

# FORT MILL TIMES.

VOL. IX.

FORT MILL, S. C., WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1, 1900.

NO. 20.

## THE STATE CANVASS

Politics Not Quite as Hot as the Weather.

SENATOR TILLMAN IS ALONG TOO

And Helps the Boys Contribute to the Gayety of Nations—Synopsis of the Speeches.

**Lancaster Meeting.**  
Lancaster, Special.—The meeting here was quiet. The audience was thoroughly undemonstrative and attentive. There was little cheering, no noise.

Mr. J. P. Derham was not present and sent excuses. He was absent on account of sickness and announced his platform and showed the work of his office.

Mr. Brooker started out by saying he had already saved the State \$50,000 and was in position to save that much more. The present tax administration is absolutely faulty and wrong. He charged nothing criminal but gross irregularities and charged incompetency in the present officers.

Mr. Clyburn said he made the Chesterfield settlement in 1897 and it was entirely satisfactory. He agreed that in 1898 the papers were sent to Columbia.

Neither Mr. McMahan nor Mr. Capers were present, when their names were called.

Gen. Floyd made a patriotic speech. He came to show how he had restored the prestige of the adjutant general's office. It was now, he urged, the best militia organization the State has had in 25 years.

Brooker said the books here were in excellent condition.

Supt. McMahan came in late from Rock Hill and was presented. He outlined his experience, as a teacher, thinker and student, which he thought qualified him for his work and then showed how he had worked and was still working for the common schools.

Then came the railroad commissioners.

W. D. Evans and J. G. Etheredge were absent.

Then came the governors.

G. Walt Whitman insisted that from what others saw the various departments are in bad shape and he wanted to remedy things. Disregard of law in South Carolina was amazing and disgraceful, not only as to the dispensary law, but everything else if these speakers are to be believed. The best men at times, he feared, took just a little too much liquor. A little drunkenness does not affect a man as much as telling a lie. God never made a misfit and there is use for liquor.

Col. J. A. Hoyt said Mr. Whitman had stood on every platform that has ever been erected. The people of Lancaster were already converted to prohibition. The dispensary is put forward as the best solution of the liquor problem. It is a system adopted to a monarchy, but it is not for America. The corner-stone of Democracy is that whatever comes to the people should come from them, and he explained how this was not the case. He explained how dispensaries have been forced on the people. The dispensary has its good features, if they were enforced, but they are not enforced, and the good features are trampled in the dust.

In the request books you will find the same signatures and you will find drunkards and minors on the lists. Why should the law be continued when it was admitted that it cannot be enforced in Charleston and its good features are trampled under feet? The dispensaries are the supply depots of the tigers. The system is rotten to the core and deserves to be taken out of the books. This great dispensary will build up a great political machine and it is best to break it up now. He then defended prohibition. He touched briefly on educational matters and said there was no difference except as to the liquor problem.

Boquets were presented Col. Hoyt by the "Women of Lancaster."

Mr. Frank B. Gary thought the flowers apt for Col. Hoyt's political funeral. He was not here to vilify or abuse anyone. He argued that no better plan than the dispensary was yet proposed. He knew this to be a prohibition county, but he would not change his views. All are marching to temperance. Prohibition will bring tigers. He was no apologist for the dispensary as now run. It is not a system for revenue. He was reliably informed there are 200 tigers in Columbia.

If elected, Gary said he would enforce the law in Charleston and Columbia. For three months before we got hold of him the constables seized only \$1,000 worth of liquor, and yet last month alone they seized that much.

Mr. A. Howard Patterson said the people, not the papers, were the jury. If Gary stood no better chance than Bryan he was sorry for Gary; but he favored Bryan. He stuck to Gary and his family all along and has gone down with the family. He announced himself before Gary and had a right to run. He then read from the report of Gary's Charleston speech and emphasized that Mr. Gary would not answer his questions in Charleston. He devoted time to Mr. Gary and said if you have local opinion it will be good-bye to dispensary.

He then took up the dispensary and defended it, and urged its advantages over prohibition. There was not a blind tiger in Barnwell, and he showed how crime and drunkenness have decreased. He took up the prohibition platform and defended the dispensary

as a system. Is the minority never going to submit? Col. Hoyt told you nothing about favoring a coalition, and his prohibition platform is full of politics.

