The fearful effects are: cough running down the throat; eyes, deafness, loss of voice, loss of small, discharging, cold, deformities, and finally, death. From first to last, the patient remains in a state of suffering.

SMITH'S LIVER AND BILIOUS REMEDY. THE BEST FAMILY SEWING MACHINE! Buy only the NEW AMERICAN. It is the Only Sewing Machine self-threading Shuttle.

EXTRA FINE FLOUR, CHOICE N. O. MOLASSES, And BACON in abundance. Call in get Prices before Buying.

STAPLE DRY GOODS, HATS AND SHOES, AT GREATLY REDUCED PRICES. SCYTHES AND GRADLES, HOES AND PLOWS, And other Farming Implements for sale at the very lowest cash prices. REED & HERRICK.

GREAT REDUCTION IN PRICES OF HATS, CLOTHING, BOOTS AND SHOES, In order to reduce my stock in those lines. GROCERIES AT LOWEST PRICES. HARDWARE, IRON AND BUGGY MATERIAL.

FURNITURE, FURNITURE. CHEAPER THAN EVER. TOLLY the Leader of LOW PRICES. LOOK at some of the figures at which you can buy Furniture at Anderson: Good Hard Wood Cottage Bedssteads at \$2.50; without Slat and Castors, \$2.60.

DO NOT FAIL TO SEND TO THE McSMITH MUSIC HOUSE, For Prices and Illustrated Catalogues. PIANOS AND ORGANS. WE SELL THE BEST MADE: NONE BETTER MADE. MASON & HAMLIN, PELOUSEY & PELTON, just received.

BRADLEY'S PATENT PHOSPHATE AND COMBAHEE ACID PHOSPHATE. WE are agents for the above celebrated Fertilizers, having sold Bradley's Patent for several years. We know it to be good. As to the ACID there is no better. See Mr. B. A. Davis's certificate attached.

VIRGINIA HOUSE, COLUMBIA, S. C. This house is conveniently located—11 Main street, near State House—being within five minutes' walk of the business portion of the city and the depot. The rooms are large and well ventilated. Beds clean and comfortable. The table is supplied with the best of the market affords. Rates reduced to suit the times. Board and Lodging, per day, \$1.50—minimum, \$1.00.

THE BEST FAMILY SEWING MACHINE! Buy only the NEW AMERICAN. It is the Only Sewing Machine self-threading Shuttle. The "NEW AMERICAN" is easily in and out, does not get out of order, and will do more work with less labor than any other machine.