"STAND PAT!"

Hon. John L. McLaurin on the Issues of the Day.

INVITED TO SPEAK.

He Advises the Farmers of the South to Stand Together and Thus Protect Their Interests and Tells How They Can Do If They Will Only "Stand Pat."

The following is the full text of a speech delivered by Hon. John L. McLaurin at Sumter last Monday by invitation of the people of that county:

Mr. Chairman and Fellow Citizens:

I thank you for this invitation to address the people of Sumter county on the issues of the day.

It was here that the memorable campaign of 1897 opened and some of you remember when the town bell pealed out the hour, how John Irby dramatically turned and pointed his finger at me, said, "Yonder bell has just tolled the death knell of John L. McLaurin," and none present will ever forget the scene that followed when I replied, "Hark from the tomb a doleful sound."

Well, I didn't die just then, but the old bell has since rung out a dirge for myself and many another. It is pretty hard on the corpse, but I am bound to admit as a general proposition funerals are a good thing, especially political funerals. You can't have too many of them in South Carolina. "Oh death where is thy sting, ok grave where is thy victory," was not written for any politician that I ever knew, nor is there any hope held out to him of resurrection and life everlasting beyond the grave. There used to be a young German named Weild who made his headquarters in Bennettsville. I knew him pretty well. He hadn'd been in this country long and spoke English very imperfectly. Weild had a favorite horse named Zeb Vance. One cold morning he led Zeb Vance out of the stable with a halter, and Zeb felt so good that he got to snorting, rearing around and standing on his hind feet until Weild gave the halter a sudden jerk and Zeb Vance fell over and catching his head under his body broke his neck. I met Weild coming up the street, blubbering and crying like his mother-in-law wadead. I asked him what was the matter, and he said "Mein Gott, Zeb Vance, he feel so good, he rear, he jump, he fall down, he break he's dam neck. Oh mein Gott, Zeb Vance, he dead, he dead as hell." That is about the way with the politician He snort, he rear, he jump, and when he fal down, he break his neck and when he dead, he dead, he dead as hell."

Fortunate is the man who can look back to the past without bitterness and vain regrets, and feel that in spite of self, he has struck some blow for truth, done something for country, and planted some seed that must bear good fruit He can console himself with the thought that unsound seed do not live long anyway, and that he is always sure to harvest that crop. Popular applause is cheap, it is the property of any demagogue, big or little, who can successfully pander to the passing whim or caprice, but to the man who has no higher aim it brings its own punishment, for it is as uncertain as the soft south wind sighing in the pine tops, changed in a moment into a hurricane's blast; it is like the wavy, tremulous light of the moonbeams, tipping the waters with silver, and making the dew-drops shine like diamonds. The strong, shining sun comes out, and shows only a muddy, stagnant pool, filled with hideous reptiles and choked with poisonous weeds and vines.

Truth is the clear, bright, shining sun of God, blotting out the shadows, lighting up the dark places, and making men and things stand out clear and distinct as they are. The true philosopher is one who laughs at man's frailties and weaknesses, and yet loves him for that little bit of God, in the worst man, which redeems and sanctifies human nature.

LOOK THE TRUTH IN THE FACE.

It is a pleasure to me to address a strictly non political body of my fellow citizens.

It is a good thing for a man or people to look the truth squarely in the face, see things as they are, not as pictured by vanity, ambition or a disordered imagination.

When Jesus Christ came on this earth, he did not come with a message to any particular race or religious creed, but proclaiming the truth to Jew and Gentile. You cannot get at a truth from a partisan standpoint; truth is strictly non partisan; it is the property of no one political party or religious creed, it is there for them all.

We live in a day of combination and organization. Every business in the United States is organized, except the cotton planter, and now in self-defense, we are being forced to act in concert.

Here Mr. McLaurin went over the ground covered in his speech in New Orleans, and drew an analogy between wheat and cotton.

"STAND PAT."

I do not believe there is any overproduction. if there were proper methods of distribution. The balance of the world is a consumer of our raw cotton and is therefore combined to get our product as cheap as possible You can only meet organization with organization. All other industies through combination fix the price of their products. This coat that I have on lay on the shelf of some merchant's store until I paid his price for it, he fixed the price without consulting me. The beef trust fixed the price of my meat, the coal trust of my fuel, the flour trust of my bread, the coffee trust of my coffee, and so on of everything that I use. I may stave, I may freeze or go naked, but I pay their price or go without. When I bring my product cotton into town to sell, I do not tell the buyer what I will take as all these other industries do me. I humbly ask "what will you give me for my cotton?"

The buyer says "wait until Liverpool comes in," then he says I will give you six cents or whatever some man in Liverpool says is the price.

Gentlemen, do what all the others do; put your cotton in a warehouse; don't ask anybody what they will give, but tell the world what you will take. It is in your own hands. All you have to do is to "stand pat." Fellow citizens, let us "stand pat" with the action of the New Orleans Convention. "Stand pat."

