

COUNTRY NEWS LETTERS

SOME INTERESTING HAPPENINGS IN VARIOUS SECTIONS.

News Items Gathered All Around the County and Elsewhere.

Ehrhardt Etchings.

Ehrhardt, S. C., May 9.—Mt. Pleasant picnic was a success as usual. Plenty amusement, plenty speaking, plenty singing, plenty to eat, and plenty people to eat it, so what more could you want for a picnic? The crowd was orderly and pleasant. Rev. P. E. Monroe, our former pastor, was present, and all were glad to see him and shake. Know his right arm was weary when the day was over.

A few days ago, the day after the ball at Bamberg, a young man who had gotten too much of the ball, or something else, was sleeping the next day, Friday. Some of his friends went to the room in which he was sleeping to administer to his wants if any needed. The young man asked what day of the week it was, and was told it was Friday. Some time after another friend went up to see him and he asked the same question, "what day of the week was it?" Upon informing him that it was Friday, he said: "Isn't Friday never going to give out? Will Friday last all the time?" I imagine snakes, rats, lions and all kinds of things were after him.

Mrs. Jacob Ehrhardt and her daughters, Mrs. Fannie Copeland, Miss Edrie, and her son, Master Liles Ehrhardt, went to Savannah, Ga., last week to visit her sister, Mrs. Corrie Epting and family.

Mr. Joe Hiers went to Savannah on Saturday on a pleasure trip. Will return Monday.

Mrs. Mattie Sandifer visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. F. Kinard, Sunday.

Rains and hail have visited some sections of our county last week. No doubt it will add to the looks of that little cotton we have up in this section.

The superintendent of our division of the A. C. L. Ry. Co. was in town on Saturday, and stated that work would soon be commenced on the new depot at this place. We need it now.

Mr. I. J. Zeigler has Mrs. Mattie Chassereau's new dwelling under good headway now. Will soon be ready for the paint brush. Mr. Zeigler has all the work he can do.

Ehrhardt and Smoaks crossed bats on the former's diamond. Game resulted in favor of Ehrhardt 8, to 2 for Smoaks. The game was a good one as far as the 5th inning when some bad plays were made. From that on the game was not so good.

Fairfax Fancies.

Fairfax, May 8.—Mrs. Jones Lane gave a lovely birthday party to her nephew, Sydney Padgett, a few days ago. Sydney is one of our best high school boys, and a general favorite with all. The dining room was beautifully decorated, while the party table glistened and gleamed with pretty things. The huge birthday cake with its 15 colored wax candles (all lighted) formed a bright center piece. The children played games on the green, then drew for partners, marching into the dining room to the music of a two step played by Mrs. Sallie L. Sanders. After supper the members of the glee club gathered around the piano and they made the welkin ring with their choruses. All said they had a "perfectly lovely time" and voted Mrs. Lane and Miss Joella queens as hostesses.

Miss Edna Kearse gave a sociable Tuesday evening. Miss Etta Perry, the honoree, was the belle of the evening. Being quite a musician, she is charming all of Fairfax with sweet songs and instrumental selections.

Mrs. Rosa Platts, from near Jenny's, visited her daughter, Mrs. Julia Harter, recently.

The play, "The Turn of the Tide," practiced so faithfully by our town's people, came off Wednesday evening, and was pronounced a great success. Those taking part were: Mrs. Martin Lightsey, Prof. Rizer, Miss Haigler, Misses Lizzie Wilson and Joella Padgett, Messrs. Roy Young, Billie Sanders, W. J. Spears, and Dr. Kerrison. All acted well. There was a large crowd, and as refreshments were sold

OLD BUFORD LODGE, A. F. M.

District Deputy Pays Visit to Historic Lodge.

Olar, May 9.—On Saturday night Buford Lodge, A. F. M., was visited by Col. Butler Hagood, D. D. G. M. This old lodge is now in brand new quarters and all the paraphernalia is either new or has the appearance of such and, while it is really the thirtieth working lodge in the State, none of its members ever think of the ill fate in the evil number 13.

Col. Hagood found everything perfectly satisfactory. All the officers know their duty and perform it. The books are neatly and correctly kept and a fine balance is shown.

