

## BOARD OF ASSESSORS.

Over Three Million Dollars Increase in Mill Values

### ADDED REVENUE TO THE STATE.

There Will Be Another Meeting on 14th of This Month to Audit Any Complaints Which May Be Made.

The State board of equalization has concluded its labors and has announced the assessments upon cotton mill property in this State. The total shows an increase of \$3,200,000 over last year. The increased income of the State on the 5 mill levy will be about \$16,000.

The total amount of taxable mill property as represented in the assessments of 1903 was \$34,557,765 and for the current year \$37,762,066. The increase is due to the building of new mills and to the fact that there were reductions at Clifton and Pacolet last year. The board will meet on the 14th to audit any complaints.

The report of the committee on cotton mills was adopted and the following assessments made:

Abbeville County—Abbeville cotton mills, \$533,130.

Alken County—Clear Water, \$300,000; Langley Manufacturing Company, \$700,000; Alken, \$380,000; Graniteville, \$840,000; Warren, \$505,000.

Anderson County—Anderson cotton mills, \$750,000; Cox Manufacturing company, \$105,000; Orr cotton mills, \$400,000; Riverside, \$110,500; H. C. Townsend, \$25,000; Coppage, \$15,300; Toxaway, \$155,000; Coppeness, \$5,000; Guck mill, \$167,800; Pendleton cotton mills, \$20,000; Pendleton Manufacturing company, \$50,000; Belton mills, \$630,000; Brogan mills, \$167,000; Chiquola, \$160,735; Pelzer Manufacturing company, \$1,500,000; Piedmont Manufacturing company, \$1,280,000; Williamston mills, \$200,000.

Bamberg County—Bamberg cotton mills, \$70,000. Cherokee County—Cherokee Falls Manufacturing company, \$250,000; Gaffney Carpet company, \$41,840; Gaffney Manufacturing company, \$729,800; Limestone, \$127,000; Vulcanized Fibre company, \$7,500.

Chester County—Eureka cotton mills, \$150,000; Springstein mills, \$216,867; Wylie mills, \$160,000; Monetta, \$163,510.

Clarendon County—Manning Hosiery mills, \$5,500.

Colleton County—Colleton cotton mills, \$71,300.

Darlington County.—Darlington Manufacturing company, \$450,000; Hartsville cotton mill, \$201,210.

Edgefield County—Edgefield Manufacturing company, \$125,000.

Fairfield County—Fairfield cotton mills, \$188,800.

Greenville County—Batesville Cotton Mill company, \$20,000; Brandon, \$258,115; Fork Shoals, \$47,500; Fountain Inn, \$50,000; American Spinning company, \$60,000; Carolina mills, \$25,000; F. W. Poe Manufacturing company, \$625,000; Huguenot mills, \$100,000; Mills Manufacturing company (95 per cent.), \$359,855; Monaghan, \$536,700; McGehee Manufacturing company, \$0,000; Reedy River, \$60,985; Union Bleaching and F. company, \$80,000; Woodside cotton mills, \$30,000; Franklin mills, \$50,000; Pelham mills, \$175,893; Piedmont Manufacturing company (see Anderson county).

Greenwood County—Ninety-Six cotton mill, \$61,700; Glendale, \$350,000; Greenwood cotton mills, \$188,750.

Kershaw County—Camden cotton mills, \$145,000; DeKalb cotton mills, \$155,000.

Lancaster County—Lancaster cotton mills, \$728,267.

Laurens County—Lydia cotton mills, \$40,000; Banna cotton mills, \$110,000; Laurens cotton mills, \$525,000; Watta cotton mills, \$155,430; Clinton cotton mills, \$172,500.

Lexington County—Lexington Manufacturing company, \$50,000; Middleburg mills, \$81,200; Saxe Gotha, \$70,000.

Marion County—Maple, \$85,000; Dillon cotton mills, \$98,300; Hamer, \$73,800; Ashby cotton mills, \$30,000; Dillon Hosiery mills (sold out and removed).

Marlboro County—Octorara mills, \$17,500; Marlboro cotton mills, \$760,400.

