

## THE DISPENSARY.

What Senator Tillman Thinks Ought to be Done With It.

### RAISE IT ABOVE SUSPICION

Or Farm It Out to Some Responsible Private Individual or Firm To Manage As A Monopoly.

Senator Tillman, in a conversation regarding the dispensary law, the other day, with Mr. Kohn of the News and Courier staff, said that it would be very unfortunate in more ways than one if nothing were done at the approaching session of the General Assembly to straighten out the dispensary system, and raise it above the cloud of suspicion that is over it. He said that in his opinion the whole point was the betterment of the system. What the General Assembly would have to do would be to straighten out things, remove the doubt about the conduct of the business and raise the purchasing and other features of the system absolutely above suspicion. It ought to be nothing more than the consideration of the practicability of the suggestions made along these lines. Senator Tillman said that if nothing were done at the approaching session of the General Assembly, most likely at the next session the argument would be that the proposition had better go before the people, as the General Assembly generally declined to take any radical steps at its second session, and on that account he hoped very much for the sake of the dispensary that the toning up of the dispensary law would be undertaken at the approaching session.

In the opinion of Senator Tillman it is utterly impracticable and ill advised to have county management of dispensaries. He urges that the same incentive that it is suggested now accords one board to making money out of the dispensary, would exist among forty boards, and that if there is corruption in one central board it would spread out among forty boards, instead of one, if there were no change in the method of purchasing and the manner of conducting the system. Senator Tillman says that he does not for an instant charge that there is corruption or this mismanagement; but that the system has to be raised above suspicion to satisfy the people.

And then Senator Tillman went on to relate a bit of history. He said that, during the progress of the discussion of the dispensary system in the Constitutional Convention there were all sorts of suggestions made as to the clause in the Constitution relative to the conduct of the whiskey business. The dispensary was being attacked on all sides, and there seemed to be no way out of the situation. Mr. McCall, who was a delegate to the Convention, arose and said that it was remarkable to him that the father of the dispensary system, meaning Senator Tillman, had not said a word and that he had allowed the discussion to go on without even making a suggestion. Senator Tillman then arose and stated that the right of the State to deal in liquor had not yet been settled by the Supreme Court, and that he was unwilling to enact a provision that left no leeway to deal with the issue. That afternoon he prepared a substitution for the pending proposition, and the suggestion that he made is now the fundamental law as enacted in the Constitution. In that constitutional provision there is a clause which provides that the State can create an absolute monopoly and "farm it out." In other words, the State might turn over the dispensary to any responsible firm under bond, and then require that they conduct the sale of liquor under the constitutional provisions, requiring first, that liquor be sold only in daylight, second, that no liquor should be consumed or opened on the premises where sold, and third, that no liquor should be sold in less than half-pints. With the enforcement of these fundamental principles Senator Tillman insists that it will be far better for the State to farm out the liquor selling privilege, or in other words, to create a monopoly, and then see that it is carried out according to law, than to allow the system to continue under suspicion, or to permit the counties' handling the dispensaries, as has been suggested.

Senator Tillman's idea is that the talk about the dispensary must stop for the good of the State, whether the talk be with or without cause, and the only way to do it is to raise it above suspicion by putting the purchasing power in the hands of people who do not want to have that privilege, and who are not candidates for that position, and if some such amendment as he suggested in his Gaffney speech cannot be adopted, that as a last resort it would be better to "farm out" the liquor business and have some responsible firm conduct it under proper bond and restrictions.

He is satisfied that such an arrangement could readily be made, but his chief objection to it is that it would bring the element of personal gain into the sale of liquor, and the chief virtue of the dispensary law, if properly enforced, he insists, is that there is no element of personal gain to any one connected with the dispensary system, and if that personal equation can be eliminated the dispensary will be run upon the lines that he has always hoped to see.

As to the victory against the dispensary in Gaffney, Senator Tillman

does not seem to be disturbed at all. He says that the vote was not as large as it might have been, and that there was by no means a full ballot, and that the advocates of the dispensary law were discouraged and demoralized with the present condition of talk about the dispensary, and that they are in no position to make a fight for it, unless the dispensary can give an entirely clean bill of health that will satisfy the people.

