

The conviction of the two Nortons in Orangeburg last week, and their sentence to be hanged on the second of December next for the murder of J. T. Hamlin, is a dreadful lesson to the vicious individuals who convert their persons into an armory for the deadly pistol and murderous knife.

But for this violation of the law Hamlin would now have been living and A. C. and A. R. Norton, father and son, happy in the bosom of their families. As it is they are in the prison cell, manacled and chained, awaiting the hangman's summons.

Who can describe the feeling of that father as he beholds his son, perhaps the pride of his heart, with the youthful blush of young manhood on his cheeks, loaded down with chains, waiting to be ushered into eternity by the felons fate.

And that son, "It was my own impetuous passion that made me a murderer. He came to my rescue and is sacrificed for his over zealous love for me." The eternity of all earthly things closes the veil from mortal eyes, and only the God of Heaven knows the sorrow of those two unfortunate men.

But the play is ended. Hamlin is dead and two men are to be hanged. He was killed by an irate son and a jealous father. Must they both die too? No! We want to see them confined to a doom of servitude. That is hard enough, God knows. Surely those newspapers that have been clamoring for the blood of a white man will be satisfied with a commutation of sentence to life imprisonment.

The jury recommended them to mercy, and it those twelve men, familiar with the crime, recommend the doomed men to mercy, Governor Richardson will act wisely in commuting their punishment to a life of servitude in the penitentiary.

Commute their sentence Governor; the people are not willing to see two prominent white citizens die, notwithstanding a few newspapers are clamoring for the death of a white man.

Right here is a good time to lecture on the practice of carrying concealed weapons. The State law prohibits it. It is condemned by good men, who love peace and order. But what circumstances in the life of every man compel him to violate this law?

It may be that his life is threatened and he is compelled to carry the wherewith to defend himself. He is discovered and prosecuted. The jury that tries his case is a pistol caravan, the judge on the bench carries his pistol.

The man is convicted. People know the state of affairs and the whole thing is looked upon as a farce, and at last we are brought to the realization of the fact that the public mind must be educated to understand and appreciate this improvement of nature laws.

We must teach the male generation that to carry a loaded pistol is against the laws of God first, before our written admonitions will be obeyed.

Capt. B. R. Tillman publishes a call in this issue of the Times for a convention of the farmers of the State on Thursday, the 1st of December next. It is due to this paramount industry of the State that it be represented at the proposed meetings by every county in the State.

Anything for the farmers, the same for us. As much as we condemn Capt. Tillman's extravagant and ridiculous attacks on the trades and professions of the State, as is evidenced again by his call, yet we think he deserves great praise for his efforts, however selfish, to arouse the farmers of the country to understand their position in our political economy.

Let them be enlightened and benefited; let us be enlightened and benefited we might add, and we will all prosper. Our paper is dependent on the farmers, of which we are a conspicuous part, for a support. However, we believe in right to all men, let the "heavens fall," to use a familiar expression. We propose to condemn wrong, and uphold what we think to be right.

THE NEWSPAPER DIFFICULTY.

The unfortunate difficulty between the representatives of the two newspapers here, was studiously avoided in this paper last week. However, as one side has received an airing in one of the county papers, we will publish for the benefit of our readers the whole correspondence that appeared in the News and Courier on the subject.

We cannot afford in our position to applaud the editor of either paper. Both deserve punishment, we suppose, one for aggravating and the other for bringing on the difficulty.

We give here the corroborated report of the correspondent of the News and Courier and the isolated statement of Mr. J. S. Plowden. Here it is:

THE REGULAR CORRESPONDENT'S STATEMENT.

[News and Courier Sept. 17.] MANNING, September 16.—Special: A difficulty, or rather a casing, occurred this afternoon on Main street between B. S. Dinkins, editor of the Times, and D. H. Witherspoon, editor of the Enterprise. As Mr. Witherspoon was returning from dinner he was met by Mr. Dinkins, who said: "You have insulted me," and began caning Mr. Witherspoon with a small hickory cane which he had in his hand.