He was in favor of prohibition if it could be enforced, but it would be a farce. He favored the dispensary law all over the State.

Governor McSweeney congratulated the audience on the good feeling and prosperity of the State and wanted to stop harranguing. When they charge that the incumbent has not been successful he hurled it back at them. The dispensary is better enforced today than ever before, and he can prove it by letters from mayors. Charleston is a seaport and it is difficult to enforce the law there. He had done his best to enforce the law there, but he had done as well there as any one else. He saved the State \$10,000 in constables' salaries. He did this as a business matter. Some of these candidates tell you what they would do with the dispensary. He asked all to view the attitude of the people towards the constables. He wanted to say reference was made that constables were here howling for him. They were not here by his orders. He did not countenance their being here. They have no business here, unless they have work here. He was going to investigate the matter and if any constables have been attending meetings for political purposes they would be removed and they certainly would not be paid for being here. He knew the constables were not here in his interests. They were free men and any constable could vote for whoever he pleased, but they must attend to their business.

Gov. McSweeney then gave an account of his public services.

The lieutenant governors came next, and more of their speeches will be given from some other meeting.

Col. Sloan said he had to sing fast and he sung the praises of Blair and Jackson and Sims and Jones and then recounted his services and qualifications. He denied that there were 200 tigers in Columbia, for his people were law abiding.

Mr. Cole L. Blease urged that the prohibition platform demands the sale of liquor for mechanical and scientific purposes. They condemn the sale and still insist on the sale. All laws are violated, so must all laws be repealed, as is argued. He argued for good, free schools. Favored biennial sessions.

Mr. Jas. H. Tillman said he had more kinpeople here than in any other county. He said Col. Sloan's remark about tigers in Columbia had better be salted down. He jumped on Col. Sloan for fighting the separate coach law. As to Blease and schools, he voted to take \$250,000 from the schools. He insisted that when you strike down the dispensary you lose the best friend temperance has ever had. He read numerous letters to show that prohibition did not suit.

Mr. Knox Livingston sympathized with the audience for its patience. He gave his certificate of character, so to speak, by showing that he had never been defeated at home. He has always been consistent in favoring prohibition when the people wanted it.

Mr. Winkler spoke of his services in the house. He was emphatically in favor of the dispensary and urged that it had worked wonders. His only regret was that the good prohibitionists and others had not helped to support and try the law. He wanted better school houses, better teachers and better pay. He spoke kindly of the veterans.

Mr. James H. Moore, for attorney general, said he was charged with being a former Charlotte printer. He has had his experiences and he was glad of this exposure. Work was nothing to be ashamed of. He was proud of his North Carolina descent and that he came here for his home.

Regrets were presented from General Bellinger, who was unable to be present.

Captain Jennings, for State treasurer, made a clever speech.

### Chester Speaking.

Chester, Special.—Senator Tillman made a red-hot speech and put new ginger in the fight. He was held until the very last, and when he talked, made it lively. Tillman was talked with that old-time whoop. Tillman said in part:

This was his seventh meeting and he protested against always being put last. There were some who thought he ought to remain at home. It was not his fault some one else does not want to be Senator. He never felt happy unless he had opposition, and he preferred it. He may be a fool, but he was never accused of it, and, therefore, he did not try to be a dictator, but felt free to give advice. As long as he was Senator he felt free to talk. All are agreed on national issues and there was no use to talk on such matters unless he wanted to sheer around or say some sweet things. He had seriously regarded his duty. He had thought it over, and feeling his obligations, he felt it carried with it some responsibility to assist in throwing light. Did you not teach me to use this tongue and to use it vigorously? Did you label that tongue "for national use only?" If so, say so. If you say so I will obey. If not otherwise advised he was going to talk right out on the liquor question. The people were free to do as they pleased and he wanted them to do so. It is charged that but for Tillman there would now be prohibition. He said he worked for the dispensary law. The prohibition vote cast was nothing like a general vote, and over 30,000 did not vote at all. As to the dispensary being a great political machine. When it came in he had just been re-elected and he need no machine. He advised the dispensary because he did not believe prohibition

could be enforced. He did this to save the State from degradation and being hypocrites under prohibition.