Senator Tillman is of the opinion that the Gaffney victory was more of a victory for prohibition than a protest against the dispensary system. The disposition all over the South, he believes, is towards prohibition, and not towards the license system, and the prohibitionists, he says, are earnest and zealous workers who do not allow any opportunity to escape, and who are making rapid gains with their views all over the South, and unless the General Assembly purifies the atmosphere around the dispensary system, Senator Tillman is firmly convinced that prohibition will make very much more rapid progress in this State than is expected. He remarked that two-thirds of the State of Mississippi is now prohibition, one half of Georgia, and a very large portion of North Carolina, and that such a disposition seems to be growing all over the country.

Senator Tillman says that he has no objection in the world to prohibition, but that in his opinion it simply means that they will have all of the evils of liquor and none of the benefits of the dispensary system, and he is satisfied that in Cherokee County there will be a regular procession of jugs and demijohns at every depot along the railroad.

### A HUGE NAVY.

Vast Expenditure of Money On It to Continue for Years.

With Secretary Morton asking Congress to give the navy \$114,520,648.34 for its expenses in the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1905, it is apparent that the fleet that costs \$100,000,000 a year has come to stay.

This vast expenditure means that the policy of naval expansion will go on until the American navy is second only to that of England in size, and will remain, as now, second to none in ship to ship efficiency. When all the American warships now building are completed the navy will be the third largest in the world. England and France will be first and second.

The sentiment which caused the upbuilding of the navy was awakened twenty years ago, when naval expenditures were small. Only \$14,819,976.80 was appropriated by Congress in 1883. The cost gradually increased until 1898, when, with the Spanish-American war in sight, it aggregated \$33,003,234.19. The expenditures in 1899 jumped to \$56,098,783, and since then by leaps and bounds they have increased as ship after ship has been added to the list.

The navy by January 1, 1905, upon which the brunt of service will fall in event of war will be: Battleships, 13; armored cruisers, 8; protected cruisers, 21; torpedo boat destroyers, 10; torpedo boats, 35. Not all of these ships are now in commission. The most notable additions will be the armored cruisers Colorado, Pennsylvania, West Virginia and South Dakota. No armored cruisers have been added to the fleet since the Brooklyn and the New York were put in commission, more than ten years ago.

When a battleship is paid for it has only begun to eat up money. New ships mean more men, more officers and larger naval stations where the ships may be dry docked and repaired. There must be a larger clerical force in the navy department. The purchase of supplies must increase. A battleship has an insatiable maw for coal. Fuel must be carried miles across the sea in great colliers if it cannot be had in plentiful supply and satisfactory quality abroad.

Congress has usually been generous in authorizing new battleships and has readily increased the number of blue-jackets to man them. The enlisted personnel in 1885 was 8,260; in 1898, 12,750; in 1899, 20,000; in 1901, 25,050; in 1903, 31,000, and in 1904, 34,000.

Provision for more officers was made two years ago by doubling the representation of the country at large in the naval academy. Twice as many midshipmen will now study there and be graduated to receive commissions. All this costs more money. The establishment of large and well equipped naval stations at Guantanamo, Cuba, and at Olongapo, P. I., also swells the financial requirements of the service.

### Wants Damages.

The Boston says papers in a suit for \$350,000 were served Tuesday afternoon on Thos. W. Lawson, the noted copper magnate. The suit is brought by New York parties supposed to be acting for the Standard Oil interests. It also stated that the widow of Attorney George Towle will sue Mr. Lawson for libel. Both suits are the result of alleged disclosures made by Lawson in his story "Frenzied Finance," which is running in a magazine.

### A Deadly Fight.

Six negroes engaged in a deadly fight in a fourteen-foot ring, near Curtis, La., the parties being armed with shot guns and pistols. After the battle three lay dead. The other three escaped. A woman and two children were also in the room during the affray, but were not harmed. The trouble arose over the woman.

## TALK WITH TILLMAN.

What the Old Leader Says About New State Questions.

### BRIBERY THE GREAT DANGER

That Threatens the Primary and Urges Strong Action Against Those Who Resort to the Practice.