On being called from labor to refreshments a sumptuous repast was spread in the lodge lunch room. All the substantial and delicacies of the season were in superabundance.

Buford Lodge hall is situated near the palatial home of Capt. J. W. Jenny, where four counties come together, and it has working members in four counties, Bamberg, Barnwell, Colleton and Hampton. Before the war it was located at Buford's Bridge; the lodge was burned, and after the war it was removed to its present location, near Rivers's Bridge.

The drought is at last broken. Fine rains have fallen and on a few farms disastrous hail has fallen. However, the benefits of the rain will make up the losses by the hail.

NEWS OF A DAY AT COPE.

Two Cutting Scrapes Among Negroes.

Church Services.

Cope, May 9.—The Rev. W. H. Simpson, of Norway, preached to the Baptists yesterday afternoon, and those who heard him were very much pleased with his sermon.

Prof. E. J. Curry was to have delivered a lecture at the Methodist Church last night in the interest of Lander College, but owing to sickness did not appear; the weather being threatening, just a small crowd was out, but the pastor, the Rev. G. T. Harmon, Jr., treated all present to a good sermon.

Two cutting scrapes occurred Saturday night not far from Cope. In one Shoemaker Wolfe cut W. L. Fogle about the face. No particulars could be learned about this affair. In the other, Henry Tyler, a negro, cut another negro, Jim Green, in the back of the neck, and also under the jaw.

Messrs. Gwynn E. Griffith and Matty Dempsey spent yesterday in Branchville.

Mr. V. Brabham and family and Mr. M. A. Moyer, Jr., and family, spent the day at Bamberg.

Mr. Mobley, former bookkeeper for the State dispensary, spent last night in Cope, and left this morning for the home of Mr. J. W. Barnes.

Negro Shot at Newberry.

Newberry, May 8.—In a dispute over ten cents, which arose while the parties were gambling, Mel Wicker this morning shot and probably mortally wounded Enoch Bridges in the St. Phillip's section of the county, both parties being colored.

The ball entered Bridges' spine from the rear. Wicker escaped.

afterwards, over fifty dollars was taken in.

Miss Alice Johnson, of Estill, a guest of Miss Annye Moyer, discoursed sweet vocal and instrumental music during the play, or between the acts, which added greatly to the enjoyment of the audience. The amateurs are invited to repeat the play Monday evening at Brunson, and perhaps elsewhere later. Mrs. Sam Talley was a valuable assistant of Miss Annye Moyer in getting up the play. Both ladies are to be congratulated on its successful termination.

Miss Hattie Boulware, of Alledale, a guest of Mrs. S. Talley, attended the play.

Mr. J. Norwood, president of our bank, and Mr. Hanby, architect, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Talley this week.

Our cashier moved into the new bank last Monday.

A place is reserved for the public library in the bank building.

Messrs. Compton and Harter will soon have the new brick store filled with a fine lot of furniture.

Mrs. Henry Ulmer, of Brunson, spent some time with Mrs. Lalla Ulmer recently.

Mrs. Bertie Jarrell and sweet little daughter are visiting her home folks in Columbia.

IN THE PALMETTO STATE

SOME OCCURRENCES OF VARIOUS KINDS IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

State News Boiled Down for Quick Reading—Paragraphs About Men and Happenings.

Twenty-five solid carloads of cotton, representing a value of around \$80,000 was shipped from Charleston to New York last week, presumably as a result of the recent uncertain condition of the cotton market.

Joe Cheeks, of Augusta, was killed on the C. & W. C. Ry., near Beech Island last Monday and the Inquest was held the following day, in which the railroad was exonerated from all blame, as the testimony went to show that Cheeks was drunk and was consequently trespassing when killed.

Prof. W. K. Tate, of Charleston, has accepted the position of State supervisor of rural schools in which position he will supervise the expenditure of \$60,000 appropriated at the last legislature for the lengthening of the terms of the country schools and the building of better school buildings.

Visitors at Jenny's.

Jenny's, May 9.—After a storm there's always a calm. For nearly two weeks Jennyville has been enjoying entertaining her many visitors. Now all are gone, how quiet and lonesome! All took in the memorial, which, we believe, was one of the best we have ever attended. Then next we enjoyed on the following Saturday, a genuine good old time fish fry at the picturesque home of Capt. J. W. Jenny. Fish, hot coffee, hot rolls, red-horse bread galore!

