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ONLY 21 Days More Shopping Before X'mas.

The Weather.
South Carolina: Fair Thursday and Friday.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY
This is the best day the world has ever seen. Tomorrow will be better.
—R. A. Campbell.

WE ARE THANKFUL
That the Lord God of Hosts is pleased if we are but thankful.

That we live in the United States of America and not in warring Europe.

That the music of the church bells fills our ears this morning and not the roaring of cannon.

That the editors of The Intelligencer and City Attorney G. Cullen Sullivan both have babies that can laugh.

That Charleston hasn't any more "points of historical interest" about it than it shouts over already.

That we live in Anderson and not Greenville or Spartanburg, to say nothing of Greenwood.

That the Blue Ridge railway is soon to have a new passenger station up town and discard the old one.

That the set of whiskers adorning the chin of Gen. Carranza is of his own sprouting and doesn't belong to us.

That we are today eating turkey and not endeavoring to shoot Turkey full of holes with our battleships and armies.

That the Mexican revolution hasn't been settled and thus dried up our only source of war news on this half of the sphere.

That in the recent campaign for the cleaning up of the city the interests of law and order were in the hands of G. Cullen Sullivan.

That we don't live in the same town with a father in Georgia who mauls his son because he "sopped" molasses on both sides of his bread.

That Browning was inspired to write:
"God's in His heaven:
All's right with the world."

That styles in men's hats are so varied this season we can wear our last winter's lid without anybody detecting it is not of the new crop.

That Governor Blease can't blame anybody else for his record, for he often boasted that "I could never be said any man but Blease was governor while Blease was filling that office."

CAPT. WATKINS' REPLY

Captain H. H. Watkins has another broadside in this issue of The Intelligencer, in reply to the last communication of City Attorney Sullivan. In this communication he replies to some of the statements made by Mr. Sullivan in his communication published in The Intelligencer of last Sunday, November 22. Capt. Watkins is a logical writer, and makes some very plain statements as to the propriety of the city attorney's accepting the commission to investigate the legality of the franchise. He also takes him to task for the allusion to the fact that Capt. Watkins is no longer a resident of the city, but has removed to the suburbs. The principal issue between these gentlemen seems to be the preparation of the "White Way" contract, and their disagreement as to the few details in this transaction. Dismissing these details as of little importance in the main, Capt. Watkins makes this statement: "Whatever may have been the facts of the preparation of the contract, I was called upon to approve it, and did approve it, and having done so I would not suffer myself to be employed as an attorney to deny or contest its validity even though I did not in express terms, as I am informed he did, assure my client that it was a valid contract."

Capt. Watkins expresses the opinion that seems to be prevalent over the city, and accepted as correct by many of those who have discussed the matter, that even if "the city could avoid its agreement, I would hang my head in shame before even suggesting that 'My Town' is ready to repudiate its contract. It would shame me to think that any citizen would do so after he had sat quietly and allowed the company to spend immense sums of money on the faith of the contract, and knowing that these expenditures had been accepted by the city, and had added greatly to its upbuilding and convenience."

Capt. Watkins reverses the positions of the city and the company for the sake of argument, and makes a telling comparison. He argues that it is a moral question as well as one of law, and that the city should stand on as high ground as the company does. He concludes his article with a statement of his belief in the integrity and honesty of the people of Anderson, and that they would not stand for repudiation of their contract.

The Intelligencer believes that the people really wish to know what is right in this matter, and further if the city really has a good franchise. With this in view, The Intelligencer proposes to publish within the next few days the franchise contracts for the white way, and for the longer term. We trust that the people will read these articles and decide for themselves whether or not the city has been "duped" and made a bad bargain. Meanwhile the columns of this paper are open for a discussion of the matter from any standpoint, and we shall be pleased to give space to rational articles on any side of it. Let the people think of it and discuss it.

CONVICTS TURNED OUT.

Governor Blease has again made a wholesale liberation of convicts. Today is Thanksgiving day, and he has turned out over one hundred of the "citizens in stripes." This will make more than fourteen hundred he has extended clemency to since he has been governor, and almost results in closing the doors of the State penitentiary. Of course there are those in every penal institution who should not be there, and when such cases are found, it is proper to extend clemency. But it is hardly conceivable that there are so many unjustly convicted in South Carolina, as that the Governor should interfere in so many cases. "Justice tempered with mercy" is what we need, and what should be the policy of the State's chief executive.

