

LOCAL ITEMS.

There are sixteen prisoners in the Laurens Jail. The mercury is nosing about Zero. Pleasant weather! Mr. BIAS COX and family have moved to town. They live in Jersey. Our press work is necessarily bad this week on account of the extremely cold weather. It's said that women are a delusion. Well, most men are very fond of hugging delusions. Our "devil" is out of humour. The ADVERTISER is out of wood, but in all other respects we are above par. We call attention to the ad. of J. A. & B. C. CRISP in another column. They are enterprising and experienced young men. Our "devil" is mad as a four manager went courting and stayed all night; but the ADVERTISER will be on time all the same. Mr. J. M. Robertson has made arrangements to fit up the post-office with lock-boxes. This is a long-felt want supplied. Stock in our Building and Loan Association will be sold at par for next thirty days. Subscribe before the premium is added. We are pleased to see Mr. W. Mitchell, of Batesburg, in town. He is visiting the family of Mr. N. B. Dials, Esq., and others—the latter particularly. Boys, if you are not named in this issue of THE ADVERTISER, remember that the paper must be filled with interesting matter. Excuse us, gentlemen. The next meeting of the Laurens County Teachers' Convention will meet in the Chapel of the Laurensville Female College next Saturday 10th. Let us have a full attendance. Boys should watch the fires when they go courting. A young lady told us the other day that if she didn't like a caller she let the fire go down. They always have good fires when we call. Capt. H. L. FARLEY, of Spartanburg, called on the ADVERTISER last week. Capt. F. is a successful lawyer and a pleasant gentleman. We are always pleased to see him on his old camping ground. Auditor Langston failed to meet his appointment for assessing property at Goodgion's last Saturday. He will give the people of that neighborhood another appointment. Notice will be given in THE ADVERTISER. We have been called a critic lately and kindly informed that our absence from certain places would be appreciated. Distance lends enchantment to the view, you know, but we would like to be nearer anyhow. Editor J. C. GARLINGTON is visiting our neighboring cities—Charleston, Columbia and Augusta, in the interest of THE ADVERTISER. We bespeak for the clever young editor that success which he and his paper merit. The Kappa Delta Literary Society, of the Laurensville Female College, will give an entertainment soon, consisting of music and recitations, concluding with a laughable farce entitled "Leap Year in a village with one gentleman. We are pleased to welcome to our midst another "limb of the law" in the person of our old friend W. R. RICHY, Esq. Mr. R. will move his family here and locate permanently to practice his profession. We wish him abundant success. Stores and houses do not make trade. Let us have enterprises that will bring people among us. How does the public pulse beat on the cotton factory question? A factory would bring operatives here and increase the local trade twofold. By reference to another column it will be seen that Mr. T. A. FitzSimmons, of Spartanburg has located in our town for the purpose of buying cotton. He is a most excellent gentleman, and we extend to him a cordial welcome. Dr. DAVIS, who has been twelve years in China as a Missionary, has been delivering a series of lectures in the Presbyterian Church of this place. The lectures are very interesting and instructive. Mr. DAVIS has a large number of drawings, as well as many Chinese curiosities, to show the modes of life of Chinese. Some people will not subscribe to the Building and Loan Association because they can manage their money better than other people can do it for them. This spirit would kill all banks, railroads, factories, &c., at short notice. Business relations would be limited. Wherever a man has that little confidence in human nature, he ought to hang himself. No, other people might not bury him as well as he can do it; he ought to tie a rock to his neck and drown himself. Improvement is the watch-word in Laurens. On all sides we mark the evidences of progress, and in nothing can we boast more improvement than in the number and efficiency of our schools. The Laurensville Female College, the Laurensville Seminary and the Male Academy are under the management of able teachers who understand and appreciate their duties. We are proud of our schools, and invite the people of the town and county to patronize them. There are near two hundred white pupils attending school in Laurens. The readers of THE ADVERTISER will excuse all imperfection in this issue, as Mr. GARLINGTON has been absent the past week. True he left me here as his substitute in all matters whatsoever, but I have not made certain "editorial calls" that are calculated to move the marrow in a young editor's bones and make him want to die "then and there." I have not had the nicest fruits and pison things sent to my sanctum. I have made no man, or have been made myself prematurely bald. I have been thoroughly satisfied, however, that a cabbage head can't run a newspaper, and I add that the man who will read a newspaper without paying for it is awfully mean.