"Let it be understood that from now henceforth and forever we, the producers of the material that clothes the world, intend to have a voice is fixing the price of the products of our labor.

FOREIGN TRADE.

I have said before and say again that the only permanent solution of the cotton problem lies in the extension of present and the creation of new markets for cotton cloth. There is room in this world for a larger crop than has yet been produced. We are exporting too much raw and too little manufactured cotton. The cotton goods trade of the world is in the hands of the nations of the earth who produce no raw cotton and who are therefore the enemies of high prices. These nations do not wish to extend the demand for cotton goods in such a way as to stimulate a demand for raw cotton and therefore increase its price. They are fighting us at every point.

We control the raw cotton, my friends, but we do not control the world's trade in cotton goods. The United States must control the cotton trade of the world; nothing short of that will give you a fair price for the products of your labor.

The export trade in cotton goods is showing a steady increase; because of the great demand from China, it has been the greatest in its history for the past seven months, but it is not because of any special effort on our part The truth is that we were on the very edge of a cotton famine, and the demand for goods is so great that Europe is unable to supply its customers, and the overflow has come to the United States.

For seven months, ending in January, 1905, our exports were about 25 million dollars against 12½ million for the same period in 1904. This is good, but it didn't come from the right cause. It only came because it could not go anywhere else. The right policy is to put the whole cotton trade on a stable basis. We do not want prices too high. This cripples the mills and decreases consumption and reacts on the producers. I believe our cotton is worth ten cents a pound, I believe the world is willing to take goods on that basis, but they wish to feel safe. You can't have raw cotton one year 17 cents a pound and the next six cents, without demoralizing the whole industry. Raw cotton is a staple product. American producers and manufacturers must unite to give it a stable, standard value, and work together to control the cotton trade of the world in all of its branches

The general public has an idea that the United States is doing a wonderful work in cotton manufacturing. Outside of the development of the home market, our record is one not to be ashamed of.

In spite of the fact that we produce 75 per cent. of the cotton, we are the smallest exporters among the leading nations of the manufactured article. We do not compare with Germany in exporting cotton goods; even the little country of Switzerland is ahead of this country so far as the value of cotton exports is concerned.

Gentlemen, just listen at these figures, recently given out by the Department of Commerce, and reprinted in the Cotton Manufacturer of Charlotte, N. C.:

The total exports of cotton goods for the whole world last year was 650 million dollars; of this the United States only sent abroad $22,500,000.

In other words, last year we made 75 per cent. of the raw cotton, but we only sold the world 4 per cent. of the goods it consumed.

But my friends, that is not all; we actually imported about $50,000,000 worth of cotton goods last year, nearly twice what we exported.

Just think of it—we exported last year 400 million dollars worth of raw cotton. England took her share and after clothing her own people sent abroad for sale about 360 million dollars; Germany 80 million; France, Switzerland and other countries nearly 200 million more. These people bought their cotton here freighted it across the ocean and then sent fifty million dollars of it back here and sold it where the cotton was grown, at a profit, after paying freight and tariff charges. The ability of these foreign nations to control the cotton trade of the world is due largely to the unceasing efforts of their respective governments in developing an export trade.

TRANSPORTATION MONOPOLY.

These countries control the ocean transportation of the world, and there is no factor in commerce so potent as the control of transportation. You can let the railroads discriminate ever so little in favor of Florence or Columbia and they can dry your town up. Your magnificent stores would close and grass grow in your beautiful streets.

The man who controls transportation stands between the producer and the consumer. He not only levys tribute upon the products, but he can turn the stream of trade this way or that at will.

Last year only three per cent of our products went abroad in American ships. We paid a tribute to these foreign steamship lines of one million dollars. Every dollar of this was carried abroad and distributed there, and no industry contributed, as much as the producers of raw cotton. You paid more of that tribute than any other class in the United States.

About one half of all the agricultural exports went from the South and this was chiefly cotton. Sixty per cent of the vessels is shown by the reports of the Treasury Department that came into South Atlantic and Gulf ports entered in ballast, while only six per cent that entered the North Atlantic ports came in ballast. That simply means that the vessels coming into Southern ports must charge enough one way to pay the expenses of the voyage. That additional freight came out of the man who grew that cotton. If you want to know what a monopoly of transportation can do to hold markets either for or against a country look at the South American trade, a country right at our very door That trade is controlled by England and Germany The American merchant flag by the foreign system of subsidies or subventions has been driven from the high seas. A ship loads in South America with goods for Mobile or Charleston She comes there and unloads. One of our mills consigns goods, we will say to Rio de Janerio. The ship instead of going there sails direct for Europe and then back to Rio, crossing the ocean twice completing the circuit of a triangle, and thus holding at a disadvantage the American exporter. I can find numerous instances in our consular reports where the American goods were taken off and European goods substituted so as to keep the South American trade under the impression that the only place to buy cotton goods is in Europe.