The people have voted on this question almost solely on State offices, and the legislature in four elections, and but for him it would have been put in the constitution without any buts or ifs. He did this because the supreme court decision was pending. He wrote the clause, and whenever his tongue grew forked he wanted to be kicked out.

The candidates for the various State offices spoke about in their accustomed view. There was nothing new or sensational in the developments here. The crowd was a good sized and orderly one, and the sentiment seemed pretty fairly divided up among the several candidates. Senator Tillman's speech was the leading feature of the programme.

### Winnsboro Meeting.

Winnsboro, Special.—Senator Tillman's speech was again the feature of the campaign meeting. He replied to Col. Hoyt as to the interference of Senator Tillman in a family quarrel. The meeting was opened with prayer. Gen. Floyd spoke first. Superintendent McMahan explained why he employed Prof. Patterson, of the Chicago Institute, to teach art. He was qualified and he saw nothing in the fact that he was a Northern soldier. He explained why he and others insisted on having white teachers at the head of colored institutions. This is Mr. McMahan's home county and he is popular here.

Mr. Ellison Capers lauded McMahan personally, but attacked his administration, which he felt would not be supported. He jumped on his conduct of the summer school because of alleged overriding of county authorities.

The railroad commissioners came next.

Mr. J. H. Wharton avoided his jokes and talked about discriminations, rates, stops and the like. Bernard B. Evans said rates were higher here than elsewhere because of indifference or subsidizing.

Nimrod Berry wanted the candidates measured by the standard of business ability, integrity and sobriety and cited his claims. J. E. Pettigrew wanted his character closely scrutinized and judged by his work and standing at home. He would not promise things he could not accomplish.

W. D. Mayfield wanted special attention given to the development of manufacturing enterprises. He was opposed to the commissioners being paid by the roads.

W. D. Evans said there were six men jumping on one and he could not answer them and make his speech in ten minutes. When he went on the board there was not a wholesale grocer in Columbia; there are now five. It was easy to make charges.

Frank B. Gary went over with vigor the arguments heretofore made. He devoted a bit more time than usual to show that prohibition was not practical. He said that the whiskey people and the high license are going to support Col. Hoyt because they expect to crush the life out of the dispensary. He warned the prohibitionists when they voted for prohibition they would not get it. He was here mainly because the dispensary was not now enforced. The lax condition of affairs in Charleston and Columbia was the reason he was running.

A. Howard Patterson took up the charge that Gary tried to straddle on the dispensary in Charleston and Georgetown. He again read extracts from the reports of the Charleston and Georgetown meetings and said that Charleston wants the license system and that cold water would kill the Charlestonians. The Georgetown paper placed Gary in favor of local option directly, he charged. He went over his usual figures as to Maine and South Carolina. Then he jumped on the prohibition platform, written by Col. Hoyt. He said that high license men were advocating prohibition, in which they did not believe. He paid his respects to the six hundred tigers alleged to be in Charleston and the two hundred in Columbia.

The new point in Governor McSweeney's speech was his reply to Gary's charge that the constables have been made to work harder since the campaign began. He said: The seizures for March were 441 1-4 gallons of whiskey and 119 1-2 dozen bottles of beer; 120 gallons of beer in kegs; one team confiscated. Of this the United States government seized 114 1-2 gallons of whiskey; 122 bottles of beer, 190 gallons of beer in kegs; three stills confiscated. Of this the United States government seized 206 1-2 gallons. In May the seizures were 294 gallons of whiskey; 242 dozen bottles of beer; 240 gallons of beer in kegs; one team confiscated. Two confiscated this month. The United States government took 97 1-4 gallons of the whiskey seized. In June the seizures were 448 gallons of beer in kegs; one team confiscated; two stills confiscated. The United States government took of this 96 1-2 gallons of whiskey. The average number of gallons seized for each of the four months was 312. So it appears that June is a little below the average. The only instructions given the constable are to do their duty and these instructions they have had during the time I have been governor. He never would build himself up on trying to pull down others. Governor McSweeney did not speak as long as

usual, but covered the ground.