Newberry County—Glen Lowry Manufacturing company, \$500,000; Molahn, \$235,000; Newberry, cotton mills, \$470,000.

Onslow County—Courtney Manufacturing company, \$350,000; Seneca cotton mills, \$240,000; Walhalla cotton mills, \$120,000; Cheswell, \$140,000.

Orangeburg County—Orange mills, \$50,000; Orange Mfg. Co., \$200,000.

Pickens County—Easley cotton mills, \$345,255; Norris cotton mills, \$265,681; Liberty cotton mills, \$113,500; Glenwood, \$207,000; Issaquena, \$34,240.

Richland County—Capital City, \$100,000; Columbia Mills company, \$668,000; Granby, \$800,000; Olympia, \$1,750,000; Palmetto, \$56,250; Richland, \$450,000.

Sumter County—Sumter cotton mills, \$35,000.

Spartanburg County—Arkwright mills, \$210,000; Clifton Mfg. Co., \$900,000; Cowpens Mfg. Co., \$60,000; Mary Louise, \$26,600; Dryden, \$120,785; Enoree, \$620,000; Tyger mills (10 per cent.), \$68,500; Fingerville, \$50,000; D. E. Converse Co., \$500,000; Victor Mfg. Co., \$437,500; Inman mills (95 per cent.), \$287,650; Blue Ridge hosiery mills, \$30,000; Valley Falls Mfg. Co., \$98,250; Pelham mills (see Greenville), \$19,110; Pacolet Mfg. Co., \$600,000; Beaumont, \$100,000; Bannock mills, \$294,000; Spartan mills,

## JAPANESE CUT TO PIECES.

Cossacks Bore Down on Them in a Reluctant Charge.

The Japanese lost 200 killed and a number of horses in the fight at Vagenfuchu Wednesday. The Russians opened fire at 8 o'clock in the morning and after two hours and a half long range firing the Japanese under Gen. Akliama prepared to charge and crush the force which had been harassing them for twenty-one days. In the meantime Gen. Samsonoff was approaching Vagenfuchu with a strong force of cavalry. It was a sight worth seeing when at the word of command, the Russian squadrons formed and rushed like a whirlwind across the terrible cut up country, clearing away all obstacles, the batteries at the same time trotting along the frightful roads. Having passed the railroad station, the troops came under the fire of the Japanese machine guns, but withdrew without suffering much loss.

The fourth and sixth companies of the Eighth Siberian Cossacks furiously charged the Japanese cavalry with lances, attacking both flanks. In a few minutes they literally cut the whole squadron into pieces. This was the first time lances were used and they struck terror to the enemy. In some cases the lances pierced the riders through and wounded their horses.

Some of the lances could not be withdrawn from the bodies into which they had entered. The Japanese infantry, numbering four battalions of 300 men to a company, and eight squadrons of cavalry attempted to advance, but the Russian batteries opened and soon the slope up which the enemy was advancing was covered with black spots and the enemy was forced to scatter and retire. The Japanese cavalry were wonderfully dashing, charging with shouts upon the Russians, who met and scattered them.

A Cossack who had lost his lance and sword wrenched a sword from a Japanese officer and cut off the officer's head. The Cossacks picked up boots which had been taken off by the Japanese in order to facilitate the fight and flourished them on their lances as trophies. The Japanese used the Boer trick of displaying dummbats but the Cossacks did not waste a shot on them. Gen. Samsonoff highly praised the practice of the Russian gunners.

**DROUGHT ENTIRELY BELIEVED.**

Gentle, Generous, Soaking Rains Fall Throughout Entire State.

Section Director Bauer had the refreshing and cheerful announcement to make Wednesday that the reports showed that the drought had been completely and delightfully relieved in all parts of the State and in a fashion that left no room for a desire for the thing to have been otherwise than in the way it was done. The rains were general over the State, and the eastern part, which had been suffering most, got half an inch, with 2.42 inches in Florence and Darlington counties. Some sections had received more than they needed, but the rains were "gentle" everywhere, and consequently no damage was done.