The protest in Greenville County against the primary system and the election of Supervisor Walker against Mr. Sprengle has naturally attracted a great deal of interest. It is, perhaps, the hardest blow that the primary system has received since it has been in vogue in this State. Senator Tillman, however, does not appear to attach very much importance to the Greenville incident, and in a talk with Mr. Kohn of the News and Courier staff about that matter a day or two ago at his home he said that the whole trouble arose from the partisanship and blindness of the county executive committee to their duty to the people who had selected them. He is convinced that, if the committee had ordered another primary and the people settled the contention at a regular Democratic primary, there would have been no trouble, and that the voters would have been satisfied, but the difficulty was that the people thought that they had been cheated, or in other words had not been fairly treated, and that the result was largely accomplished by a trick. This may or may not have been so, but the people all the same got the impression that there was a trick about the matter, and they would not consent to any such business, and they took the bit in their teeth and showed their disapproval of the work of the committee and elected Walker.

### BAD EFFECT OF GREENVILLE BOLT.

Then he went on to talk about the effect of this election of Mr. Walker would have upon the primary system, and said that in his opinion it would encourage independence wherever there is any sort of an excuse for it. It would tend to relax the discipline of the party; and in the Piedmont section, where the negroes are so scarce, the only salvation for the primary is to have it so honestly and so fairly and openly conducted that no man can complain. These people in the Piedmont section never suffered as did those in the balance of the State during the Reconstruction era and the days of good stealing. They never had negro domination nor carpet-bagging, except as to the State Government, and therefore they are less tolerant of abuse in the primary than the people in the tide water section, who know that the possibilities of the negro vote really are. The people in the tide water section are going to hold steadfast to the primary system and keep it absolutely intact, because they have greater reason to do so, as they are very much like the burnt child. As a matter of fact Senator Tillman thought that in nearly all of the counties of the State the primary system was conducted with absolute integrity and honesty. Then he went on to talk about the necessity of keeping the primary system above suspicion, and preventing the use of money in connection with the direct or indirect purchase of votes. He suggested that he had seen that the Law and Order League, of Aiken, had organized, and that one of the commendable features of its work is to cleanse the Augean stables in connection with the primary system.

### DANGER OF BRIBERY.

Senator Tillman remarked that he had been told by well-informed men from the Horse Creek Valley section that there were at least six hundred votes in the Horse Creek Valley that were absolutely for sale in the last election in that territory. He knew of his own knowledge very many of the old time residents of Vanuise, Langley, Graniteville and the older mill communities, and he was satisfied, in his own mind, that this demoralization and corruption does not lie at the door of these self-respecting citizens who have lived in that community for very many years. The "waters" from the Horse Creek Valley, who were most in evidence, must, he thought, be new comers, who have gone there to run the new mills or to go into other work. He has never thought that any considerable proportion of home people were purchasable. If these statements as to the number of votes that were offered in Aiken County are true, and if the reports from other parts of the State are so, it is a horrible condition of affairs, and the General Assembly, he thinks, ought to meet the condition by passing a law imposing a heavy penalty both upon the man who offers a bribe and upon the man who receives it. In addition to this penalty by law, public opinion must be aroused so that convictions can be obtained, because without the cultivation of public opinion upon this line absolutely no good can come from such a statute. He was very glad to see that the Law and Order League of Aiken had undertaken to purify the elections, and to build up the moral tone of the people, and if this is successfully done it will accomplish much good.

### BRIBERY SHOULD BE PUNISHED.

Senator Tillman and this correspondent had quite a long discussion as to the possibilities of stopping this practice, and of informants that had been received of where candidates had been asked to pay for the time of men while they were at work in the interests of these candidates and very many other indirect ways of getting at the purse strings of candidates. Senator