Col. James A. Hoyt said he was not responsible for the good things said of him, but he was delighted at these expressions. He did not pose as being better or holier than others, but he would allow no reflections to be made as to him. He warned the people to send members of the House who would bring the situation back to 1892 when the voters stood for prohibition. Until there is a fair and square election on the liquor question it will continue to come up. Too much power to establish dispensaries, he said is given to county boards. He wanted the dispensary wiped out and prohibition put on the books. The dispensary has good features, but they are not enforced. The dispensary is used for everything and would supply the tigers in order to increase the sale of liquor.

G. Walt Whitman kept the crowd in a good humor by arguing that what the people wanted was temperance and not prohibition. The chief objection was to drinking to excess. The dispensary has been blamed in the house of its friends. The best regulation he now thinks is to license individuals and corporations to sell liquor under the constitutional regulations.

The meeting adjourned for dinner.

After dinner Col. Knox Livingston spoke of the express telegraph bill, which he had passed and fathered. He complimented Senator Ragsdale, of this county, and then discussed his own work.

Col. James H. Tillman joked about Col. Livingston and his platform. He wanted to reiterate that he thought all negro schools ought to be closed. He would never vote for appropriations for colored college. He favored the dispensary.

Mr. Winkler was glad to hear of the new railroad between Kershaw and Fairfield. He said his record was clear in voting for increased pensions.

Col. John Sloan spoke of the distinguished sons of Fairfield and his record. The people of the different counties should have what they want as to liquor. He knew the people could be counted on and that would be the only settlement.

Mr. Cole L. Blease argued that the preachers should talk for temperance, but keep out of politics. The whole fight of the prohibitionists now was to kill the dispensary and that would bring high license.

Senator Brice insisted on varying the programme and presented Senator Tillman and asked for three hearty cheers, which were given. As soon as he was presented some one said: "Get mad, Uncle Ben, and give it to 'em."

He thanked the audience and said he was embarrassed by the existing conditions. A campaign had been ordered and he was expected to be present. If he did not attend his enemies would say he had the swell head and that sort of thing, and when he did come some said he tried to play boss and dictate, and it was the same old thing, he would be damned if he did and be damned if he did not. He owed the people a duty. He said: "You are mighty prone to go to sleep and if I can keep your eyes open it is my duty. The News and Courier and the State say I should keep out of the fight. I am not here contending as to men. It is my duty to point out wherein and why certain advocated policies ought not to prevail, and I am present in defence of my administration. I am charged with defeating prohibition when it was voted for. Must I remain silent under all sort of charges and sermons? I think not."

Then Senator Tillman explained the prohibition vote of 1892 and how the dispensary law was enacted. If a majority had voted for prohibition he would never have stood against it. He certainly needed no machine now, as charged, as no one would even run against him. He spoke as he did because he had convictions and he simply spoke against prohibition because it is no good. He never was told he was to be gagged after he got to Washington, and especially after he was under fire and attack. His enemies did not give him credit for any honesty or patriotism such as they claim for themselves. They have used bad words and sneered about me. The ministers are good men, but they are wrong up here. (Pointing to his head) They had no right to attack him and he would say nothing harsh or rude about them. If he were a self-seeking politician and wanted to look out for himself and not the people, he would go around and talk sweet and not talk as he did. This abuse was enough to make him mad, but he would not get mad. He would be a coward if he did not talk out, and was only sorry he could not get where some people have already been bamboozled. He knew prohibition could only be a farce and that was why he wanted the dispensary. He did not want to make liars, because he knew the people would have their liquor. He was a common sense man and always acted as he thought. He differed with his ministerial friends, or enemies, as they prefer, about there being anything wrong in selling liquor or the Bible opposed its sale as a sin. He went over his conclusions as the best method of teaching the people to use liquor moderately. The dispensary was then defended at night. The tree bears good fruit, and the prohibitionists are with their axes and are trying to cut down the fine dispensary tree. Who is on the other side hacking? The high license people, the saloon keepers. Then he argued that George D. Tillman, Schumpert and Featherstone failed two years ago and now all these were in line fighting the dispensary.