Some say that Mr. Witherspoon closed in on Mr. Dinkins, and others that Mr. Witherspoon was backing against the wall as Mr. Dinkins was striking him. Mr. Dinkins struck him about half a dozen blows, or until his cane was pretty well used up, when they were separated by Dr. G. Allen Huggins. Mr. Witherspoon offered no resistance whatever, and when they were separated said: "You see, gentlemen, I have done nothing. The difficulty originated from articles in both papers concerning the settlement of the treasurer and auditor of this county."

In the last issue of the Times Mr. Dinkins wrote a piece headed, "Truth, thou art a pearl! Consistency, thou art a jewel!" which scored Mr. Witherspoon heavily, and in the last issue of the Enterprise Mr. Witherspoon returned the compliment with a piece headed, "O! tempora! O! mores! How the difficulty will end, if it has not already ended, no one can tell."

MR. J. S. PLOWDEN GIVES HIS UNILATERAL OPINION.

[News and Courier, Sept. 21.] MANNING, September 20.—Special: In justice to Mr. Witherspoon I would state that in the unfortunate affair of last Friday afternoon he did use all lawful means to defend himself from the assault of his assailant. He caught Mr. Dinkins' three blows upon his left arm. At the third blow, the cane broke, and Mr. Dinkins said, "Don't pull that pistol," &c. closing in, and catching around somewhat behind Mr. Witherspoon. Mr. Witherspoon gave a whirl and threw Mr. Dinkins some two or three yards away and at once closed in on Mr. Dinkins; but just as they got together Dr. G. Allen Huggins ran between and pushed Mr. Witherspoon back, some others coming between at the same time. Mr. Witherspoon saw that he could not resist the crowd and walked off like a sensible man, remarking to the bystanders: "Gentlemen, I did not strike him." Had they not been parted Mr. Witherspoon, doubtless, would have given him the best in his shop, and Mr. Witherspoon appears equally as good a man as Mr. Dinkins, physically. J. S. PLOWDEN.

The above is written to exonerate Mr. Witherspoon from the charge of showing lack of spirit on the occasion referred to. J. S. P.

MR. J. S. PLOWDEN UNCORROBORATED.

[News and Courier Sept. 22.]

MANNING, September 21.—Special: I notice in the News and Courier to-day an article, signed by Mr. J. S. Plowden, which contradicts my statement of the difficulty between Mr. B. S. Dinkins, editor of the Times, and Mr. D. H. Witherspoon, editor of the Enterprise.

The statement I made was a correct one, which is corroborated by the following witnesses: John W. King, Dr. G. Allen Huggins, T. J. Cole, Willie Conyers, and one who wishes for personal reasons not to have his name in the paper. There is no eye-witness who has corroborated Mr. Plowden's statement. The above named witnesses agree that Dr. G. Allen Huggins did not lay his hands on Mr. Witherspoon, neither did Mr. Witherspoon make any resistance whatever. Mr. Dinkins denied having said, "Don't pull out that pistol."

Mr. J. S. Plowden says in his article that it was simply to exonerate Mr. Witherspoon that he had it published, and leaves the people to infer that I tried to injure him, which did not, but simply stated the difficulty as made to me by an eye-witness, not even commenting one way or the other. I. I. BAGNAL.

MR. PLOWDEN HAS THE LAST SAY—HE STICES WITH BULL-DOG TENACITY TO HIS OLD POSITION.

[News and Courier Sept. 23.]

MANNING, September 22.—Special: In reply to the article of Mr. I. I. Bagnol, in your issue of this date, I ask space to say that my purpose in writing what Mr. Bagnol therein refers to was very clearly defined by the note annexed, and was not written with any thought of contradicting any statement he had made, or of causing ill-feeling between him and Mr. Witherspoon.

However, there is an impression prevalent in this county, caused by circulated reports of the affair in question, to the effect that Mr. Dinkins walked up to Mr. Witherspoon on the street, and without any interference from outsiders, resistance shown or attempted on the part of Mr. Witherspoon, wore a cane out on him to his entire satisfaction and walked off, which impression is incorrect; and to correct these reports, which I saw would injure Mr. Witherspoon in this county, I wrote the account which has appeared.