The Laurens Building and Loan Association was harmoniously organized by the election of J. O. C. Fleming, J. J. Pius, W. L. Boyd, W. A. Jamieson, J. W. Todd, Col. J. W. Ferguson, Dr. J. A. Barksdale, E. S. McKinley and W. A. Watts as Directors. These names are a sufficient guarantee that the interest of the stockholders will be closely guarded. These Directors elected the other officers of the Association as follows: Dr. J. A. Barksdale, President; J. O. C. Fleming, Vice-President; C. W. Tane, Secretary and Treasurer; J. T. Johnson, Solicitor. The Association starts out under the most favorable prospects. Let us start a bank.

County Correspondence.

CLINTON. "J."

Fire-works, if you please, instead of fine books. Rev. D. P. Boyd has been returned by the Conference to the Clinton Circuit, much to the satisfaction of the whole community. You may put down, as Nos. 4 and 5, Mr. Dock Copeland to Miss Mattie Owens, and Mr. Ludy Tribble to Miss Emma Griffin. There has been much of good feeling in our town during the Christmas holidays, and many kind remembrances of the end of the year 1885 are treasured up in the hearts of a great many of our people, both children and adults. There have been quite a number of visitors in Clinton during the holidays, among them are Miss Jennett McFarland of Cheraw, Miss Mildred Parrott of Darlington, Miss Anna Robinson of Williamston, and Miss Alice Bonzer of Greenwood. Rev. Mr. Millard has also given a series of his popular lectures, to small but delighted houses. Clinton has had, during the past few days, quite a number of entertainments. First, the Dramatic Club gave, in Owen's Hall, a light temperance drama and farce. Both pieces were well rendered and well patronized. Then the Ladies' Aid Society furnished an oyster supper and festival at the Orphanage, which netted out something more than a hundred dollars. Two dances came in, in the meantime, and all was fully enjoyed. The Christmas tree, in the Baptist Church, was so well attended that not only every child got something, but the pastor and teachers were remembered in a way most gratifying to their feelings. THE ADVERTISER even, was not overlooked, but was remembered in the shape of a splendid full suit of clothes, coat vest and pants, which were sent in to Clinton correspondent by one of Clinton's noble-hearted merchants—Rush Blakely.

DORROH P. O. JOE PRINCE.

The ancient Greeks had a law that every man who held an office, was not entitled to election, or to hold any other office, or to receive any public honor, whatever, till he had made a full return of his official acts, and all had been investigated and approved. This was required and expected to be done immediately after the close of his term of office. It was a good law, and we, of this progressive age, would do well to repeat it. It is getting to be very difficult, and in some instances, impossible, for our County officers to give bonds with good and sufficient surety. Simply because good men will hesitate long before signing a paper which must necessarily stand against them for more than half a lifetime. There is no excuse for it. The acts of every official should be thoroughly investigated just as soon as his term expires. Such a law in the past would have saved many good men in this country, who are now in bankruptcy—or something worse. Such a law should not only apply to public officers, so-called, but to every position of trust. Nothing encourages dishonesty so much as a good opportunity. To-day (the 8th) they are laying the side track at Gray's Depot. And at this time the snow is falling much faster than the cross-ties, or the blows of the big hammers. Christmas was two weeks too early. It is a sorry Christmas without snow.

CROSS HILL. MAEK.

We are sorry to lose from amongst us Miss Sallie Watts, who has returned to her old home at Laurens, and the young men are particularly sad at losing Miss Bettie Watts, who has been quite a favorite during her sojourn amongst us. The ground is covered with snow. It is said by the old people that snow is good for small grain; if that be so the prospect is good—oats and wheat; and by the way the small grain looks as well as I ever saw it at the time of year. The recent freshet in the water courses has been very destructive to bridges and railroads. The bridge over the Saluda, at Watt's Ferry, was entirely carried away. We earnestly hope that the Commissioners of Laurens and Abbeville counties will attend to it at once and have a bridge put up. It is a necessity for the people of this section. We trust that the wishes of the people will be respected.

He Swore Off. From the Chicago Herald.

