

Merely a Timeserver.

Our friends of the *News and Courier* have a certain facility for sitting astride the fence, on any question whatsoever, and for stepping down first on one side and then on the other, and finally bobbing up and perching serenely on the rail, that amounts almost to genius. As we have said, the question is of no consequence whatsoever. The fence is its favorite position; and, it must be confessed, that it is, in many respects, a position of advantage. While you are, constructively, on both sides, you have committed yourself to neither. If either side gets too warm for you, you seek shelter on the other, and swear by all that's honest that you were there all the time.

You can easily prove an alibi, by being always nowhere in particular.

In the J. M. Smith matter, this facility for shifting faces finds a magnificent opportunity, and it is not lost. It is seized with avidity and made the most of. The thought arises, however, that the *News and Courier*, having, in its capacity as "official organ," to swallow rather a nauseous dose in the recent Charleston election, is trying to ease its spirit of resentment by having a fling at Columbia and poor Mr. Smith. The excuse for this inconsistency—for even the *N. & C.* can see how such a doubling up might be considered inconsistent—is that while the candidates we, in Charleston, were called upon to vote for were bad, yet Mr. Smith is worse! For the force of this comparison of bad with worse, we have only the authority in reference to the frauds in which Mr. Smith, probably, had his share. In this matter, it would be a better witness than judge.

This consistent journal is very careful to point out the pages in the record upon which are entered the charges against J. M. Smith. There are other pages in that record which the *N. & C.* would not relish turning to. If it will turn to pages 260 and 264 of the "Report on Public Frauds," it would be more edified than in rehashing the record of Mr. Smith.

But in attacking Mr. Smith, the *N. & C.* forgets that it is encouraging independentism—a thing abhorred by rings and bosses—and that it is assailing the principles that govern what it so proudly called the "regular Democratic nomination."

If Mr. Smith is dropped, will it not be "the opening wedge," which we heard so much of last fall, and which threatens the splitting asunder of the party? The so-called "regular" Democratic nominating convention put up Mr. Smith as a quinine pill—unsugared and undisguised—for good Democrats to swallow. We had some of these pills to swallow last fall, and though we "gurgled and guggled" we managed to worry them down. The nomination by the "regular" Democratic convention is a panacea for all consciences misgiving. This was the only reason we tolerated the nominations, and elected the candidates. But the trouble the city has had with them since, with their economic theories and extravagant practices, and with their system of oppression, has proved a heavy retribution.

We confess, then, for many reasons, we would like to see Columbia hold her breath and swallow the Smith pill, as we swallowed our pills. We had many pills—Columbia has but one. But it will do the work. It will teach Columbia the terrible lesson which it is hoped Charleston has thoroughly learned—to put no trust in what the ring calls the "regular" Democratic party. If we place ourselves in the power of this self-styled "regular" convention, we can expect nothing but ring-rule. When we acknowledge them to be the "regular" convention, we must abide by their work—for it is ours by blind adoption.—*Charleston Sun.*

Mr. Smith and his Judges.

WILKINSON, S. C., March 27, 1888.
Editor Register: If you will allow me a brief space in your columns, I propose to show your many readers the inconsistency of that invective attack on ex-Senator Smith in all the late issues of the *News and Courier*, which emanated from the Columbia correspondent of that most estimable journal.

I do not, in the first instance, propose to justify ex-Senator Smith's actions while he was Barnwell's Senator, but it seems to me that neither the General Manager, or the *News and Courier* itself, occupies a position wherein they can with expediency assail any one at that time.

It is true I did not take much stock in Columbia politics at that time, but after the revolution in 1876, I remember full well what that famous *Committee on Frauds* got out of that little Diary, which was enough for almost any conscientious man to believe, or rather it was sufficient for me to infer that both Josephus and Jones, the general manager of that most estimable journal, the *Charleston News and Courier*, got the lion's share of the plunder.

Strange, with all that in the face of intelligence the General Manager would allow such an attack as that of *No Good's* to enter its columns.

I am certainly sorry to make this exposure, but knowing much of the General Manager's dark deeds, I could not refrain from saying something on the subject for the public good.

It seems that all the time this good stealing was going on the General Manager was kept well posted by his chum, Josephus, who even blushed when told of "*Honest John's*" adage—that there was five years more of good stealing in this State.

But with all that, the General Manager seems to have so covered his tracks that he has become a particular favorite with the Democratic party, as he has reached its pinnacle by being the South Carolina member of the *National Democratic Executive Committee*, and with the gift of such an office, he has, or his Columbia correspondent has, the audacity to upbraid poor ex-Senator Smith for taking the small amount of fifteen hundred dollars, when I am bound to believe from the little Diary only that the gain of the *General Manager* was, at least, five times as much.—*Josephus*, in *Columbia Register*.

"The Sumter Farce."

[*Bishopville Enterprise.*]

Our cotemporary, the *Pee Dee Index*, heads an editorial, as the above, on the recent attempt at trial of the Keels-Bowman affair at this place and other cases resulting from it. We clip the following from the same:

"At the next term the case will probably be continued until the next term and so on until the community is disgusted with the quibblings of lawyers and the weakness and helplessness of the criminal law courts.