Tillman said that in his opinion any candidate who used money illegitimately in securing his election was not a bit too good to reimburse himself after his election through his office. The fact that a man uses money in an election ought to defeat him, and he believed that if it were generally known that any candidate used money to obtain his election that that fact alone ought to defeat him. The use of "strickers," he thought, was of very doubtful propriety, and the man who would offer himself as a "striker" to any candidate for money was just as liable to sell himself as a striker to the next man who came along. The real and effective work in the interest of any candidate was done by volunteer friends, and not by men who accept money for their services. He does not believe that any man is fit to hold office who will start the campaign with the intention of buying his way into office. He is satisfied that there are as few purchasable voters in South Carolina as in any other State in the Union, and the sooner this tendency to buy votes directly or indirectly is stopped the better it will be, and that there ought not to be the least hesitancy on the part of any one knowing that a candidate is using money illegitimately to let it be known, and he thinks that is the most effective way of killing out the improper use of money. If the use of the money is continued in the primary system it will so demoralize it that the people will go to the legal election, and that will mean even a worse condition of affairs by the introduction of the purchasable vote of many registered negroes.

## BOLL WEEVIL WAR.

Names of Delegates to Convention to be Held at Shreveport.

### BATTLE TO BE PUSHED HARD.

The Feet of the Texas Cotton Fields is Now a Menace to the Entire South.

The State says Gov. Heyward is taking a great deal of interest in the meeting of the cotton growers to be held at Shreveport, La., on the 12th of December. At the suggestion of Commissioner Watson, the following gentlemen were appointed Tuesday to represent this State at the meeting: M. L. Donaldson, Greenville; L. A. Sease, Prosperity; E. J. Watson, Columbia; Charles E. Chambliss, Clemson College; E. D. Smith, Magnolia; E. W. Dalby, Goodwill; J. C. Stribling, Pendleton; R. M. Fegues, Cheraw; H. B. Tindall, Greenville; P. L. Hardin, Chester; J. J. Fretwell, Anderson; E. E. Vercher, Seneca; R. E. Hamers, Jr., Hamers; A. W. Love, Chester; Sumner Bragg, Manning; Bright Williamson, Darlington; D. B. Cook, Hartsville; N. S. Gibson, Winona; J. H. Manning, Dillon; C. S. McCull, Bennettsville; A. J. Matheson, Bennettsville; W. E. Lee, Timmonsville; J. Lewis-Lee, Conway; S. G. Mayfield, Denmark; E. S. Addison, Ninety-Six; J. G. Lanham, Edgefield; J. B. Stepp, Switzer; J. Allen Tobin, Barnwell; W. T. Jones, Santuco; E. F. Strother, Batesburg; Harry Hammond, Beeth Island; W. D. Evans, Cheraw; J. W. Lybrand, Wagner; B. S. Booser, Newberry; J. G. McCollough, Benart; T. J. Moore, Moores; W. Q. Hammond, Anderson; W. G. Hinson, Charleston; E. B. Watson, Ridge Spring; I. F. Still, Blackville; W. S. Middleton, Clark's Hill; A. A. Aycock, Wedgefield; B. H. Boykin, Boykin; D. F. Bradley, Easley; Richard Singleton, Acon; D. A. Spivey, Conway; A. K. Sanders, Hagood; J. A. Paterkin, Fort Motta; D. K. Norris, Pendleton; James North, Marion; J. S. Catbarr, Winnsboro; D. F. Eard, Lexington; John H. Wharton, Laurens; W. T. Aycock, Columbia; H. H. Weston, Columbia; C. B. May, Walterboro; Gov. Heyward requests that all who can attend will notify Commissioner Watson at once. The three delegates first named are members of the State board of entomology, and Prof. Chambliss is the entomologist at Clemson who went out to Texas this summer to study the boll weevil.

### A MENACE TO THE SOUTH.

The executive committee of the national cotton convention in its address says: "No more serious menace has ever confronted any crop in any country. Since 1893 the cotton boll weevil has spread and devastated the greater part of the cotton growing area of Texas and has this year invaded several parishes of Louisiana. The flight of the weevil during the summer of 1904 has been fully 50 miles north and east into territory heretofore uninfested, and indicates a habit that is beyond the power of individual States to control." "In an effort to protect the production of cotton from the ravages of the weevil, large sums of money have been spent by the national government, and the States of Texas and Louisiana; and most of the cotton growing States have enacted laws prohibiting the importation of the product from infested areas liable to introduce the weevil. These past efforts have been of untold value to the territory involved, but nevertheless emphasize in no uncertain tones the danger threatening the cotton crop of this country, unless immediate, definite and co-operative action is taken by every cotton growing State and every cotton interest to utilize the result of past investigations to further perfect remedial endeavor. A division of opinion and interest in a campaign against the weevil will bring disaster and defeat.