A BIG EDITION

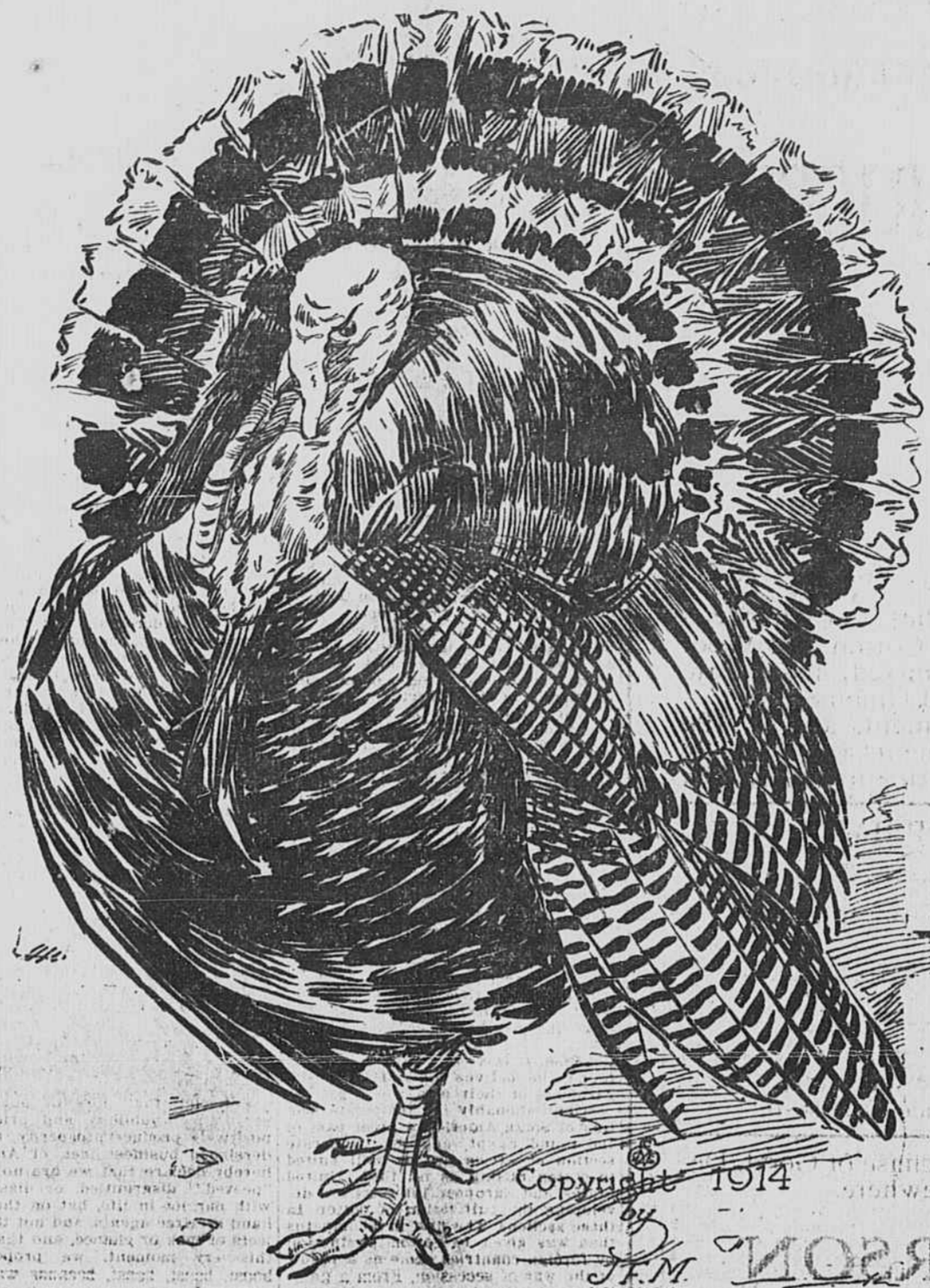
The Tuesday's edition of the Charleston Evening Post consists of sixty-six pages, and is commemorative of the "new Charleston spirit." It is a splendid example of the energy of this afternoon paper, and shows that "The City by the Sea" is very much alive, and that she has a very much alive newspaper in the Post. Bound copies of this issue will be placed in the public libraries and reading room of the chambers of commerce in every state in the Union.

HE CAN'T BE BEAT

The report comes from Anderson that they will elect Will Lyons Sheriff in 1916. As we have often stated you cannot beat an Abbeville man, so if he runs he will be elected.—Abbeville Medium.

That the "dear postal" will be deprived next summer of the bi-annual visitation of the state political campaign circus, with its gleaming and profound discussion of great principles of government.

TURKEYS LAST THANKSGIVING



My Turkey 'tis of thee,
Sweet bird of Cranberry,
Of thee I sing,
I love thy neck and wings,
Legs, back and other things,
My heart with rapture sings,
On this glad day.

Captain Watkins Replies to City Attorney Sullivan

TO THE EDITOR OF THE INTELLIGENCER:
I know that the people of Anderson and the readers of your paper are not concerned with controversies of a personal nature. They are entitled, however, to a knowledge of the personal conduct and motives of men who deal with public interests in so far as these interests are affected thereby, whether these be the conduct and motives of paid officials of the public or of private persons and corporations, having dealing with the public. I have for some time thought that much of the prejudice that at times prevails against corporations is due to the fact that the people are not informed of the corporate side of the question. The natural and proper reluctance of business men to discuss their affairs in the public press is responsible frequently for the public remaining in ignorance of matters upon which they should be informed. I have an abiding faith in the fairness of the people upon all matters about which they have full knowledge. This has been forcibly illustrated in the matter of the franchise of the Southern Public Utilities Company, which has been thought by many to be an exclusive forty year franchise. I hope you will publish this document for the information of the public, who are entitled to know its terms, as well as the terms of the white way contract.