Asked to estimate what damage in dollars the drought had done, Mr. Bauer said that he had nothing on which to base an intelligent estimate. In his opinion, however, relief came before there was any material damage to the staple money crops, with the exception of trucking interests on the coast, where the dry weather has reduced the yields from 25 to 60 per cent. below normal.

Corn and cotton have plenty of time in which to recuperate. In fact the drought has possibly been more beneficial to these crops than otherwise, since the relief came in the form of gentle rains, which soaked thoroughly, for this reason: The natural tendency of growing plants is to seek moisture. If this is not found above the earth the growth is toward a bigger rootage, and while there is apparently no growth in dry weather the plants are busy gaining a wide earth feeding. The gentle rains penetrating deeply, the upper growth and development are the more rapid when relief does come. The rains of this week have not washed out the commercial fertilizers, but have tended to make them soluble. The rains which relieved the dry spell of last May were of the washing variety, and the result was that practically all the fertilizers were washed away.

**Stole the Money.**

A loss of from \$30,000 to \$60,000 through the embezzlement of its funds by a trusted employe, Douglas M. Smith, is admitted by the officers of the National Traders bank of New Haven, Conn. The exact loss is not yet known. Smith, who was paying and receiving teller of the bank, has acknowledged voluntarily that he embezzled about \$30,000 and the greater part of it, if not all, within the past eight or nine months.

**A Bad Case.**

The St. Louis Republic says a physician writing in the Medical Review says that many women whom he observes at the theater are "hebetudinous." Unless the author of the allegation is a psychologist possessing propensities for spontaneous action in the subconscious mind, arriving at conclusions by a process of ratiocination characteristic of phrenologists, his own case may be diagnosed as dictionaromania.

## YEMAN'S HALL.

One of the Old Colonial Houses of Lower-Carolina.

SITUATED ON OLD GOOSE CREEK.

Secret Passages of the Old Mansion, Which is Now Going to Ruins. Said to Be Haunted.

In the busy rush of our own times, surrounded by all the conveniences and luxuries, it is like reading a romance of another age, when we pause and consider the lives of those who preceded us in the days when this land was young. Their quiet, and to us uneventful lives, seem so full of peace, and yet like us, they had their cares and anxieties, and perhaps often greater trials. They went more slowly, but they had a hard battle to wage in reclaiming the wilderness.

I will invite my readers to go back with me about a century and a half and take a peep at the home and home life of one of the stately and busy dames of that period.

On the banks of Goose Creek there still stands the ruins of an old mansion built about the year 1694, by Sir John Yeman, and sold by him to Thomas Smith, Landgrave of South Carolina. The house was of brick, remarkable for their small size, and as an evidence that these peoples' lives were not altogether passed in peace, the house was fortified against the attacks of Indians. The walls of the basement and of the first story were provided with loopholes, and an underground vaulted passage led to the creek, where boats were concealed, so that in case the house was fired the family could make their escape.

Between the ceiling and floor of one of the rooms was arranged a small secret chamber, access to which was had through a trap door concealed in a closet on the second floor.

The house was entered from the front, the door leading into a large hall, from which led doors into other rooms. We are told by one who wrote of this old house many years ago, that the walls of this hall were painted in landscape and tiny gilded cherubs spread their wings above the arches of the panels. A huge fireplace stood in one corner, decorated with Dutch tiles, representing scriptural scenes.

Passing to the back of this hall, a stately way led to the upper rooms; holes were pierced at intervals in the wall, so that if an entrance was forced into the hall the defenders could fire upon the enemy.

Almost within a stone's throw of the house is the family burying ground, where sleep several generations of those who inhabited the plantation.

We gather from certain old records, that it was customary in those days (1740), to remain upon the plantation all the year round, and there are some letters written to friends in Charleston inviting them to come into the country in July and August, to escape the heat of the city.