### Result of a Dream.

At Chicago as a result of a dream, Mrs. Lizzie Couet, 41 years old, lost her life Thursday and her husband and infant child were fatally burned in a fire which destroyed their home. The woman dreamed that her savings had been stolen from a hiding place in the bottom of a sugar jar in the pantry. Startled by the reality of the dream she took a lamp in one hand and her baby under her other arm and went to investigate. The lamp fell from the woman's hand and exploded. Her husband, aroused from sleep in an adjoining room, made a brave attempt to put out the flames and finally succeeded with the aid of a mattress, but only after he, as well as the wife and child, had been frightfully burned. Mrs. Couet died while being taken to the hospital.

### Out His Throat.

Elmer Johnson, the man who gave himself up to officers at Jonesboro Ark., a few days ago for a murder committed in Chattanooga, Tenn., sixteen years ago, out his throat Thursday morning in his cell, where he was held awaiting the arrival of authorities from Chattanooga. Johnson is in a dying condition and is not expected to survive the night.

## NO CHALLENGE.

The South's Proper Attitude Towards Congressional Reduction.

### Proposed reduction of Southern representation, as voted in the Chicago platform, is little credited among the well informed. Congress in neither branch is likely to enter upon such a programme. But the subject continues in the forum of political discussion, where it is kept by many of the very Republican leaders who, in private, emphasize the utter impossibility, if not un wisdom, of such action.

In meeting such a discussion, the Southerners differ widely in their views. A few days ago Representative Burleson, of Texas, told The Post that he would practically welcome such a crusade, if the Republicans wanted to enter upon it. Representative Sims, of Tennessee, who comes from one of the close congressional districts of the South, but, after untiring work, has been re-elected by a good majority, little affected by the general Democratic slump elsewhere in the state, thinks that is not the correct attitude to assume.

"I grant that the possibilities of action by congress to reduce our representation are remote," says Mr. Sims. "I am one of those who think that not even the house of representatives will undertake any legislation of that character, to say nothing of the senate, where the battle would be fought to the last ditch. But I do not believe that the Democratic party should challenge its opponents to the step. It is enough for us to be ready to defend ourselves whenever we are attacked. We have a good defense. And yet it is not necessary for us to constantly provoke the Republicans by inviting them to make a great issue on that plank in their platform."

Mr. Sims says that pluralities in several sections of Tennessee were largely reduced at the recent election. Congressional districts that have been going Democratic by 5,000 or 7,000 returned Democratic members by less than 1,000 plurality. The indifference of the voters was very marked all during the canvass. No interest in Democratic speakers was displayed by the audiences, which seemed dead to political appeals. Only by the most animated personal work was he able to get the voters to the polls.—Washington Post.

### Compromised.

The damage suit for \$65,000 against the Southern railway brought by the family of the late James L. Andrews of Greenwood has been compromised. The road offered to pay \$10,000 and this amount has been accepted. The death of Mr. Andrews was unusually sad. He was one of the best known business men of Greenwood and at the time of his death was president of the Durst-Andrews company, a large wholesale and retail general merchandise concern. He was standing in a car watching the unloading of some flour and while so doing the car was moved by a shifting engine and Mr. Andrews was thrown out violently on the ground and sustained injuries from which he died a few days later in a hospital in Augusta, Ga.

### Killed at Saluda.

A dispatch from Saluda to The State says late Tuesday afternoon Will Culbreth, colored, the negro who was driving the wagon the night W. M. Morse was killed, was shot and instantly killed. It is said, by Mr. Morse, S. D. Gillon and others. He was plowing for a brother of W. L. Henderson and was killed in the field. He was shot only once, the weapon used being a pistol. The wound was in the head. It is said that they had gone to arrest Culbreth and that he attempted to run when they fired upon him.

### Horrible Crime.

At Wauanton, Va., three negro children whose mothers locked them in the room together, were burned to death in a fire which destroyed three dwellings. The fire was of incendiary origin, and the belief is expressed the parents of the children started the conflagration.