Senator Tillman next discussed the evil of personal gain in any other than the dispensary system. He said his nose was red but he had never drunk a barrel in all his fifty-three years. As to himself, he did not care, but he had sons and neighbors' sons and wanted them saved. The prohibitionists have half a loaf now, and it is good and sweet, but they want all or none. Then he alluded to the free liquor and prohibition period, while the law was suffering from the interregnum. That was such prohibition as will come. He wanted to know why ministers would not recognize men as they were and not as they ought to be. There was something in the Bible against good men consorting with bad men. He supposed they wanted to crucify him. This is a free country and yet the ministers seem to be after him. One of them denounced him as a liar; a Bishop. Think of that, a Bishop, and simply for expressing an opinion. The only question is whether what he said was true, and that was the saloon people and prohibitionists were allied in this fight. He then spoke of the danger of going back on the dispensary and what has been gained by years of work. The primary system, he said, was going to break down, under the time limit and the poor attendance at the meetings. The people were putting themselves in control of the newspapers again. They were his friends. He warned the people for no good to himself but possible injury. He disclaimed any purpose of offending the ministers. He had no quarrel with the ministers, recognized their high tone and purposes, but he would talk out regardless of the ministers.

Neither Mr. Bellinger or Mr. Moore were present. Capt. Jennings introduced Dr. Timmerman, his opponent. The crowd had badly scattered. Dr. Timmerman said he expected no votes here; that he came to say he would be the next Treasurer. He explained that he was not a bloated banker or wealthy, as reported. He delicately referred to his services in the Confederate army. Capt. Jennings said Dr. Timmerman was mistaken about defeating him. He is whistling to keep up his courage.

Mr. Derham sent regrets. Mr. Brooker finished up the list.

### Yorkville Speaking.

Yorkville, Special.—This was a full circus day. The full aggregation was here. The attractions were taken out to the exhibition stand in vehicles, a brass band was present and the regular circus seats were provided.

Tillman was easy. Derham and Brooker punched at each other figuratively. Capers and McMahan rapped hard. The performance was long and wearisome. The audience was the largest of the campaign.

Maj. B. B. Evans said he would not spare his fire because he was in the home county of a commissioner. He reiterated his charges and pounded on the penalty asked for not buying tickets.

Mr. Thos. N. Berry presented himself as a business man and prohibitionist in theory and practice. He simply wanted to impress his name.

T. E. Pettigrew spoke briefly of his qualifications and services to the State. The commission was necessary because of railroad combinations. He was not running on promises.

W. D. Mayfield pressed his regular platform. He charged no corruption, but the commissioners should not be put under obligations to the railroads by their paying salaries and issuing passes. The commissioners will admit that many rates are too high.

W. D. Evans paid his respects to B. B. Evans and jumped on him for palming off bogus policies on the State.

Barnard said this was false and W. D. knew it to be false.

W. D. referred to the attorney general's report. W. D. said he only referred to this because it was insinuated he was rotten, ignorant or subsidized.

Chairman Brice insisted on avoiding personalities.

W. D. Evans then went on to defend himself. He was charged with being dishonest, and spoke of how he wanted to protect his reputation above all things. He took up the excess fare question and he and Barney had another tilt.

J. H. Wharton insisted that he made no charges or insinuations, but argued that there are wrongs he would like to remedy.

The candidates for governor and lieutenant governor and the other officers spoke with about their accustomed vigor and nothing sensational was developed.

### Both Want Veterans.

At the coming annual State reunion of Confederate veterans at Greenwood there will be a lively contest over the place for the next reunion. Columbia and Sumter are the two bidders for the next reunion. Columbia will present a strong invitation. Sumter's will be backed up by the endorsement of the city council. The Columbians who have the matter in charge feel certain that they will secure the gathering. They will be backed up also by the city council and probably the Merchants and Manufacturers' Club.

The highest court of appeal in Great Britain has sustained the decision that a circulating library can be held pecuniarily responsible for libelous statements contained in any of the volumes which it circulates.

## THE STATE FARMS.

Good Crop Prospects and Good Health Among the Convicts.

The State farms of South Carolina comprise about 5,000 acres, and are in Sumter and Kershaw counties. The DeSaussure farm is in Sumter and the Reed farm in Kershaw, the county line being the line between the two farms.