Now let us take a look into the busy home life of the mistress of this old mansion, Madame S. She was left a widow with a large family of children and step-children; she proved herself a most efficient manager, and was aided by a worthy man, Mr. Elerton, who appears to have filled the position of schoolmaster, and general factotum of the establishment. He kept a journal of everything that transpired, and it is from this old record that we gain an insight into the daily life of the plantation. To quote some of these entries will give a better idea of this life than I could describe, and so I will use his own words:

"January 20, 1740.—Madam went to Mr. Sam Waring's and remained until 24th.

"January 25th she rented Back River Plantation to Peter Huskins, 27th went to church with Mr. Archer Smith, 30th, sold seven cords of wood and killed hogs.

"February 20th—Settled with Madam for the year. She paid balance in my favor.

"March 17th—Miss Betsey Smith and her niece Nancy Waring, came from Goose Creek from Nancy's uncle, who sent her to me to school, and to live with her step-grandmother, Madame S.

"May 14th—John and Archer S. came to school.

"May 28th—Received letter from Capt Grange to appear and muster on an alarm.

"Thirty-seven negroes taken up and carried before Mr. Colleton; kept guard all night in sundry places; this afternoon came from muster field, and went again at night after setting patrols.

"July 12th—Madame went to Mr. Ralph Izard's to pay her tax; it amounted to £138.

"July 23—Madame and Miss Betsey went to hear Mr. Whitfield preach; and the dog, Jowler, died.

These are only a few of the entries in this queer old record, and go to show how busy were the lives lived by these people.

Mr. Elerton was very careful in his notes, recording the negro insurrection of 1740 as well as the fact that "the dog Jowler died," and that he had finished the "potter cellar."

Madame was kept busy with her household affairs, she went in person to pay her taxes, attended to the schooling of her children, and those of her relatives. She was a "dissector," for she went often to hear the noted Mr. Whitfield preach. With it all she found leisure for reading, for we are told that a negro boy was sent at intervals to Dorchester for books from the circulating library. He went about

## EVERYBODY GOT DIAMONDS.

Express Train Showers Village With Precious Gems.

A special to the New York Times from Raleigh, N. C., says: News has been received here that Lucama, a little town near this city, has been in a state of ferment for the past week. On Monday a passenger train was wrecked near the station and several cars were destroyed by fire, among them the express car.

After the fire was put out men, women and children began to pick about in the ashes. One man found a small object which proved to be a small diamond worth \$600. Immediately it became known that there were diamonds in the ashes crowds flocked to the scene of the wreck.

The night before the news was generally known the man who made the discovery revisited the scene, carrying a number of empty sacks. He filled them with the ashes of the car. On sifting them he uncovered diamonds to the value of \$18,000, the railroad people are of the opinion that the value of the stones still unaccounted for is more than double that of those already found.

The railroad later placed a guard around the wreck. The railroad has not been requested to pay for the diamonds, nor has the express company. It is believed they were stolen goods being expressed to some point South, and that the shippers are afraid to make known their identity. Several lawsuits have grown out of the finds. The owner of the mill says that the diamonds belong to him unless the railroad demands them for the real owner. A negro found one gem valued at a thousand dollars. The owner of the land on which the wreck occurred sued him for the possession of the diamond, but the negro won.

**The Weevil Eater.**

Dr. Cook says the ant he has discovered in South America is a natural enemy of the cotton boll weevil, destroying the pest before it reaches the cotton bolls. Dr. Cook believes that if the ant can be acclimated in the United States it will put an end to the weevil. Secretary Wilson cabled him to bring him some of the ants home with him. They will be placed in the Texas cotton fields, and it is hoped that they will thrive in this country. If they live through the winter they will be brought further north and introduced to a colder climate. Secretary Wilson has had a special bulletin printed. It says: "If the cotton ant can survive a long dry season and perhaps cold weather in the table-lands of Guatemala it might easily learn to hibernates in Texas, as has the boll weevil. The ant is much better able to protect itself against frost, since it excavates a nest three or more feet into the ground. To take worker ants to Texas will be evidently a very easy matter, but to secure queens and establish permanent colonies may require considerable time and experiment. The insect does not do the least injury to the cotton or to any other plant, so far as has been ascertained, and it can be handled with impunity." The Augusta Chronicle says "the anti-boll-weevil ant may prove the salvation of the Texas cotton fields, and the energetic, as well as the sluggish, be called upon to consider her ways, since it pays." We hope it will.