Mr. Dinkins says, instead of using the words I quoted, "Don't pull that pistol," &c., he said, "Pull that pistol, damn you!" which it was, does not affect the case very seriously, I think. As to the remainder of my statement, I reported it as I, an impartial and unexcited observer saw it, standing within fifteen or twenty paces of where the affray began and within ten of where it ended. It is, I believe, as correct as any report that can be given, and is not given from any heresy account. This is all that I have to say about the matter. J. S. PLOWDEN.

The Death of an Old Landmark of Salem.

Mr. James Epps was born in this part of Clarendon County in the year 1812, and spent the whole of his long life in the rural quiet of the community in which he was born and died at his home near midway, September 20th 1887. His early life he joined the Methodist Presbyterian church of which he remained a member until the day of his death. When a young man, he married Miss Elizabeth Evans, daughter of the late Mr. Stephen Evans, and leaves a large family of children to inherit the character of their paternal father.

He was elected a member of the legislature from this county when about thirty-five or forty years of age, served one term, and then returned to the quiet life of a farmer. He died of dropsy, from which he suffered much at times, but was quiet, and patient, and resigned. He said to his pastor during his illness, that he was ready and willing to die, and felt assured he would go to rest. The bereaved family has the warmest sympathy of the community. A FRIEND.

The sheriff will sell the following tracts on land next Monday, salesday:

That tract of land situate in the County of Clarendon, and State aforesaid, containing forty-nine and one-half acres, bounded on the North by lands of Mrs. Carolina Wallace, East by lands of T. M. Coker, South by lands of John W. Baker, and West by lands of Nelson Coker. The same is now the property of H. J. Coker.

Also, All that parcel or lot of land situate in the town of Manning, in the County of Clarendon and State aforesaid, containing three acres, and bounded on the North by the street leading from Church Street of said town to the depot at Manning in said town, bounded on the East by lands of the estate of the late Mary M. Dickson and by lot of Charles R. Harvin, bounded on the South by Methodist Church lot, and on the West by street of said town called Church, West, or boundary street.

Tax Notice!

COUNTY TREASURER'S OFFICE. CLARENDON COUNTY. MANNING, S. C., Sept. 15, 1887.

THE TAX BOOKS WILL BE OPENED for the collection of Taxes for the fiscal year commencing November 1st, 1886, on the 15th day of October 1887, and will remain open up to, and including the 15th day of December, following, after which time the books will be closed and a penalty of 15 per centum will attach to all unpaid Taxes as the law directs.

The following is the

Table with 2 columns: Description of tax and Amount. Includes State Purposes, School Tax, Auditor and Treasurer, County Commissioners, Sheriff, Coroner, Stationery, Printing, and Contingent expenses, Clerk of the Court, Tickets of Jurors, State Witnesses, Constables and Board of Equalization, Trial Justices, Bridges and Pools, and Late Deficiencies.

Total; Twelve and One-fourth Mills 12 1/4 on the dollar of the assessed value of all Taxable Property both real and personal.

All Male citizens between the ages of 21 and 50 years, are liable to a Poll Tax of One Dollar, except incapable of earning a support from being maimed or from other causes.

THE TAX BILL

Provides, that all Taxes herein assessed shall be due and payable in the following kinds, and no other: Gold and Silver Coin, U. S. Currency, National Bank Notes, and Coupons which shall become due and payable in 1887, on State Bonds known as "Brown Bonds," and as "Deficiency Bonds" Provided, however, that Jury Certificates, and the per diem of State Witnesses in the Circuit Courts shall be received for County Taxes not including School Taxes.

The Tax Bill further provides, that there shall be no extension of time for collection of said taxes beyond the 15th day of December 1887.