Of course there were other eatables, but too numerous to mention. Lemonade and ice cream throughout the afternoon. We tamely express ourselves when we say we enjoy these gatherings at Capt. Jenny's, for no one ever goes away from his home without having spent a pleasant day, for the untiring efforts of this good man and his better, and bigger half will make it pleasant for old and young. Long may this dear couple be spared us.

Mrs. Martha Kearse and granddaughter, Agnes, from Kearse, made glad the hearts of Mr. and Mrs. John Lynes on Saturday, by surprising them with a long despaired of visit. Of course they dined at the fish-fry, and went away—satisfied. Aunt Martha, now in her 82nd year, is looking well, and her bright smiles and kind, loving words are a benediction to all around her. Would that our land was filled with such women!

Mr. and Mrs. Wille Rast, from Orangeburg, have been visiting at Mr. J. D. Jenny's, Mrs. Rast's father. Also Mrs. Carlisle Ficken and children, Mr. Jenny's "babies" and grandbabies, from Port Royal.

Quite a crowd from here ran over to the picnic at Mt. Pleasant near Ehrhardt, Thursday. My the people! Don't think many folks was at home Thursday, all went to the picnic. The day was fine, rather cool in the morning, but soon was alright. The speeches were, both of them, of most excellent character. Rev. Monroe gave a fine little talk on "Babies," illustrating beautifully how they helped in the church below, and in God's Kingdom.

Mr. Watson gave the "Educated Woman" her place in the home, in the church, and in the community in which she lives.

We wonder why somebody did not tell us something about "man." It seems nobody knows anything about this queer creature known as "man." What is man? It is nothing unusual to read essays, hear speeches, etc., about the woman, but all the poets are stumped when he comes to man. Why?

Miss Latna Folk, of Wesley Chapel neighborhood, has been visiting her brother, Mr. Joe Folk, this past week, returned to her home Saturday.

Misses Alice and Ettie Kearse spent Saturday and Sunday with their sister, Mrs. Lynes.

The visitors all gone home; the cotton coming up; the rain came yesterday afternoon. So early this Monday morning the air is filled with "Get-up, whoa! haw! gee!" everybody gone to work in earnest, for a long two months' stretch.

Mr. Willie Jenny and family spent Sunday with his uncle, Mr. C. D. Loadholdt.

The Masons held their regular monthly meeting on Saturday. Gen. Hagood came up and gave them some good talk. Dinner was served in their splendid masonic hall. Quite

STAY ON THE FARM.

Crops Look Well and the Future is Roseate, Says "Old Timer."

Wanderer's Rest, May 9.—The long drouth is broken by fine rains and some hail but no damage done here. The birds are singing and nature smiles as she is kissed by the warm and bright rays of a May day sun and the roses send forth their fragrance as they nod in the breeze. Soon the young crops will be a thing of beauty and the heavy hearted old farmer will have a broad smile on his careworn face as he looks at the bright prospect ahead and he will be ashamed of his moans and groans during the drought, and his sadness will be turned into joy unless he allows his crops to be taken by weeds, then he will howl again not once thinking he and he alone will be the cause of it, but man is prone to murmur and complain, through the sunshine and the rain. But the sun is shining brightly today, the birds are singing their happy songs and there is no place like this coastal plain of South Carolina, for many farmers have on their tables each day now potatoes planted and grown with less than one inch of rainfall from date of planting and many other things taken from his home garden in spite of the long dry spell.

The oats are poor, but the early field peas will be good and last year's corn crop was fine, so to an old man's mind all will be well, for he has passed more than one long spring drought and came out with flying colors in the fall.

So don't go to town, boys, get a small farm home and make it a good one; learn a thing or two from nature and then you will find that he is the most useful and important man on the globe, for when he falls all else goes under, and while like Mark Twain's donkey brought low by ridicule yet that same donkey can bray lustily, so with the farmer boy. The day of ridicule is past—progress is here and to stay, and the auto and telephone is to play an important part in bringing the country homes together, for even now little children can call an old man up miles away and his face is a study as he eagerly listens to the childish voices talking to him and how he smiles when Buster or Kid or some other little one answers to his hello.