In one way or another, directly or through enterprises in which I have held stock, I have contributed in some small degree to the city's revenues ever since I have "ceased to be a resident of the city." It had not occurred to me, therefore, that I was committing "lese majeste" when after my name had been repeatedly brought into print in connection with a great public issue, I addressed to you an article which the city attorney was kind enough to characterize as "dignified and moderate in tone," calling attention to certain facts which I thought that the public were entitled to know and which were in danger of being obscured by partisan and personal discussion. I hope that on mature consideration the city attorney, to whose salary is contributed in a small degree by the taxes which I pay, and in a much larger measure by my client,

the Southern Public Utilities Company, will not feel that I deserve to have my views discounted by calling attention to the fact that I am no longer a resident of the city. It is true that for some years, for reasons that I think would be approved by the city attorney, I have lived in the suburbs of the city in a modest home which has not the advantage of water works lamps, but this fact has not deprived me of the privilege of contributing as my means have permitted to the public enterprise of the city. I am certainly glad that either the city attorney nor any one else draw the line of expatriation in order to deny me this privilege. I am glad to know that the city attorney has given this humble non-resident the privilege more than once of expressing sympathy for his efforts in behalf of good government without any suggestion that my admiration was the less acceptable because I did not live in the city. These expressions were in line with the friendship and admiration which I have always had, and still have, for the city attorney. They were sincere, and were without any suggestion that the efforts of the city attorney were the less commendable even though the very undesirable conditions had been allowed to develop under his long administration as such attorney. If I were to follow his example in this discussion, I might suggest that I regret that the public was so long deprived of the splendid work which he has accomplished, and that an earlier discussion at the hands of so efficient a prosecutor had not saved the city the disgrace and crime which ran riot so long. In this connection it might not be an unwarranted liberty to wonder at the absent-mindedness that led the city attorney, without criticism and with due complacency, to bank in the editor of The Intelligencer's enthusiastic praises for his work of reform, and equally to wonder at the promptness with which he exclaimed "Bah!" and cried, "Say, editor when did you hit the town anyway?" when this editor dared to express honest views, differing from those of the city attorney on a great public issue and to ask pertinent questions to which it might seem the tax payers are entitled to answer. I do not know in what spirit Mr. Taylor

Thankworthy--

Among other things, we are thankful for a "store with a conscience." A store where the confidence of the public has been merited and retained; a store where there is a feeling of co-operation between buyer and seller; where there is more to business than the idea of barter and trade.

We are thankful for your appreciation of our spirit of service.

B.O. Grant Co.
The Store with a Conscience
(Closed today-Open Friday.)

sure my client that it was a valid contract.

I have not been called upon to express any legal opinion upon the validity of the franchise granted the city, and I did not mean to do so in my article. I will say, however, that even if I believed that by reason of legal technicalities, unknown to either party and unsuspected by even the able legal representative of the city, at the time of the adoption of the franchise, the city could avoid its agreement, I would hide my head in shame before even suggesting that "My Town" is ready to repudiate its contract. It would shame me to think that any citizen would do so after he had sat quietly and allowed the company to spend immense sums of money on the faith of the contract, and knowing that these expenditures had been accepted by the city and had added greatly to its upbuilding and convenience. I am informed that the city attorney spent much time in the study of the franchise question before its adoption. Indeed, I am told that so much time was consumed that the city council voted in addition to his regular salary an extra fee of \$500 for services rendered in connection with the franchise matter and other interests of the city. If this be true did not the council which paid the fee and given the Utilities Company, whose taxes contributed thereto, both have the right to expect that the city attorney would both know and advise of any illegality in their action. I do not know whether extra compensation has been provided or will be provided for the weeks of labor which the city attorney has spent in arriving at his present opinion, but it would seem that if he is now giving a correct opinion he should certainly receive as large extra compensation as he received for supervising a work which he now declares to be illegal.

Another matter, and I will close this already long article. In the final paragraph of his communication he launches against Mr. Taylor and myself this charge: "I presume that these gentlemen do not mean to permit the people of Anderson to decide this matter by vote at an election, but to keep them from voting on it if in their power to prevent." Really, I had supposed that the question of submitting issues to a vote of the people was the prerogative of their representatives on the city council, and not of non-residents like myself who enjoy the distinction of "taxation without representation." The suggestion is more adroit than well founded; it is intended to suggest to the people that Mr. Taylor and I are denying them a substantial right. No one should be misled by such argument. It is as absurd as if one should suggest to the stockholders of the Southern Public Utilities Company that the city council of Anderson and its attorney were responsible for their not voting on this question. What is the difference? Mr. Sullivan knows that it was Mr. Taylor's duty and that of his attorney to see to it that he had authority to sign these

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Reach Punching Bags
ANKLE AND WRIST SUPPORTERS
Gifts that would please any boy. THE REACH trade-mark guarantees satisfaction and perfect goods.
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Anderson, S. C., Belton, S. C., Greenville, S. C.