## A BLACK FIEND

Shoots Twice at Young Lady Near Ninety-Six.

### CAME NEAR BEING LYONED.

Bill Williams, the Suspect, is Now in the Greenwood Jail Charged With the Awful Crime of Brutal Assault.

A special dispatch from Greenwood to The State says Bill Williams, a negro, was brought there Monday night by Magistrate W. L. Foosee and Mr. D. Sidney Hattwanger of N. E. S. x and lodged in jail, charged with attempting a criminal assault upon Miss L. Smith, the 16-year-old daughter of Mr. Milledge Smith, a well known farmer who lives below Ninety-Six, about half a mile from Sister Springs church. The story of the attempt, as told by Miss Smith, is substantially as follows: Tuesday afternoon she was out in front of her father's house sweeping up leaves and burning them and otherwise cleaning up the yard. Her father and mother were both away from home, and her two brothers were picking cotton in a field about 150 yards back of the house. Between 2 and 3 o'clock, while she was sweeping as above described, she heard a noise back of her, and, turning to see what it was, saw a young negro man advancing towards her. His appearance was forbidding, and becoming frightened she started to run. He ordered her to stop, and followed her order by a threat to shoot. She did not stop, and he drew a pistol and fired. At the first shot she glanced over her shoulder, and he again ordered her to stop. She had now realized her danger fully and ran in the direction of the field where her brothers were at work. The negro fired a second shot at her, but both failed to hit her aim. In a few seconds she had reached her brothers and told them of what the negro had done, and they both rushed to the house only to find that the brute had made good his escape.

The news spread rapidly, and at 3 o'clock the news had reached the sheriff's office in a request for bloodhounds with which to trail the negro. It was a quiet, but the dogs were sent at once in charge of Deputy Sheriff Charles Dukes and Capt. Jim McCombs, who has charge of the county chaise gang.

Judge Ernest Gary who is here holding the court of common pleas this week, heard of the attempt and he at once had himself put in telephonic communication with Ninety-Six, and in a conversation with E. M. Lipscomb, president of the Commercial bank there, and Capt. James Rogers, former magistrate and now county surintendant of education for this county, he urged upon the two gentlemen the necessity of using their influence to prevent a lynching, and told them to protect Williams there and bring him to Greenwood and that he (Judge Gary) would see to it that he was protected here. Both these gentlemen and many others, all men of sound, calm common sense, at once left for the scene to use all their influence to have the law upheld.

Meanwhile the dogs had arrived in charge of Messrs. Dukes and McCombs and they were put to work, but so many people had visited the place and had been riding and walking so promiscuously around the premises that the dogs could not make a start. Finally they got off on some trail and ran it a short while, but finally gave it up. While this was going on, and a majority of the crowd were watching with feverish interest the work of the dogs, in their party were at work on a clue which a few had got hold of and which had been kept from the main body of men. Following up their clue, they soon had under arrest the negro Bill Williams. He was carried before Miss Smith, who could not positively identify him, but she said he was about the right size, and there were other similar marks of identification. She thought that the negro who fired at her had on a dove colored hat, but the negro Bill Williams was wearing a black hat. It was ascertained that he had changed shoes in the afternoon, and it is likely, or it is possible, that he might have changed his headgear. He was not armed when found, but as no search was made of the house in which he was found, this fact does not go as far as it might in his favor. The negro lives about a mile from Mr. Smith's house. Tuesday afternoon he came up from Chappell's to Dyon's on a log cart belonging to another Mr. Smith. From Dyon's he started out to walk to his home. On the way he stopped and had some talk with a negro, and this conversation was denied by Williams, although the other negro held to it that he talked with Williams. Also, the negro Bill Williams claimed that he did not go up the regular road by Mr. Smith's, but went around the back, a route that was in the neighborhood of a mile and a half out of the way. Others saw him going towards his home that afternoon by a road different from what he claimed he used.

Even if there had been no fear of a lynching, there was enough against the negro to warrant his being held, and there was certainly enough against him to warrant some, if not other negro answering more than the description could be furnished, making him pay the customary penalty in the customary way.