**Philippine Martyrs.**

Maj. Gen. Ainsworth, the military secretary, Thursday received from Gen. Wade, commanding the division of the Philippines, a cable report of the recent attack upon American troops in Mindanao. The following is an extract from the dispatch: "Maj. Gen. Wood returned May 30th from an expedition to Lake Liguasan. The remains of officers and men killed in action May 8th were brought to Cottabato and interred. All's outfit, a small aggregation of outlaws, are now in hiding and will be pursued, captured and destroyed. No disturbances whatever in Cottabato valley. Following is a complete list of casualties among enlisted men May 8th: "Killed: George Wachter, Ewing Quillen, Benjamin E. Nolde, Elbert W. Osborn, Martin Elbert, Amos J. Gilliam, Owen Hughes, William Luitjens, John O'Connors, Leonard C. Smith, Wm. A. Wallam, Charlie Cole, Frank G. Meredith, last name having transferred from Company E, 17th infantry.

"Wounded: Thomas H. Beckett, George B. Humphreys, Henry D. Shaddau, John L. Barnhouse, Francis M. Davis, John F. Delonge. All wounded doing well.

"These men belonged to Company E, 17th infantry.

**Found His Dead Body.**

The dead body of Herman S. Pettibone, 31 years old, a son of former Congressman A. H. Pettibone of Tennessee, was found in a hotel in Washington Thursday. Some drugs of a mixture of scotch and morphine were found in a glass on the bureau of the room indicated that the man had committed suicide and the coroner gave a certificate to that effect. Pettibone had been dead some hours when found. His father, who is now at Huntsville, Ala., was notified. Young Pettibone had been despondent.

**Found Dead in Room.**

John C. Cole, representing an insurance company of New York, was found dead in his room in a hotel at Birmingham, Ala., Thursday night. He was a well known man having occupied a prominent government position in Washington for a number of years. He lived in Portsmouth, O., and has relatives there.

**Battle With a Hawk.**

Freeman Lane, a wealthy farmer, eighty years old, had a fierce battle with a huge hawk in his woods near Sayville, L. I., Wednesday, while strolling in a pine wood. When near a pine in which there was a hawk's nest one of the birds swooped down upon the old man, struck him squarely in the face and knocked him down ten feet in a gully. The hawk continued scratching his face, and for a long time the old man lay as dead. Lane rallied his remaining strength, crawled out of the wood and reached home. His face was badly torn by the bird's talons and he was suffering from a severe shock.

**Mysterious Murders.**

Soldiers at Fort Ethan Allen which is located near Burlington, Vt., are panic stricken by three mysterious murders that have been committed on men in the ranks and the fourth savage attack upon an infantryman who is now dying from stab wounds. All of the details of the murders have been kept secret by officers, who are in communication with General Corbin. He is expected at the Fort to take personal charge of the inquiry. Homes are barricaded and men of the district go heavily armed at night. The names of the murdered men are kept secret and nothing but the bare facts are obtainable. The first murder was three weeks ago Thursday. The fact that all the victims were soldiers leads to the belief that the bloody deeds are the work of a deserter who is crazy.

**Died of Starvation.**

Henry Miles, a colored man residing at Blythe, Ga., died Tuesday night of last week at the home of friends at 812 Campbell street, after a lingering illness inflicted at his own hands on July 4, 1903. Miles, on the date mentioned, through mistake, drank enough potassium to leave his throat in a condition that through a complication of diseases, gradually grew worse until it closed entirely up Tuesday, and Dr. Goodrich, who was in attendance, was unable to give him any nourishment. It was deemed necessary to hold an inquest Wednesday, and the body received a pauper's burial Wednesday afternoon.