The Treasurer's office will be open at Manning for collection of said taxes from October 15th to December 15th, except during the time consumed in filling the following

Appointments:

- List of appointments for tax collection: Brunson's Cross Roads, Monday, October 17; David Levi's Store, Tuesday, October 18; Summertown, Wednesday, October 19; Fulton, Monday, October 24; D. W. Brailsford's Store, Tuesday, October 25; Hodge's Cross Roads, Wednesday, October 26; Tindal's Mill, Monday, October 31; Joseph Sprott's Store, Thursday, November 3; Frank Duffy's Old Store, Monday, November 7; Foreston, Thursday, November 10; Thomas Wilson's Mill, Monday, November 14; Harvin's Station, (c. r. n.) Thursday, November 17; J. J. Conyer's, Saturday, November 19; Midway—McFaddin's Store, Thursday, November 24; James M. Husband's Store, Monday, December 5; J. J. McFaddin's, Tuesday, December 6; W. J. Gibbons, Wednesday, December 7; New Zion, Thursday, December 8; H. H. HUGGINS, County Treasurer.

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Write for Prices.

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GRAND EMPORIUM OF MERCHANDISE,

MANNING, S. C.

The Manning Academy.

MANNING, S. C.

A GRADED SCHOOL FOR BOYS AND GIRLS. EIGHTEENTH SESSION BEGINS, MONDAY, AUGUST 29, 1887.

S. A. NETTLES, A. B., PRINCIPAL.

MISS JOSIE H. McLEAN, MRS. S. A. NETTLES, Assistants.

AIM

The course of instruction embracing ten years, is designed to furnish a liberal education suited to the ordinary vocations of life, or to fit students for the Freshman, Sophomore, or Junior class of colleges.

PLAN OF INSTRUCTION.

The most approved text books are used. The blackboard is deemed an essential in the class room. The meaning of an author is invariably required of each pupil. In all work done, in whatever department, and whatever the extent of ground covered, our motto shall always be Thoroughness. To this end, we shall require that every lesson be learned, if not in time for the class recitation, then elsewhere. No real progress can be made so long as the pupil is allowed to go on from day to day reciting only half-perfect lessons.

TERMS PER MONTH OF FOUR WEEKS;

Table with 2 columns: Department and Term. Includes Primary Department (3 years course), Intermediate Department (2 years course), Higher Department (2 years course), Collegiate Department (3 years course), Music, Contingent Fee, Board per month, and Board from Monday to Friday (per month).

TOPATRONS!

WE DESIRE ESPECIALLY TO URGE UPON PARENTS AND Guardians the great importance of having their children at school promptly the first day. The student who enters late labors under serious disadvantages, and seldom takes that stand in his class that otherwise he would have taken.

The Principal feels much encouraged at the hearty support given the school heretofore, and promises renewed efforts to make the school what it should be—FIRST CLASS in every respect.

For further particulars, send for catalogue. Address, S. A. NETTLES, Manning, S. C.

GROVE SCHOOL.

MANNING, S. C., AUGUST 15, 1887.

A Graded School for Boys and Girls.

PRINCIPALS:

MISS VIRGINIA INGRAM, I. I. BAGNAL.

The Fourth year of the Manning Grove School will begin September 5th, 1887.

It is the purpose of the Principals to give thorough instruction in the elementary branches, and then advance the pupils as rapidly as sound judgment will admit of. Board and lodging can be had upon very reasonable terms, and in good families. Boys and young men desiring to prepare for college, will find the course of instruction admirably adapted to that purpose, and special attention will be paid to that class of students when desired.

Special attention given to Callisthenics.

The school building is in complete order for comfort and convenience, being well ventilated and amply heated in winter.

Expenses Per Month.

Table with 2 columns: Grade and Expense. Includes First grade, Second grade, Third grade, Fourth grade, Fifth grade, Sixth grade, Seventh and Eighth grades, and Drawing and Painting.

For further particulars apply to either Principal.

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279 and 281 KING STREET, CHARLESTON, S. C.

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A fine line of Ladies' Dress Goods, Cashmeres, Satins, Persian Suitings, etc., marked down to the lowest possible figures.

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