Some other negro in the neighborhood of the crime, who is now in the State penitentiary, has been identified by the officers of the penitentiary as the man who shot at the young lady.

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At Chicago as a result of a dream, Mrs. Lizzie Couet, 41 years old, lost her life Thursday and her husband and infant child were fatally burned in a fire which destroyed their home. The woman dreamed that her savings had been stolen from a hiding place in the bottom of a sugar jar in the pantry. Startled by the reality of the dream she took a lamp in one hand and her baby under her other arm and went to investigate. The lamp fell from the woman's hand and exploded. Her husband, aroused from sleep in an adjoining room, made a brave attempt to put out the flames and finally succeeded with the aid of a mattress, but only after he, as well as the wife and child, had been frightfully burned. Mrs. Couet died while being taken to the hospital.

### Out His Throat.

Elmer Johnson, the man who gave himself up to officers at Jonesboro Ark., a few days ago for a murder committed in Chattanooga, Tenn., sixteen years ago, out his throat Thursday morning in his cell, where he was held awaiting the arrival of authorities from Chattanooga. Johnson is in a dying condition and is not expected to survive the night.

## NO CHALLENGE.

The South's Proper Attitude Towards Congressional Reduction.

### Proposed reduction of Southern representation, as voted in the Chicago platform, is little credited among the well informed. Congress in neither branch is likely to enter upon such a programme. But the subject continues in the forum of political discussion, where it is kept by many of the very Republican leaders who, in private, emphasize the utter impossibility, if not un wisdom, of such action.

In meeting such a discussion, the Southerners differ widely in their views. A few days ago Representative Burleson, of Texas, told The Post that he would practically welcome such a crusade, if the Republicans wanted to enter upon it. Representative Sims, of Tennessee, who comes from one of the close congressional districts of the South, but, after untiring work, has been re-elected by a good majority, little affected by the general Democratic slump elsewhere in the state, thinks that is not the correct attitude to assume.

"I grant that the possibilities of action by congress to reduce our representation are remote," says Mr. Sims. "I am one of those who think that not even the house of representatives will undertake any legislation of that character, to say nothing of the senate, where the battle would be fought to the last ditch. But I do not believe that the Democratic party should challenge its opponents to the step. It is enough for us to be ready to defend ourselves whenever we are attacked. We have a good defense. And yet it is not necessary for us to constantly provoke the Republicans by inviting them to make a great issue on that plank in their platform."

Mr. Sims says that pluralities in several sections of Tennessee were largely reduced at the recent election. Congressional districts that have been going Democratic by 5,000 or 7,000 returned Democratic members by less than 1,000 plurality. The indifference of the voters was very marked all during the canvass. No interest in Democratic speakers was displayed by the audiences, which seemed dead to political appeals. Only by the most animated personal work was he able to get the voters to the polls.—Washington Post.

### Compromised.

The damage suit for \$65,000 against the Southern railway brought by the family of the late James L. Andrews of Greenwood has been compromised. The road offered to pay \$10,000 and this amount has been accepted. The death of Mr. Andrews was unusually sad. He was one of the best known business men of Greenwood and at the time of his death was president of the Durst-Andrews company, a large wholesale and retail general merchandise concern. He was standing in a car watching the unloading of some flour and while so doing the car was moved by a shifting engine and Mr. Andrews was thrown out violently on the ground and sustained injuries from which he died a few days later in a hospital in Augusta, Ga.

### Killed at Saluda.

A dispatch from Saluda to The State says late Tuesday afternoon Will Culbreth, colored, the negro who was driving the wagon the night W. M. Morse was killed, was shot and instantly killed. It is said, by Mr. Morse, S. D. Gillon and others. He was plowing for a brother of W. L. Henderson and was killed in the field. He was shot only once, the weapon used being a pistol. The wound was in the head. It is said that they had gone to arrest Culbreth and that he attempted to run when they fired upon him.

### Horrible Crime.

At Wauanton, Va., three negro children whose mothers locked them in the room together, were burned to death in a fire which destroyed three dwellings. The fire was of incendiary origin, and the belief is expressed the parents of the children started the conflagration.