The construction of the Isthmian canal is going to remedy this to some extent.

THE ISTHMIAN CANAL.

When God fashioned this country, he run its great rivers and mountain ranges north and south and placed its natural gateways on the South Atlantic and Gulf coast. When man took a hand in the development of the continent, he attempted to change this and the greatest monopoly on earth is our trans-continential railroad system. It has for years been forcing freight east and west. The products from our mills going to China, instead of going the nearest route to deep water, travel up the continent nearly a thousand miles to one of these trans-continental lines and then across the continent 3000 more before they reach a ship. You may be sure that the man who grew that cotton pays his share of the added freight.

This powerful monopoly has always defeated every project looking to the building of a merchant marine that would develop South Atlantic and Gulf ports, just as it postponed for a third of a century the construction of an Isthmian canal. I do not believe that Congress has ever passed any measure of as great industrial importance to the south as the canal bill and I do not believe that it could have been passed had it not been for the Spanish war.

When that great war ship, the Oregon, went ploughing down the coast on her ten thousand mile voyage around the cape, it demonstrated to the whole country the absolute necessity of the canal as a war measure, and this will be worth to the south 20 times the cost of the war. With the canal imports and exports will move north and south, not east and west, and Charleston, Mobile, Galveston and New Orleans will be the great distributing points for the food and cloth supply of the world

CHINA TRADE.

What we need in our section before that time comes is to manufacture more of our cotton at home and send the finished article abroad. So far our best markets have been in China and it is there we must look just now, for a market for the surplus we should be satisfied with nothing less, but the whole world is our field. Considering that there are four hundred million people in China who would undertake to put a limit to the amount of cotton goods which China alone can consume One difficulty lies in the limited information which we have of China. The country is so vast and the interior so little explored that even now travelers return and tell us of great cities doing an enormous internal business, that are not even down on the map. Since I was in New Orleans I have been receiving letters from various parts of the world telling of the great opportunities that are open to the American manufacturer. I was particularly struck with a communication from a firm doing business in the Persia Gulf region telling me of the great demand that existed in that region for cotton cloth, and saying that his firm was absolutely unable to get the goods. That it was not so much a question of price, as to know how and where to obtain the class and style of goods demanded by the people of that region How can there be overproduction when there are millions clamoring for cotton goods, ready to pay for them and yet unable to obtain them.

I say that we are confronted with under distribution, not over-production.

Of all the rulers of the world, not one is showing more sagacity in helping his people than the Emperor William. He recognizes that the great contest in this world is among the nations for commercial supremacy. He is fostering and encouraging a great German merchant marine and aiding and developing the export trade in every way that he can.

The present trade in the Orient was opened up at first by the Lyons and Blackburn commission, one French, the other English.

Our government has never helped us in the Orient, but now the New Orleans convention has requested Congress to create a commission for that purpose. The President has given me his personal assurance that he will recommend such action to the next congress, and assist the cotton interests of the south in every way that he can.

THE PROMISED LAND.

There is no decadence in my forecast of the future of the south. God placed his time lock on these shores of ours, but it is opened now, and our development, great as it is, has scarcely begun. Ours is the "promised land," the country favored by God and nature, with a monopoly of the only great agricultural product which is used by civilized man everywhere. It is inevitable, as inexorable as the laws of life and death, the mills must come to the cotton. There are those in the sound of my voice, who will live to see the time when the south will enjoy as complete a monopoly in the manufacture as she now does in the production or raw cotton.

When instead of ten cents, we will draw from the balance of the world 20, 30 and 40 cents per pound for the finished article, making the south rich beyond our wildest dreams.

When life's fierce battle is done, and I find the rest that the grave finally gives to us all, I ask no prouder epitaph at the hands of my fellow man than, "He saw the light and did all he could to speed its coming"

THE SOUTH TO SAVE THE NATION.

As a nation, fellow citizens, we have developed a continent, created a vast national wealth and today the United States stands as the most potent factor of the world's progress.

The center of the financial world in ten years has been transferred from the banks of the Hague, to the banks of the Hudson, but fellow citizens, other nations, too, have occupied this proud position of wealth and influence; nothing much remains of the civilization of Greece and Rome save the rent garments and whitened bones that mark the highway where they trod. They found it easy to create wealth, we find it easy to create wealth, but the porblem of its just distribution overwhelmed them then, and its solution will tax to the uttermost the Christian virture and patriotic courage of this republic. The great issues of this country do not lie between the platforms of the two great political parties, the real divisions are the relations of labor and capital, the monopoly of public franchises for private gain, the transportation and kindred problems On one extreme stand the trusts huge, grim and unrelenting in their greed; on the other stands organized labor, fierce, determined and socialistic. On one side a plutocracy, on the other a socialism. If this country is to be saved it must be by the farmer's vote, and the well-to do, middle classes holding the balance of power and sticking to the principles upon which the government is founded.