Then there is the music—piano, violin, banjo, and other instruments of music, with songs sung and played in homes miles away are listened to all along the line and when the madam wants to make things lively by a gentle reminder to the old man causes a smile far away and she can gossip with her children and distant neighbors and know who is sick or to be married soon—all this helps, and the daily mail brings letters from the children who have left their home nest and gone to a home of their own—gives the country lad or lass a boon coupled with fresh air and sunshine and skating rinks and ball games, entertainments, picnics and so on, a boost that Julius Caesar never dreamed of.

Then the flowers and fields and forests and birds all have their places and the stars shine o'er head, no streets to shut them out—gives an old man in the country a place to be envied by the dwellers of a city mansion owned by a millionaire, and then when mother's day comes around and he has no white rose bud to pin on his coat lapel or suspender as the case may be he can go in some one else's garden, select one, and some bright eyed country lassie will pin it on for him. Stay on the farm, boys, for there the future will hold good, is the prophecy of

OLD TIMER.

a crowd was present and gave the General a cordial welcome. Little Sadie Ray Jenny is quite sick at this writing, hope her fever can soon be controlled. Little Winnie, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Folk, has also been very sick, but is much better now. Mr. Eddie Priestner too has a very sick child. It seems this is the week for the babies to be sick. St. Nicholas will celebrate its annual Sunday-school picnic on the 19th instant. Everybody is invited to attend. Bring along a few loose dimes, for the ladies will sell ice cream in the afternoon for the benefit of the new St. Nicholas to be erected now soon. Come, and don't forget the dimes.

Rev. P. E. Monroe, of Johnston, spent Wednesday with Capt. J. W. Jenny, enroute to Mt. Pleasant. Rev. Monroe left us for Johnston two years ago after serving our church faithfully for five years. We enjoy having him once more in our midst.

CREIGHTON CASE SETTLED

COMMITTEE RULES AGAINST EXPELLED MINISTER.

General Conference Sustains Decision of South Carolina Conference in Creighton Matter.

Asheville, May 10.—The committee on appeals of the general conference of the Methodist Episcopal church, South, to-night held in the case of Rev. C. W. Creighton, of Greenwood, that the action of the South Carolina general conference be ratified. This report will be made to the conference to-morrow. Rev. Mr. Creighton, as editor of a church paper in South Carolina, was charged with expressing views not in harmony with the church's teachings and was tried and convicted. He was expelled from the South Carolina conference.

This action of the general conference committee is final. The charge against the deposed minister grew out of his publication of a paper in Greenwood known as The Christian Appeal in which were published antagonistic articles relating to church matters.

CONJURED BY HER ENEMY.

Negro Girl Thinks She Was Made to Eat Snake Dust.

Lella Davis, a colored girl at Durham, N. C., has been very ill under the belief that she has been conjured by her rival. The girl and her black beau quarrelled some time ago and patched up a miserable peace. Not long since the Davis girl began to complain, that internally there were living things that bit her. She found out that her rival had conjured her.

Thereupon she went for Silas Hamilton, an old conjure-breaker of Raleigh, a negro with forty years' experience. His diagnosis was that the girl had eaten snake dust which her enemy must have powdered up and given her in liquid form. Dr. Silas says that snake dust will invariably evolve itself into live reptiles as soon as it finds moisture in the human economy and that unless one gets it out quickly, he must die.

He has cured thousands, and he thinks the Davis girl will recover. The snake dust is made by powdering the dried hide of the serpent fine. As a medication it is said to be something fierce and the woman who administered it evidently knew what it would do.

Wind Sweeps Orangeburg.

Orangeburg, May 9.—A severe wind-storm passed over this city yesterday afternoon blowing down some trees and uprooting a few buildings. John Cart was the heaviest loser as his cotton warehouse was unroofed.

Hail fell very thick for a few minutes during the storm, destroying much corn in slips. Generally little damage was suffered. The hail that fell during the past week skipped Orangeburg county but wrought much havoc in Calhoun county. Numerous farmers over there were compelled to replant their crops.

POSTMASTERS AND POLITICS.

Senator Carter Says \$416,000,000 a Year Could be Saved Easily.