"I am going to swear off New Year's" said a newspaper man, who does railroads and night police, as he dropped into one of Porter Palmer's cushioned seats in the rotunda of the hotel. "No, boys, I've got some ideas on this business of drinking. If you wish to publish it you're welcome to do it. My proprietor is a drinker himself in a small way, and he might say he had not engaged me to write temperance lectures. But I'll tell you what I've been thinking about and everybody ought to think of it. That's the cost. Now, I've got too much sense to take up the temperance racket from any sentimental idea, nor will I prate about the moralistic side of it. Leave that to the platform cranks and blue ribbon idiots. My standpoint is one of practicality. What does the tipping habit cost? I have been a moderate drinker for twenty-five years. I don't think the habit is growing on me. I know I am in no danger of the gutter or trampled. My health is perfect, my mind clear and active, and physically and mentally considered, my seven or eight drinks a day or more on occasion, seem to have done me no harm. But I am damnably poor." With this the newspaper man stretched his legs and looked at his friends, who were all his juniors. They hardly realized his poverty, for he was well kressed and known to be a gentleman. "Fact," he said, "I am poor and in debt. Of course you know the craft does not get princely incomes, but they get enough to save something from. The difficulty is not so much lack of income as lack of prudence in handling it. Do you know what led me into this train of thought? I'll tell you. I went into one of the best saloons the other morning to get a cocktail. I was a little snaky and needed it. I had just twenty-five cents. I got my ten cents change, and then leaned up against the rail and looked around. I saw pictures that were elegant. I saw mirrors reflecting and duplicating them. I saw the most magnificent cut glass and silverware. I saw wood carvings, marble fittings, gorgeous tapestries, superb frescoes, and, speaking to a young man present, the barman said that it had cost nearly \$60,000 to supply this one place with these gorgeous things. I looked for the proprietor. He was not in just then, but his magnificent family sleigh stood outside. It bore tufted plumes and the horses wore banded tails and Russian arches of silver gongs. The coachman wore a green coat with great gold metal disks for buttons, and a huge sealskin cap that cost more than mine. And then, as I looked I began to think. I turned to the bar and said inwardly, 'I'll put up the other ten cents and get a cocktail.' The young man who made it attracted my attention. He was one of four who was dealing out the brains poison. He was young, stalwart. His dress was immaculate, his linen faultless, his hands soft and white, his whole appearance suggested the freshness of early spring. In his polished shirt gleamed a gorgeous diamond. Upon his little finger blazed another. I looked at this chap, and I began to reflect that I had spent my last ten cents, and would be compelled to borrow to see me through the week. Then reflection went still further, and I asked myself how much of my poor salary went to keep up this style, and how much interest I had in those diamonds and furs and sleigh and bang-tailed horses? Then I began to look at the profits of the business, and remembered that there were sixty average drinks to the gallon of whiskey, and that the average bar whiskey costs three dollars a gallon. At fifteen cents a drink this diamond bedizened gentleman behind the bar took in nine dollars for something that cost three dollars, to say nothing of added water. And then I remembered how few of these gentlemen had even a cent to spend on anything but their selfish pleasures, how they wore the finest of clothing, the costliest of underwear, silken and cashmere, how their shoes and boots cost from \$12 to \$20 a pair, and how I had to tramp around with soft patches. And the more I thought the madder I got, and I have made up my mind to leave no more of my money with these gentlemen who live so easily and luxuriously, and whose goageous livelihood costs them not an hour's worry. Others may and will order drinks, no doubt, but from me the saloons and their gorgeous proprietors have got their last dollar. This is my little Christmas temperance lecture, boys. Try and profit by it.

Mortgagee's Sale.

By virtue of authority vested in the undersigned by the provision of a certain mortgage given us by Susan T. Knight, and duly recorded in office of Register of Mense Conveyance for Laurens County S. C. we will sell to the highest bidder, for cash on first Monday in February next, at Laurens C. H., S. C., all that tract or parcel of land lying in the County and State aforesaid, containing Fifty-two Acres, more or less, bounded by lands of Albert Dial, C. Burns' estate, and others, and on which are comfortable dwellings and out-buildings. L. G. BALLE, C. L. FIKK. Jan. 11, 1886. 24 3c.

State of South Carolina, LAURENS COUNTY, IN COURT COMMON PLEAS.