"The methods employed to obtain a postponement of the cases are notoriously shameful and impudent. It is well known that persons were hired to leave the State and remain beyond its jurisdiction until a postponement could be had on the ground of their absence, while had they been present their testimony would have been of no value.

"Were such cases of less frequent occurrence this particular one would excite general indignation and even dismay. Into so great disrepute, however, have the courts of law fallen that the most notorious failure of justice attracts little attention and no wonder or surprise. People smile in fine scorn at the mention of the word justice, for it has come to be an empty expression, almost without meaning. Justice may be said to be relative in its character. The case of the Sumter rioters, even at this early stage of the proceedings, reveals the influence of agents mightier than the combined power of both law and right. The power of money and social position as controlling factors in courts of law are as plainly manifest as if it were boldly and publicly proclaimed. Had these defendants been poor and ignorant, without money, friends or worldly positions, the administration of justice in their case would not have been found a difficult matter. The law would have been speedily vindicated."

These are grave charges and then being from the pen of a lawyer who could be supposed to know the chicane of the legal profession. How long will the people smile in fine scorn at justice? Will these cases be permitted to ride rough-shod over law and right by the notoriously shameful and impudent postponement methods. These postponements work an injustice to every tax payer of the county, and is a heavy expense and trouble to witnesses, taking them from their place of business, forcing them to pay from their own pockets their necessary expenses at court, and then for justice to be driven from her course. Away with the courts when justice is sacrificed to favor, position, influence, money or what not. We cry aloud for justice to all men, friend or foe, rich or poor.

Three Political Points.

[*Edgefield Chronicle.*]

Our State Democratic Executive Committee will meet in Columbia on Friday evening of next week, April 6. We hope they will call the State Convention to meet in Columbia, as usual—instead of in the up-country. That is point number one.

And, inasmuch as it is pretty clear to our mind that the present State administration will be renominated in a body—and we have no objection, without we could get John C. Sheppard for Governor—we hope the State Convention will be extremely careful about renouncing a second Convention necessary. If the present State administration is to be renominated, let us, if it be by any means possible, avoid the folly of incurring the trouble and expense of a second Convention. That is point number two.

And earnestly do we hope that the State Convention will not in any way moot the nomination of our State officers by primary election. Circumstances alter cases tremendously in this world. The primary is the best plan for county nominations, but for State officers it would surely lead to delay, expense, trouble, confusion and disappointment that would weigh very heavily upon our people at large. That is point number three.

A Woman from Austria.

Near the village of Zillingdorf, in Lower Austria, lives Maria Haas, an intelligent and industrious woman, whose story of physical suffering and final relief, as related by herself, is of interest to English women. "I was employed," she says, "in the work of a large farmhouse. Overwork brought on sick headache, followed by a deathly fainting and sickness of the stomach, until I was unable to retain either food or drink. I was compelled to take to my bed for several weeks. Getting a little better from rest and quiet, I sought to do some work, but was soon taken with a pain in my side, which in a little while seemed to spread over my whole body, and throbbled in my every limb. This was followed by a cough and shortness of breath, until finally I could not sew, and I took to my bed for the second, and as I thought, for the last time. My friends told me that my time had nearly come, and that I could not live longer than when the trees put on their green once more. Then I happened to get one of the Seigel pamphlets. I read it, and my dear mother bought me a bottle of SEIGEL'S SYRUP, (Shaker Extract of Roots) which I took exactly according to directions, and I had not taken the whole of it before I felt a change for the better. My last illness began June 3d, 1882, and continued to August 9th, when I began to take the Syrup. Very soon I could do a little light work. The cough left me, and I was no more troubled in breathing. Now I am perfectly cured; and oh, how happy I am! I cannot express gratitude enough for SEIGEL'S SYRUP (Shaker Extract of Roots). Now I must tell you that the doctors in our district distributed handbills cautioning the people against the medicine, telling them it would do no good, and many were thereby influenced to destroy the Seigel pamphlets; but now, whenever one is to be found, it is kept like a relic. The few preserved are borrowed to read, and I have lent mine for six miles around our district. People have come eighteen miles to get me to buy the medicine for them, knowing that it cured me, and to be sure to get the right kind. I know a woman who was looking like death, and who told them there was no help for her, that she had consulted several doctors, but none could help her. I told her of Seigel's Syrup, and wrote the name down for her that she might make no mistake. She took my advice and the Syrup, and now she is in perfect health, and the people around us are amazed. The medicine has made such progress in our neighborhood that people say they don't want the doctor any more, but they take the Syrup. Sufferers from gout who were confined to their beds and could hardly move a finger have been cured by it. There is a girl in our district who caught a cold by going through some water, and was in bed five years with costiveness and rheumatic pains, and had to have an attendant to watch by her. There was not a doctor in the surrounding district to whom her mother had not applied to relieve her child, but every one crossed themselves and said they could not help her. Whenever the little bell rang, which is rung in our place when anybody is dead, we thought surely it was for her; but Seigel's Syrup and Pills (Shaker Extract of Roots) saved her life, and now she is as healthy as anybody, goes to church, and can work even in the fields. Everybody was astonished when they saw her out, knowing how many years she had been in bed. To-day she adds her gratitude to mine for God's mercies and Seigel's Syrup. MARIA HAAS.

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