There must be some power midway between these extremes, strong enough to hold the old ship to its constitutional moorings, or she will break in pieces upon the rocks on one side or founder in the quicksands on the other.

I have little faith in any political party; my faith lies in the manhood, the exceptional manhood, of this republic, which has always risen to every emergency. A political party spends half the time building a platform to get in on, and then after it is in, spends the other half dodging is sues trying to stay in.

In the great industrial war dividing each year more sharply the masses and the classes in the North and West, the South alone remains intact, serene and confident. I have sometimes thought that in the wisdom of God, like Israel of old, the South has been held in political and industrial bondage, to educate and prepare her for the great work of saving the republic of Washington and of Jefferson.

I admire the people of other sections, but I never go among them, without instinctively feeling that there is a certain fineness of fiber, an exalted love of country, a reverence for religion and the sanctity of home, that is peculiar to the men and women of the South.

The solid South with one-third of the electoral vote is without influence and power in perfecting national policies, but I think I can see the time coming when she will hold the balance of power, and become the rallying point for the conservative and preservative forces in this nation.

Before slavery cast its dark shadow over our land, the South gave the nation its presidents and shaped its policies. Washington gave it freedom, Jefferson gave it the policy of expansion, Monroe, the "Monroe Doctrine," the very foundation of its foreign policy, Madison was introducing a tariff bill in the House at the very hour when the Senate was counting the votes which made George Washington its first President.

The first tariff bill for protection to home industries was introduced by Lowndes, of South Carolina, in 1816, and advocated by Calhoun, Clays and Clay, Daniel Webster and other New England senators opposing it.

Expansion, protection and the early policies of this government were the products of Southern genius and statesmanship God speed the day when a non sectional patriotism, will give our country a broad non-partisan statesmanship, which will again make the South the potent factor in guiding and shaping the destinies of this republic

A SOUTHERN MAN FOR PRESIDENT.

It is time for the people to make a platform; the politicians have written them long enough. Make one in accord with the commercial spirit of the age; that will appeal to every patriotic American citizen, North, South, East and West, who doesn't want a plutocracy on one side or a socialism on the other, put a southern man on it, not because he is a Southern man, but because he is a big broad American, call it democracy or what you please, I tell you that you can elect him, where you will fail with a Western socialist or an Eastern monopolist, on a platform tinkered and doctored up, with a view solely to catching votes.

A POLITICAL FRANKENSTEIN.

When I was a boy, I remember reading a fantastic story, of a great German scientist, who conceived that he could create life. He dug in the grave yards, sat by the dying and watched the lingering spark expire; cut up the bodies of the newly dead and studied life and death in every shpe and form, until he finally discovered the secret. Then he constructed a great giant form in the likeness of man and gave life to this mass of inanimate matter. It was a monster: it had life, cunning and immense strength, but it had no soul. It wandered the earth a fiend incarnate and finally tortured its creater to death. Let us not devel up a political Frankenstein in this country in the shape of a party, that will murder forever free thought, free speech and independence of action and become master, not the servant, of its creator, the people.

A representative is not responsible now to the people who elect him, he is responsible to a party. He can vote for the most iniquitous measure on the calendar and say, "Oh, it was a party measure," and that is sufficient. Let him advocate any measure or discuss any doctrine and the only argument needed to forever damn both man and measure is, "Hush, or you'll split the party."

Trust and socialism are both the outgrowth of a too partisan spirit in this country, for both parties want success before all else, and each one flirts with socialism for its votes, and caters at the same time to the trusts for their campaign contributions. The only remedy is agitation and discussion, freedom of thought and independence of action on the part of the individual voter.

More than 200 years ago, the humble men of Europe sought this continent humbly feeling that God had set it apart as a refuge for the down trodden and oppressed. The common men of the people, your ancestors and mine, how bravely they fought and how proudly they died at Cowpens and Kings Mountain, that the young republic might live, a nation consecrated to liberty and man's inalienable ownership of himself.

Fellow citizens—we are in this country free today from every species of tyranny, save the fetters forged by our own perverted wills.

He Tried 'Em.

Col. Watterson is telling the readers of the Courier-Journal very interesting stories of life in Europe. The Colonel feels confident that the reports about persons making big winnings at Monte Carlo are baseless yarns. The gentlemen conducting the gambling establishment are, he says, entirely too wise to permit anything of that sort. The State says the Colonel speaks as one possessing the authority of experience.

It Makes Us Sigh.

The State says: "If those Confederate flags which have been received by the governor could talk, what a story of high hopes, of heroic endeavor and of final bitter despair they might tell. It would be such a drama as the life of so brief a nation has never held."

THE war in the East seems to be about over, with Russia coming out second best It is predicted that peace will be concluded in six weeks.

WHY RUSSIA LOST

Actual Figures Create Sensation in St. Petersburg.