Nancy Balentine, David F. Balentine, Robert M. Balentine, and Benjamin F. Balentine, Plaintiffs, against William L. Balentine and L. T. Daniel as administrators of the estate of John Balentine, deceased, William J. Balentine in his own right, A. L. Balentine, Warren C. Balentine, Iry T. Balentine, Catherine H. Pitts Elizabeth Daniel, Jane Knight, Adie Gaines, Margaret Balentine, Jno. A. Balentine, Eddie Balentine, Letitia Pitts, Hasetline Balentine, John L. Balentine, Ina Cleveland, Lilly Cleveland and Lizzie Balentine, Defendants—Summons for Relief, Complaint Filed.

To the Defendants above-named—

You are hereby Summomed and required to answer the complaint in this action, which is filed in the office of Clerk Court, for Laurens County, and to serve a copy of your answer to the said complaint on the subscriber at his office at Laurens C. H., South Carolina, within twenty days after the date hereof, exclusive of the day of such service; and if you fail to answer the complaint within the time aforesaid, the plaintiffs in this action will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in the complaint. J. T. JOHNSON, Plaintiffs' Attorney. Dated Dec. 8th, A. D. 1885. G. W. SHELL, C. C. C. P. [L. S.] To the Defendants Hasetline Balentine, John L. Balentine, Ina Cleveland and Lilly Cleveland—You will please take notice that the summons and complaint in this action were filed in the office of the Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas for Laurens County, South Carolina, on Dec. 8, 1885. J. T. JOHNSON, Plaintiffs' Attorney. Dec. 16, 1885. 20

—In the matter of business failures in the United States, the figures for 1885 are highly satisfactory, as compared with those of the previous year. It is true, that in point of numbers they show very little decrease—from 10,988 to 10,637—but the decrease in liabilities is very marked, there being \$225,000,000 for 1884 and \$124,000,000 for 1885, a reduction of over \$100,000,000, or nearly one-half. As there are 919,990 traders reported in business in the country, this shows that one in every eighty-six of them failed.

—"Say, Mr. Gogglesop, what do you come to our house so often for?" Gogglesop, patronizingly: "Now, Tommy you must ask your sister Clara that when she comes in the parlor—just ask her."

"Well, I did, and she said she'd be blest if she knew."

—The Queen of Italy is the patroness of the Roman Society for the protection of animals.

—Omaha is said to have more of its surface devoted to streets and alleys than to building space.

Religious Persuasions of Our Law-Makers.

Baptist Courier. An esteemed friend and brother sends us the statistics to show the religious make up of the General Assembly of South Carolina, which may interest some of our readers. The Senate is composed of 35 members, who are classified as follows: Baptists, 10; Methodists, 9; Presbyterians, 5; Episcopalians, 4; Lutherans, 3—making a total of 31 church members, while 4 are not connected with any church. Of these four, at least two of them are favorably inclined to the Baptists. The House of Representatives is composed of 123 members, (there is one vacant seat), divided in religious sentiment as follows: Baptists, 31; Methodists, 26; Presbyterians, 17; Episcopalians, 12; Associate Reformed Presbyterians, 5; Roman Catholics, 5; Lutheran 3—making a total of 99 church member, while 24 are not connected with any church. In the Senate and House there are 130 church members, or more than four fifths of the entire Legislature, which fact will doubtless make a favorable comparison with any other State. It is gratifying that so large a proportion of our law-makers are those who delight in the law of God, and the measure of their responsibility is in accordance with their profession as the followers of Him who is able to make them wise in all things.

The Donkey Wouldn't Bray.

Once upon a time a donkey fell into a very deep hole, and after nearly starving, caught sight of a passing fox and implored the stranger to help him out. "I am too small to aid you," said the fox, "but I will give you some good advice. Only a few rods away is a big, strong elephant. Call to him and he will get you out in a jiffy." After the fox had gone the donkey thus reasoned: "I am very weak for want of nourishment. Every move I make is just so much additional loss of strength. If I raise my voice to call the elephant I shall be weaker yet. No, I shall not waste my substance that way. It is the duty of the elephant to come without calling." So the donkey settled himself back and eventually starved to death. Long afterward the fox on passing the hole saw within a white-ched skeleton, and remarked: "If it be that the souls of are transmigrated into men, that donkey will become one of those merchants who can never afford to advertise."

NOTICE OF ASSESSMENT FOR Fiscal Year 1885-1886.