Washington, May 9.—Senator Bourne's speech in the senate on what he said was the best election law in the world meaning that of Oregon, provoked a spirited debate on the methods of appointing federal officers generally and postmasters in particular. Senator Carter, chairman of the postoffice committee, proposed to have postmasters promoted from one postoffice to another, without regard to state lines, after the manner of railroad agents.

Senators Hale and Bacon expressed themselves favorable to postmasters being placed in the classified civil service lists, while William Alden Smith expressed his vigorous protest against taking postmasters out of politics.

"I resent the idea," said Senator Smith, "that a man must take a bath every morning in order to cleanse himself from political contamination."

Senator Smith wanted all postmasters to be political powers in their communities.

Senator Carter said that it cost about \$241,000,000 a year to run the postoffice department. "For \$125,000,000 a year," said he, "a good business man who would conduct this business on the merit system as the Pennsylvania railroad is conducted could give us a better service in every respect and make a profit besides."

FLORENCE MAN SHOT.

Earl Campbell Receives Bullet Intended for Another.

Florence, May 8.—Mr. Earl Campbell, a clerk at Mr. J. F. Stackley's East Florence grocery, and a son of Mr. D. W. Campbell, of this city, was shot in the head last night, while at work in the store, in a most mysterious manner.

Mr. Campbell and the other clerks in the store were preparing to close up, and were arranging the stock accordingly. While in the act of hanging a bunch of bananas the report of a gun was heard on the outside of the building and Campbell was seen to fall, at the same time exclaiming that he was shot. Upon examination it was found that he had received a bullet wound in the head, from which blood was flowing freely. He was quickly taken to a physician, and it was then found that the bullet from a 44 or 48-calibre rifle had struck him in the head, just behind the forehead, passed around under the skin through the temple and out behind the ear, making an ugly, though not as yet a serious wound.

In the meantime the police and others were searching for the direction from which came the shot. It was found that a shot had been fired from W. P. Rogers's livery stable across the street, directly in front of Stackley's store.

Rogers, it is stated, had been drinking during the evening and had become enraged with some one at his house and picked up a 44-calibre rifle and fired at the party. The ball, missing its mark, went through the window of the second story of the stable building, where the row was going on, across the street, through the open door of Stackley's, striking Campbell in the head, as above stated.

Rogers was at once placed under arrest and carried to the station house and locked up on the charge of firing the gun. Rogers's children were arrested as witnesses and were also locked up.

Campbell is doing as well as could be expected and will get along all right, unless blood poisoning from the bullet develops.

It was certainly a close call for Campbell and the others in the store at the time.

King Edward Dead.

King Edward VII died at 11:45 o'clock Friday night in London. The Prince of Wales is King, assuming the title of George V, and took the oath before the privy council at 2 o'clock Saturday evening.

Coming so suddenly, the death of the King cannot but bring the greatest sorrow to the nation, in whose hearts Edward, first as Prince of Wales, and afterwards as sovereign, held first place. His short reign of nine years has been a history of stirring times. It opened with the conclusion of peace after a long and trying campaign in South Africa, and concluded at the crucial moment of one of the most momentous political struggles of modern times, between the Peers and Commons.

In a day the political outlook of Great Britain has been revolutionized. All through the Empire the word was flashed and flags were floated at half-mast. Besides the social gloom which the King's death casts over England, several important and planned official events must be abandoned.

The Prince and Princess of Wales were to go to South Africa with the squadron, and the Prince was to open the first Parliament of the new confederation, but his accession to the throne will now prevent this.

The death of his Majesty will also mean abandonment of the principal functions of Ex-President Roosevelt. The Prince of Wales succeeded to the crown immediately, according to the laws of the Kingdom, without official ceremony. His first official act was to dispatch to the Lord Mayor the announcement of his father's death, in pursuance of custom.

Fuller is Acquitted.

Greenville, May 9.—After remaining out but two hours the jury hearing the case of the State against Jesse Fuller, charged with the murder of J. E. Liddell, a real estate man, on Christmas eve, returned a verdict of not guilty at 9 o'clock tonight. All day long the court room was packed and jammed with people. The evidence submitted by the State was purely circumstantial and Fuller practically proved an alibi as to where he was at the time of the murder.

More interest centered in this trial than any other ever held in Greenville.