RUSIAJ UNPREPARED.

Less Than 60,000 Russian Soldiers Were in the Orient When the Hostilities Were Opened and Reinforcements Could Not Be Sent to Port Arthur.

A dispatch from St. Petersburg says Gen. Linevitch continues the retirement of the bulk of his army northward. The general staff declares that it is certain that Field Marshal Oyama has been compelled to relinquish the idea of pursuit in force for the present. The Japanese forces on the Russian flanks are too light to constitute a serious danger and a lull in heavy fighting for several weeks, if not months, is predicted.

Stung by the wholesale criticism heaped upon the war office for its unpreparedness and incapacity in providing the Manchurian army with men, guns and munitions, the army organ lays bare what has been done since the opening of hostilities, giving exact figures which show that up to March 12, the war office had dispatched 13,087 officers, 761,467 men, 146,408 horses, 1,521 guns and 316 321 tons of munitions and supplies to the front, declaring that transportation strained the Siberian railroad to the utmost capacity.

The army organ admits that the army in the far East when the war opened was hardly worth the name (no figures being given, but it is known that the troops did not exceed 60,000), defending this on the ground that Emperor Nicholas desired to avoid war and therefore refrained from sending reinforcements which surely would have provoked it

Criticism of the war office's failure adequately to supply Port Arthur is met by a statement that it was provisioned for a garrison of twelve battalions, the decision to put thirty battalions being taken so late that the original calculations could not be remedied.

While affirming that the quick firing and field guns of the Russians are superior to the Japanese the war office explains that the misfortune in the insufficiency of mountain guns is due to the fact that when the war broke out Russia was just adopting a new pattern.

It is denied that the war office was deceived in regard to the available strength of the Japanese army or organization of Japanese reserves, but the army organ frankly admits that the talents of the officers and wonderful spirit of the soldiers were miscalculated.

The publication of this article has created a sensation among military men and in public circles, many of the former censuring the general staff for disclosing valuable military secrets and the latter finding from the figures a practical admission that the war has cost almost a half million men, killed and wounded, prisoners and sick. As a whole the army in the far East is now believed not to exceed 300,000.

FERTILIZER RATES.

An Important Circular Issued by the Rail Road Commission.

The railroad commission, as a result of a conference Wednesday, issued an important circular as regards rates on fertilizers. The largest quantities of fertilizer is shipped from Columbia and Charleston and the rates given below apply to car lots with 2,000 pounds to the ton. The minimum load to the car is placed at 20,000 pounds. The rate is interesting in view of the fact that the state fertilizer board Wednesday night decided to place in the hands of the solicitors a number of cases for prosecution for shortness in standard and weights. The rates are as follows, the figures representing the price per ton:

12 miles and under	$ 0.80
20 miles and over 10	1.10
30 miles and over 20	1.20
40 miles and over 30	1.30
50 miles and over 40	1.40
60 miles and over 50	1.50
70 miles and over 60	1.60
80 miles and over 70	1.70
90 miles and over 80	1.80
100 miles and over 90	1.90
110 miles and over 100	2.00
120 miles and over 110	2.10
130 miles and over 120	2.20
140 miles and over 130	2.30
150 miles and over 140	2.40
160 miles and over 150	2.50
170 miles and over 160	2 55
180 miles and over 170	2.60
190 miles and over 180	2 70
200 miles and over 190	2.75
210 miles and over 190	2.75
220 miles and over 210	2 75
230 miles and over 220	2 75
240 miles and over 230	2 75
250 miles and over 240	2.75
260 miles and over 250	2 75
270 miles and over 260	2.75
280 miles and over 270	2 75
290 miles and over 280	2.75
300 miles and over 290	2.75
310 miles and over 300	2.75

J. H. WHARTON, Chairman,
B. L. CAUGHMAN,
J. H. EARLE,
Commissioners.

Bodies Found.

A dispatch from Rock Ledge, Fla., says the bodies of the four persons who were drowned last Friday night in the Banana river were found Sunday. Three were found near the place where their boat overturned; the fourth was some distance away. A. A. Baldwin's remains will be buried there. The others will be sent north Monday to the following destinations: W. O Moore and daughter Edith, to Holyoke, Mass., Mrs. Henry G. Miller, to Amawalk, N. Y. Mr. Miller was so seriously injured by his fight for life that he will be unable to accompany the remains of his wife.

Found in a Swamp.

Attracted by the buzzards, the dead body of Mrs. Mary L. Lott of Gracevilie, Fla., was found on the edge of a swamp Wednesday morning 13 miles from Yellow Pine, Ala., where he was visiting her daughter, Mrs. J. L. Ray, Mrs. Lott wandered away from her daughter's home ten days ago. While suffering from dementia. She was 71 years old.

RUSSIAN CHIEFS LOST.

The Game of War Played Sad Havoc With Russian Officers.