The DeSaussure farm is managed by Mr. W. R. Gardner of Kershaw county, who is considered a good farmer. Two hundred acres of Mr. Gardner's farm is in cotton. A low estimate of the yield would be 175 to 200 bales. Fifty-four acres were sown in wheat, which yielded 330 bushels, measured from the thresh. Three hundred and fifty acres were in oats, which yielded 10,000 bushels. These oats have been threshed and are now in one large barn. The barn is 120 x 40 feet and the floor covered to xfs shrd shrd cawfs floor is covered to a depth of about four feet.

The most of the land that was in wheat and oats has been sown in peas. On this farm there are about 500 acres in corn, the yield of which is yet uncertain as the most of it is late. The early plantings though will make from 40 to 60 bushels to the acre.

The Reed farm contains about the same, in acreage, as the DeSaussure, and is directed and supervised by Mr. J. H. Morris of Marlboro county, a practical business man. The acreage in cereals and cotton is about the same as that of the DeSaussure, but the outlook at present is that the yield in both cotton and corn will considerably exceed that of the DeSaussure. Mr. Morris has about 300 acres of corn, which at a low estimate will yield 75 bushels per acre. In addition to these staple crops these farms raise abundance of syrup, potatoes, rice, vegetables, etc., to supply them.

Under the present management the farms are not only self-sustaining, but are assured of considerable revenue to the State. When Messrs. Morris and Gardner took charge last March one year there was not corn enough to last three months, consequently they had to buy all the corn they used from June until the crops were made and harvested. There is now on each of the farms plenty of corn to carry them through, after having sold 2,000 bushels each to the penitentiary. They have also sold large quantities of maize, soybeans, hay, shelled corn and fodder, and Mr. Morris says that he has enough left to run the place another year without touching this year's product.

The labor of the farms consists of 120 to 150 convicts, who run 63 plows. Everything moves along without friction, and the men seem happy and contented.

Col. J. D. Griffith, of the penitentiary, visits the farms about once a month and gives direction and suggestion.

The greatest drawback to these farms has heretofore been that they were not healthy, but Col. Griffith has to a great extent improved their health by having deep wells bored over the farms at convenient points for the hands to get water while working in the fields. The water from one of these wells (and they are all alike) has been examined by the State chemist and pronounced a good and safe drinking water. The sanitary conditions of the Reed farm are such that any small town in the State would do well to petition after.

"There is not a case of fever or any sickness on the place nor has there been this spring."

### Winthrop Trustees.

The executive committee of the board of trustees of Winthrop College met in the college parlor Thursday night, Gov. McSweeney, Senator Tillman, Supt. McMahan, Mr. W. J. Roddey, and Dr. T. A. Crawford being present. The meeting was held, says the Rock Hill Herald, to look after some details in connection with the building of the new dormitory. The board decided to put a new slate roof on the new building instead of tin. The board also decided that owing to a lack of funds it would for the present abandon the idea of erecting a separate building for the model school, but would continue the school in the rooms of the main building heretofore used for that purpose. The board accepted with regrets the resignation of Prof. Breazeale. His successor has not been chosen.

### New Enterprises.

The Exchange Brokerage Company, of Charleston, was chartered with a capital of \$5,000. B. P. Tucker is president and W. R. Pinckney secretary.

A commission was issued to W. B. and R. L. Kerr and J. E. Marshall, of Rock Hill, as incorporators of the Kert Live Stock and Livery Company, of Rock Hill. The capital stock is to be \$10,000.

### Lutheran Sunday Schools.

Orangeburg, Special.—The Orangeburg Sunday School convention and conference of the Lutheran Church opened here Friday morning with a good attendance of delegates. Rev. W. A. Rogers, of the Methodist Church, delivered an address of welcome. Miss Janie Salley, a member of the Lutheran Sunday school of the city, extended a warm greeting to the delegates. These addresses were responded to by Miss Maggie Holloway, daughter of Mr. J. B. O'N. Holloway, and Rev. J. A. B. Scherer, D. D., as alternate for Mrs. Scherer. Mr. R. E. Bryant, superintendent of the Orangeburg Lutheran Sunday school, was elected president of the conference; Mr. H. A. Smith, of Charleston, vice-president, and Miss Maggie Holloway, secretary.