IN pursuance of an Act of the General Assembly of S. C., approved Dec. the 24th, 1884, a general assessment of property for taxation will commence on Jan. the 1st, 1886, and continue until the 20th day of February. All property, both Real and Personal, must be returned for taxation, and all changes in realty since May, 1884, must be noted in returns. During the above time my office at Laurens C. H. will be open for the reception of returns, and for the convenience of the taxpayers, I will also attend at the following places at the time specified, to wit: Young's Township, Young's Store, Jan. 5th. Young's Township, W. B. Parson's, Jan. 6th. Dial's Township, D. D. Harris', Jan. 7th. Dial's Township, W. B. Stoddards, Jan. 8th. Dial's Township, Goodgion's Jan. 9th. Sullivan's Township, Tumbling Shoals, Jan. 11th. Sullivan's Township, Brewerton, Jan. 12th. Waterloo Township, Daniel's Store, Jan. 13th. Waterloo Township, Geo. Moore's Jan. 14th. Waterloo Township, Waterloo, Jan. 15th. Cross Hill, Township, Cross Hill, Jan. 18th. Cross Hill, Township, Spring Grove, Jan. 19th. Hunter's Township, Milton, Jan. 20th. Hunter's Township, Goldville, Jan. 21st. Hunter's Township, Clinton, Jan. 22d. Scuffletown Township, Trlertersville, Jan. 23rd. Jack's Township, Reynosa, Jan. 25th. Jack's Township, Roseborough, Jan. 26th. All male citizens between the ages of 21 and 60 years are taxable Polls, except those who are incapable of earning support by being maimed or from any other cause. Owners of Real Estate will take Notice that Full Returns of Real Property will be required. After the 20th day of Feb., 1886, 50 per cent. penalty will attach on all property not listed for taxation. G. M. LANGSTON, County Auditor. Dec. 9—18—86

INSURANCE EIGENDE.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, OFFICE OF COMPTROLLER GENERAL. COLUMBIA, S. C., October 19, 1885. I certify, that Mess. Kelly, Hampton & Kelly, of Laurens, Agents of The Rochester German Ins. Co., incorporated by the State of New York, has complied with the requisitions of the Act of the General Assembly entitled "An Act to regulate the Agencies of Insurance Companies not incorporated in the State of South Carolina" and I hereby license the said Kelly, Hampton & Kelly, Agents aforesaid to take risks and transact all business of Insurade in this State, in the County of Laurens, for and in behalf of said Company. W. E. STONEY, COMPTROLLER GENERAL.

ANOTHER REVOLUTION

Of the wheels of years points its annual index to the figures 1886 on the Calendar of Time Duty well performed is the bright and pleasant record of the year gone by. Continuing our good work for the peoples benefit, we open a "Land-slide" on our Centre Counters. No deviation from the prices marked in plain figures, and irrespective of Cost the goods must go off our

BARGAIN COUNTERS.

Table listing various goods and their prices, including wool dress goods, colored dress goods, bleaching yard wide, Jersey, Marseilles Quilts, Crochet Quilts, Blankets, and Blankets.

Table linens at Bargain prices, Towels at Half-price, Hosey marked down (half off), Corsets at Bargain Price, Gents Underwear marked down, Ladies Underwear marked down, Gents Laundered and Unlaundered Shirts at Jobbers prices.

No deviation from prices marked in plain figures. Don't fail to examine our Bargain Counter.

JNO. D. SHEAHAN

Advertisement for J. M. ANDERSON, COTTON AND COMMISSION MERCHANT, AGENT FOR MASSEY'S COTTON GINS, FEEDERS and CONDENSERS, and LEES PREPARED AGRICULTURAL LIME. Includes notice of assessment for fiscal year 1885-1886.

Advertisement for C. W. HENSON, Restaurant and Salo, Over 835 Broad Street, Augusta, Ga. Meals furnished at all hours.

Advertisement for LOOK TO YOUR INTEREST! By so doing you WILL SAVE MONEY BY Purchasing your Extracts, Jellies, Preserves, &c., and also Canned Fruits, Nuts and Toys, from J. M. PHILPOT.

Advertisement for J. M. PHILPOT, featuring an illustration of a horse-drawn carriage and text about saving money by purchasing goods from him.

Advertisement for Insurance EIGENDE, featuring an illustration of a horse-drawn carriage and text about insurance services.

Advertisement for The Big Sale! If you wish to see him, and buy groceries low for Cash, call at J. R. Cooper & Co's. Highest Prices paid for Country Produce, Hides, &c., at J. R. COOPER & CO.