Remarkable Number of Generals and Admirals Killed, Recalled or Captured.

The New York Evening Mail says one of the remarkable features of the present situation in regard to the Russo-Japanese war is the devastation—it can be called by no other term—that has been wrought in the ranks of Russia's commanders, both naval and military, writes H. O. Wilson in the London Express. Since the beginning of the conflict over a dozen Russian generals and nearly as many admirals have been placed out of action—killed, captured, severely wounded or disgraced. It is the number of men of commanding rank who fall under the last named heading that gives the matter its most serious aspect.

Nothing has been more noticeable of late than the dissensions, the bickerings and the quarrels between the Russian commanders in the field. Gen. Smyrnoff, himself a prisoner, bitterly criticises Gen. Stoessel; Gen. Gripenberg roundly accuses Gen. Kuropatkin of being the cause of his defeat and downfall; the military officers who defended Port Arthur blame the naval commanders for their lack of success, and the admirals pass the blame along to Viceroy Alexieff.

What has become of the flower of the Russian commanding officers? Of 28 men of the rank of general with whose names the war has made us familiar, more than half are now out of action Of 15 admirals, three have been killed, four are recalled and in disgrace, and four are prisoners of the Japanese. The remaining four are of almost as little account. One, Admiral Jessen commands the sole remnant of the Russian Pacific fleet at Vladivostok, and the other three are loitering about at sea with the various sections of the discredited Baltic fleet How are the mighty fallen! The following list shows what has happened to 28 generals and 14 admiral since the beginning of the war.

GENERALS.

Stoessel—Prisoner on parole.
Gripenberg—Recalled in disgrace.
Orloff—Recalled, in disgrace.
Trusoff—Recalled, in disgrace.
Keller—Killed at Motienling.
Kondretchenko—Killed at Port Arthur.
Tserpitsy—Killed at Port Arthur.
Rislinkin—Killed at Shaho.
Smolensky—Killed at Shaho.
Routkovsky—Killed at Liao Yang.
Smyrnoff—Prisoner in Japan.
Rashtalinsky—Prisoner in Japan.
Pflug—Prisoner in Japan.
Bieli—Prisoner in Japan.
Gorbatkovsky—Prisoner in Japan.
Nikitin—Prisoner in Japan.
Fock—Prisoner in Japan.
Kondratovitch—Wounded, in hospital.
Kashtalinsky—Wounded, in hospital.
Sassulitch—Superseded, but resumed command.
Stakelberg—Wounded, but resumed command.
Rennenkampff—Wounded, but resumed command.
Mistchenko—Wounded.
Linevitch—Reported to have quarreled with Kuropatkin.
Bilderling—Reported to have quarreled with Kuropatkin.
Sakharoff—Still holds a command.
Kaulbars—Still holds a command.
Kuropatkin—Dismissed and disgraced.

ADMIRALS.

Alexief—Recalled.
Starck—Recalled.
Skrydloff—Recalled.
Besobrazoff—Recalled.
Makharoff—Killed at Port Arthur.
Molas—Killed at Port Arthur.
Witgeft—Killed at Port Arthur.
Ukhtomsky—Prisoner in Japan.
Wiren—Prisoner in Japan.
Lostchinsky—Prisoner in Japan.
Grigorievitch—Prisoner in Japan.
Jessen—Commading at Vladivostok.
Rojestvensky—Near Madagascar.
Folkersahm—Loitering at sea.
Botorvosky—Loitering at sea.

It is a distressing list, and but little comforting to Russian pride. It is even more terrible by comparison with the almost complete immunity of the Japanese. So far as can be ascertained, the Japanese have lost but one officer of the rank of general, killed in action at Port Arthus, and two of the rank of admiral, both of whom were drowned in the sinking of the battleship Hatsuse. Not one has been captured by the Russians and none have been recalled. A striking contrast, indeed.

Port Arthur was, of course, responsible for a large proportion of the Russian losses. Admiral Makharoff and Molas were drowned in the sinking of the battleship Petropavlovsk on April 13; Admiral Witgeft met his death in the fatal sortie of August 10 which was also the cause of Prince Ukhtomsky's disgrace; and four admirals fell into the hands of the Japanese with the surrender of Port Arthur. Admiral Starck was recalled soon after the beginning of the war for incompetency, it was stated. Skrydloff and Besobrazoff were failures at Vladivostok, though the former was credited—wrongly, as is now believed—with the successful raids on the Japanese transports. Viceroy Alexieff has fallen into disgrace not only with the government, but also with the people, for his general conduct of affairs.

Of the fallen generals, ten are victims of Port Arthus, two of them—Kondratchenko and Tseriptsy—finding a grave there and the rest surrendering. Two—Rislinsky and Smolensky—were killed in the battle on the Shakhe; Count Keller lost his life in the desperate attempt to retake the Motienling pass, Routkovsky fell at Liao Yang, and Kashtalinsky and Kondratovitch were severely wounded before the Japanese occupied that stronghold. Of the three generals in disgrace, Gripenberg's offense was in bringing about disaster at Haikoutai, Orloff's at Liao Yang and Trusoff's at Kiuliencheng.

