

A NOVEL PRESENTMENT.

A curious document has come before the public in the shape of a presentment by the grand jury of Abbeville County. Not content with a formal presentment of the Supreme Court Judges for incompetency, the legislature is assailed and the whole machinery of our government denounced.

This body seems to have caught the "Smart Alexism" of the day and after saying a great deal whereof they know but little, are constrained to say:—

"We recommend that the Legislature appoint a committee of learned men to remodel and simplify all such laws now on the statute books, and to give the definition of each phrase and a synopsis of the entire law."

We are reminded again of that Laurens statesman who thought "we ought to have but one law and everybody ought to follow it."

Since the formation of our government "learned men" have been striving year by year to perfect our laws. Nothing short of Omniscience, can accomplish perfection in laws, but the wisdom of ages has developed the fact that the best way to make laws for South Carolina is to have the law-making power divided into two branches.—Senate and House of Representatives. Without details, it has been decided that the consent of a majority of these senators (one from each County) together with the consent of a majority of the members of the House (one hundred and twenty four in number) shall be necessary before a law is made or repealed. Now, we submit that laws by a General Assembly thus constituted, elected by the people, are better it is reasonable to suppose, than the laws of any "committee of learned men" who might be "appointed" to "remodel and simplify."

Provision has been made for a codification of the statutes every ten years; this is all that is necessary or that can be done.

The very nature of our government must be changed before laws can be made otherwise than by the Legislature. Even the legislature itself cannot delegate the power of making laws to another.

This is recognized by every writer on constitutional law. The Legislature must pass the acts, and our Courts construe the language, and when this is done, nothing remains for this "committee of learned men" except to collect the laws passed, and have them published in convenient form, just as the law now directs, and as it is done every ten years.

The fact is this Grand Jury seems to have forgotten to inquire into matters belonging to their office, but has essayed to be State censors.

President McBryde of the South Carolina College has offered \$5,000 to accept the presidency of the University of Tennessee, but has been induced to decline the offer and retain his present position, at a salary of only \$3,000.

As we view this matter it was an act of disinterested patriotism on his part. Mr. McBryde is a poor man, dependant upon his labors, and we submit that an increase in salary of \$2,000 is an item which few less patriotic men could have declined. Besides, the Tennessee University, is the pride of the state. Demagogues do not find political capital in abusing it, and its permanency and usefulness, its power for good, is not annually jeopardized by the legislature. Those who have closely examined the work of the South Carolina College since the administration of President McBryde, from a desire to learn the facts, and not with the preconceived determination of finding fault, have found that the institution has been steadily growing in favor. Now that tuition is charged to every young man who is able to pay the same, it is hoped that the time is not far distant when our people will again appreciate fully the work of this grand old institution.

The result of investigation in New York shows that three-tenths of the farms are mortgaged, and one in twenty of the farm proprietors hopelessly in debt.

The suggestions of Col. Watts as to "rag-weeds" are timely and practical. Skeptics on the subject should at least give their matter a fair trial, but as he says, all depends upon having the weeds properly cured.

sensible and meets our endorsement. "So many lugubrious accounts of the condition of our people have been published that it should be a relief to look upon the bright side of things for a little while. In 1865 the old soldier returning home found a desolate and impoverished country. There was no money in circulation, there was no merchandize, no schools, no luxuries and labor was disorganized. Our political condition was of the worst. Then came the evil days of reconstruction when for eight years we were systematically robbed and plundered until we were reduced to the last extremity.

Since 1876 there has been a constant improvement until now we are in a happy and prosperous condition. Our schools and colleges have been re-opened and are now crowded with generous youth, acquiring knowledge and laying broad and deep the foundations of future usefulness and eminence. Factories have gone up on all sides. Railroads have been built and are now successfully operated in all sections of the State. Labor-saving implements have taken the place of the crude devices of the olden time. Our productions have been increased and our industries diversified. Our people have claimed their own and we have an enlightened judiciary. Crime is punished and we have faithful jurists. Life is secure, property is safe and there are no obstructions to the peaceful pursuits of happiness.

There is no profit in the lamentations so common among us. We are doing as well as most people in other sections. In parts of Texas people are perishing. In the North thousands are out of homes and anarchy claims its victims in the periodic excitements that afflict that latitude. It is best to think that the blessings which have been showered upon us than to repine at the troubles that visited us in the past.

Further developments in the Hoover agitation show clearly the object of the organization. There can no longer be doubt but that the object is to swindle the negroes out of their money. \$1.50 is collected from each member and forwarded to Hoover, at Hickory N. C. This is the sole object of the organization, although, after having a compact secret society, the members themselves might be induced to go forward in unworthy schemes. The citizens of Greenville have acted with becoming discretion in their course last week, mentioned elsewhere.

They reasoned with the members, showing the folly of such an organization, the danger likely to result, and told them that no such secret society could exist.

The negroes seem glad to have their leaders exposed and now the Hoover movement is broken effectually.

The farmers of Laurens County are fortunate in having the great Farmers' Congress or Encampment in such easy access. Surely all who can leave home in August will not miss this rare opportunity of attending such an interesting and profitable agricultural meeting.

The Hoover organizer of Greenville has declared a boycott against Edgefield and Laurens counties. He does not care to meet the young white men of these counties and this is the cause of the boycott. Sensible fellow!