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**Accidentally Killed.**

At Spartanburg while swinging from a ladder on the end of a box car which was being slowly carried along by a yard engine to couple up with some other cars about 60 yards away, Berry Fowler, colored, a switchman, met his death in the yards of the C. & W. C. railroad Wednesday morning at 7.30 o'clock. He was midway the ladder and was exchanging greetings with two negro women walking near the track when his hat blew off, causing him to turn his head around and at the same time lean further away from the car. Just then the box car passed along where a mail car stood on a parallel track and the head of the switchboard came in abrupt contact with the iron appendage on the outside of the mail car which is used in handling bags and pouches. The man fell to the ground and in a few minutes was dead. Concussion of the brain was caused. The verdict of the coroner's jury was that the death was accidental and was not the result of the act of any person or persons.—The State.

**Ants Destroy Weevils.**

A dispatch from San Antonio, Texas, says Jose Cassiano, former county collector, who has several hundred acres of cotton in that county, is the bearer of good tidings concerning the work of red ants. Mr. Cassiano's fields, less than a month ago, were alive with boll weevils. Today he said there is not a live weevil in his fields. The rows are strewn with dead weevils, which the busy little red ants are carrying away by thousands. Mr. Cassiano says a close inspection failed to show a single live weevil on a cotton plant anywhere in his fields. The ants are on the plants and the rows between in countless thousands. They seem to have completed the slaughter of the weevils and are now engaged in carrying the corpses away, probably to be stored for food.

**Charged With Murder.**

At Winchester, Va., five men, George, Charles, Raymond and Hunter Carver, brothers, and Edgar Carter, were arrested Thursday afternoon near there in connection with the disappearance of the Carvers' cousin, Ashby Pugh, who it is believed had been murdered. George and Charles were committed to jail without bail and the others were released on five hundred dollars bonds each. The case has caused the greatest excitement in the country. Monday morning Pugh was beaten by the Carvers. Then he went to the creek to wash blood from his face and has not been seen since.

## A FOOL WITH MONEY.

A Rich Old New York Man "Hoodooed" by a Woman.

**THE GREEN TRAGEDY RECALLED.**

Hannah Elias, About Whom Prominent New Yorker Was Murdered, the Woman in the Case.

A dispatch from New York says the murder several months ago of Andrew Green, known as the father of Greater New York and one of New York's most prominent public men, was recalled Wednesday when suit was brought by John R. Platt against Hannah Elias, a mulatto, to recover certain real estate and money in bonds, held in her name. Mr. Green's murderer, a negro named Williams, said his victim had interfered to separate him (Williams) and Hannah Elias. Williams was declared insane and sent to an asylum. He had annoyed Mr. Green for some time and Mr. Green had said he never saw the woman Williams referred to. It developed after the murder that Hannah Elias had become wealthy and occupied a costly residence in Central park, west.

Mr. Platt in his suit asks the court to hold that Hannah Elias holds property as trustee for him on the ground that the money paid for the grounds and premises were procured from him by "fraud, duress, coercion and blackmail without any consideration." In the papers filed, Mr. Platt says that he is upward of 83 years old, a retired merchant, in feeble health and a widower. He says that he first met Hannah Elias prior to January, 1896; that she represented herself to be a single woman of Spanish blood, but that he discovered afterwards that she was the wife of one Matthew O. Davis. The papers go on to say that soon after Mr. Platt formed her acquaintance she told him that he had gained her love.

Mr. Platt says that these protestations of love were a scheme on her part to enable her to coerce and blackmail him into giving her large sums of money. According to the papers filed, Mrs. Elias said her husband was a negro and that her husband threatened to do the plaintiff bodily harm and expose him. The plaintiff states that he paid Mrs. Elias \$685,000 at different times between the years 1896 and 1904. It is further alleged that Mrs. Elias told the plaintiff that she could not obtain a divorce unless her husband received \$6,000 and that as a result of threat made by her he paid that sum of money and she obtained the divorce. This amount, he alleges, never was paid to the husband, and that during the year 1897 he was coerced into paying the husband, who in the meantime had been divorced, the sum of \$16,000 not to press a threatened suit.

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