It is still possible that this list may be increased by the recall of Linevitch, Bilderling, or even Kuropatkin himself. The command of the vast armies which are vainly seeking for victory over the Japanese seems to have devolved upon some half dozen generals of no particular note, with the exception of Kuropatkin, who, it must be admitted, has done very little to maintain his great reputation.

To such straits are the legions of his Majesty Nicholas II reduced in 12 months of warfare with the dispised Japanese! "An army has sometimes been commanded with success by a fool or a coward," said Macaulay on one occasion, "but never by a debating society." And that seems to be a fitting description of the remnant of Russia's commanding officers.

ENFORCEMENT OF LAW.

Everything Now Working Smoothly and Prospects for Better Results.

Chief Constable Hammet, in his quarterly report filed with the governor Wednesday, calls attention to the fact that the enforcement of the law in this State is progressing nicely and that he hopes to have it enforced even better in a short time. The report is quite interesting and is as follows:

"Governor D. C. Heyward:

"Dear Sir, Hereto attached I hand you a report of the affairs of the constabulary department for the first quarter of the present fiscal year.

"Inasmuch as you are entirely familiar with occurrences affecting us which have transpired during the quarter I deem it unnecessary to offer comment, except to say that everything is working smoothly, and I feel encouraged at the prospects of even a better enforcement of the law in the future.

"Yours truly,
"U. B. Hammet,
"Chief Constable."

The report gives the expense of the constabluery for the months of December, January and February at $15,909 11. Of this the supplementary accounts and the salaries of constables form the greater part. The seizures in value for the month are as follows:

Whiskey—December, $1,824; number of gallons, 1 216; January, $1,363.50; gallons 909; February, $358.12; gallons, 238.

Beer—December, value $44.66; dozen, 89 1 3; January, $32 91; dozen, 65 5 6; February, $29.08; dozen, 58 1 6.

In addition to the above there were seized 31 stills, 3 teams, 756 gallons of beer in kegs, which are of no value.

The convictions for December were 24; fines, $560; paid. $280; chaingang, 5. January convictions, 28; fines, $1,175; paid, $530; chaingang, 9. February convictions 27; fines, $1,282.50; paid, $442 50; chaingang, 7. There are several appeals pending.

THE COTTON CROP

Of Last Year Amounts to Over Thirteen Million Bales.

The census bureau on Tuesday of last week issued a bulletin showing the total crop of cotton ginned in 1904 to be 13,597,782 bales. These figures include linters and round bales, and the total is equivalent to 13,584,457 bales of 500 pounds. The summary of bales is as follows:

Square bales	13,103,447
Round bales	297,151
Sea island cotton	104,317
Linters	241,942
Total running bales, including linters	13,745,857

Included in this are 192,275 running bales, estimated by ginners remaining to be ginned.

The total running crop bales for 1903 was 10,399,558,

The distribution of the cotton crop, according to character of bales and cotton is as follows:

Square bales, upland cotton, reported from ginneries	13,103,447
Round bales, upland crop	296,151
Bales of sea island cotton	104,317
Linters reported from cotton seed oil mills	241,942

The figures from the various states on the running bales are as follows:

Alabama	1,458,966
Arkansas	883,967
Florida	86,642
Georgia	1,960,151
Indian Territory	476,984
Kansas	14
Kentucky	1 922
Louisiana	1,105,466
Mississippi	1,738 638
Missouri	48 447
North Carolina	743,404
Oklahoma	341 497
South Carolina	1,189,134
Tennessee	316 790
Texas	3,124,677
Virginia	17,216

Cannot be Found.

William A. Prendergast, formerly of Charleston, but recently of Birmingham, has suddenly disappeared at Dallas, Texas, where he went to take a position in a department store. The man has been missing since March 2, on which night he left his boarding house to mail a letter to a Charleston lady. He was to report to work on the following day and no trace of his whereabouts can be learned and his relatives and friends are fearful that he has been foully dealt with. The detectives and others have been at work on the case, but the disappearance is as complete as it was sudden and all efforts to locate him have proven futile. He was a fine salesman. He left there two years ago to engage in business in Birmingham. He was in good health and mental trouble cannot account for his sudden disappearance which has so baffled the authorities. He was 35 years of age, unmarried and a man of exemplary habits.

Death of Jules Verne.

A dispatch from Amiens, France, says Jules Verne died at 3 10 p. m., Friday. His family was at his bedside. M. Verne had been subject to chronic diabetes but it did not assume a critical aspect until March 10. Since then he gradually failed and the end was hastened by a stroke of paralysis covering his right side until the tongue was affected. The sick man retained consciousness until shortly before his death, his brain being the last organ to fail. He calmly foresaw death, called the members of his family to his bedside and discussed his departure. Following the announcement of M. Verne's death telegrams were received from many quarters, including distinguished authors.

Another Forgery Case.

D. C. Jackson, superintendent of the recently established McNally Brick works, at Union. was arrested Wednesday morning charged with forgery and obtaining money under false pretenses and taken to Hendersonville, N. C., by Chief of Police N. B. Jackson of that place. It is said that the forgeries were committed about six months ago, the chief of police being among those to cash fraudulent checks and even had his own name forged. Jackson, who has been giving his initials as J. M., had been here some three months working on the new Baptist church before taking charge of the brick-plant. He was apprehended on account of some one from Hendersonville recognizing him.

GOOD POSITIONS

In the Government Service Can Be Had by Examinations.

Civil Service Commission writes Congressman Lever Concerning Chances of Southern Applicants.

Congressman Lever has received the following letter which will be of interest to ambitious young men throughout South Carolina and he says if those interested will write the commissioner at Washington full instructions will be furnished:

Hon. A. F. Lever, House of Representatives.

Sir: The commission has the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of March 22, in which you state you notice announcements to the effect that the commission will hold examinations at many points in the south for the purpose of securing eligibles to fill vacancies as bookkeeper as they occur in the departmental service and inquire whether there is a probability of appointments being made from the South of those who become eligible as the result of such examinations.

In reply you are informed that at present there are 23 States and territories which have received less than 100 percent. of the proportionate share of appointments made in the departments at Washington, D. C. Of these Stetes and territories South Carolina is number 23 The following States of the south and southwest are also in this list: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Indian Territory, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Tennessee and Texas.

In order that the appointments in Washington may be distributed as nearly as possible among the States according to population. the commission deemed it advisable to announce and hold especially in the States which are farthest in arrears examinations for clerk and bookkeeper in the departmental service. The bookkeeper examination will be held on April 26 and the clerk examination on May 3. Announcements of these examinations are herewith inclosed

During the fiscal year ending June 30, 1904, 168 appointments were made from the male clerk registar, 92 appointments were made from the male bookkeeper register, and 267 appointments were made from the male stenographer and typewriting register.

In filling vacancies in the departments at Washington certification is made from the registers of the States and territories which have received the lowest percentage of appointments in proportion to their population; and it is believed that if residents of the States which are farthest in arrears will compete in the examinations for clerk, bookkeeper, and stenographer and typewriter which are being held this spring, it will be possible for the commisson more nearly to approximate and equal distribution of appointments among the States. The commission will appreciate any assistance you can render in the securing of applicants for these examinations, especially for men stenographers. Few calls are made for women under the clerk examinations. A manual of the examinations is sent herewith.

John C. Black,
President.

NEW TRIAL GRANTED ADAMS.

Daughtor of the Deceased Swears She Swore Falsely at Trial.

A special dispatch from Walterboro to The State says that R. A. Adams who was convicted two years ago of the murder of H. M. Jaques, was brought to Walterboro Wednesday night from Columbia, where he had been imprisoned in the penitentiary since his recent arrest.

His attorneys, Howell & Gruber, presented a motion Thursday morning for a new trial, upon the grounds of after-discovered evidence. Affidavits were presented from Mrs. Ruth Adams, daughter of deceased and wife of defendant's brother, Ben Hughes, Mrs. Mary E. Adams and Mrs. Ella Dandridge in support of the motion.

The affidavit of Mrs. Ruth Adams was to the effect that her testimony given at the trial of the case was false, she having been induced to testify to the same by Martin Jaques and Hogan Dodd. The other affidavits related to threats alleged to have been made by Henry Jaques against Adams.

This motion was resisted by Solicitor Davis, Griffin & Padgett and Peurifoy Bros After hearing the arguments, Judge Townsend granted the motion and Adams will be given a new trial. The case will probably come up at the next term of court in July.

Hung Him Twice.

At Pittsburg, Pa., two men were hanged Thursday and the first unsuccessful hanging was recorded in Allegheny county. Reno Dardata was hanged first, and his neck was broken. William J Byers followed. The loop of the noose was pulled away, precipitating him to the ground. He was not badly hurt, the rope was again adjusted. This time there were no mishaps. Death resulted from strangulation. Byers was convicted of killing August J. Layton at Turtle Creek on June 3, 1901. He implicated Layton's wife and John McWilliams. They were acquitted. McWilliams afterward married Mrs. Layton. Dardala killed Thomas Sinclair at Imperial on September 20, 1903, during a quarrel over a drink of whiskey and a dollar.

About So.

A man is either a "fool or a physician at forty," and a woman becomes at least a "beauty doctor" early in her fourth decade. The Spartan Journal says this is all the result of experience born of suffering and failures. If the young people would look ahead and take warning there would be less need for doctoring and tinkering up as