Prepare for the Winter.
 [J. Washington Watts in Weekly News and Courier].
 As harvest is at hand and hay time near by, I am moved, in the interest of the farmers of this State, to again urge the propriety of providing better for the winter in the way of long forage. The oat crop has been relied on almost entirely heretofore to help out the small crop of corn fodder, as our people plant comparatively little corn and the oat crop is an expensive one and has got to be very uncertain, it is our interest to look to some other source for relief. Many substitutes present themselves such as rye, the millets, the rag weed and crab grass. Sow rye on good land, very thick, and mow it while in bloom, and cure, it as other hay. It makes very good hay, is relished by all kinds of stock, and I have no doubt is equal in feeding value to good timothy.

The millets are all good, whether in the green state or as hay. The rag weed is a volunteer crop, consequently hay from it costs much less than either of the above, and in my opinion, is not inferior in feeding value to either. When cut at the proper time, which is while in bloom, and well cured, I prize it almost as much as good clover hay. All kinds of stock eat it will avidly, and it seems especially to suit the horse. We never feed it to milk cows, as it imparts a bitter taste to the milk. It is cured like peavines, though it requires less time. Those that are about three feet high make better hay than those of larger growth. Cut them in the forenoon, cock them in the cock two or three days, when they are ready for the barn, and as soon as thoroughly cured should be packed closely. In fact, this should be done with all hay, as it got too dry when left loose, and loses much of its value. What shatters off in the barn may be fed to sheep and goats. They will regard it as a special treat.

Very many farmers can't be made to believe that there is any good in the rag-weed. To all such I say try a little. We are told to try all things, and to hold fast to that which is good. If any one gives this a fair trial, and is not convinced that we have the best hay for the cost that can be found in this

country, then I will give it up. Very much the same may be said about crab grass. It is a volunteer, is very abundant, and if cut while in bloom makes fairly good hay. But most people who try to utilize this cotton pest let it get brown before cutting it. It is then of but little value, and horses will not eat it if they can help it. All hay grasses should be cut while in bloom and cured with as little exposure to the sun as possible.

The Suit of Sullivan.

The Augusta Chronicle. Abbeville S. C., June 21.—[Special.] There appears to be a considerable misunderstanding in regard to the attachment of the property of the Atlantic, Greenville and Western railroad company by Sullivan & Co., on the 28th of last January. Sullivan & Co., through their attorney, W. C. Bennett, Esq., of this place, paid Sullivan eight thousand dollars in cash, on the condition that the remainder of his claim was to be paid as soon as the work done by Sullivan should be measured and valued by two competent engineers, one to be selected by Sullivan & Co., and the other by Sullivan. This contract was drawn up in writing and signed by the parties.

Sullivan now refuses to abide by the report of the engineers who cut down his claim and then elects to sue for the whole amount, which is over ten thousand dollars. The proceedings in attachment against Sullivan & Co., are simply based upon the fact that Sullivan & Co., are non-residents. Under our code the property of non-residents defendants can be attached to cover judgment and costs if the plaintiff prevails. The popular idea that attachment proceedings are only connected with insolvency and fraud is erroneous, and it seems that the plaintiff in the case has tried to take advantages of this misapprehension.

I am reliably informed that Sullivan & Co., are perfectly solvent, and they would have filed any necessary bond had notice been given them of the intention of Sullivan to attach their property. There is no allegation of fraud on the part of the plaintiff. The suit is simply one for the recovery of money upon a claim about which there is a dispute. Sullivan & Co., their attorney informs me, is perfectly willing to pay for the work done by Sullivan. The whole matter will turn on the contract signed by Sullivan & Co., and Sullivan.

Editor ADVERTISER:

About this time last year there appeared in cotton in our immediate section a very small insect, that proved to be very disastrous to cotton wherever it appeared. The insects are about as large as mites and of a reddish color. When once started they appear by thousands on a single stalk. The cotton leaves turn red, in fact the whole stalk turns red, and everything on it drops off, but the stalk leaves out again late in the Fall.

They do not spread very fast at first, but the later in the season the faster they spread until finally the whole field is ravaged.

They are beginning to re-appear this year in a few places. Can you give any information concerning these insects?

What is the cause and origin and how can they be exterminated? Can the Department of Agriculture give any information?

With this exception crops are the finest they have been in a number of years although they are suffering a little for rain.

Yours &c.,
JAMES R. WATKINS.

MARRYING GERMAN NOBLES.

The Mistake which Some American Girls Make—Married Life Abroad. American women make mistakes in marrying German husbands. Many ambitious nannies come to the fatherland now intent upon marrying their daughters to noblemen. Nothing is easier in the world, providing a few requisites are at hand. German nobility—for different from England, where the right of primogeniture prevails—are as numerous as the legions of Assyria, being practically the majority of the nation. Weighty tomes for any library shelf are the Gothic genealogical calendars and blue blood books. A baron's seven sons are likewise barons, a count's children, though as numerous as Jacob's, are all counts. This is true of each rank in the nobility scale.

German officers have wonderfully elastic hearts, and, "like Dexter, can easily propose twice in one night." Beauty, believe me, is not a necessary requisite of homeliness is just as vendible as the qualities which inspired the hesitation of Paris. Germany is certainly the Eldorado for moneyed women with burning desire to marry. That explains, too, the Meduslike females one often meets hanging upon the arms of Apollonian sons of Mars, if the doubtful mythological comparison be allowed. Money was the open sesame.

Three years ago a beautiful New York girl posed as a beauty in Berlin society, creating an unusual sensation. She was the belle of the season, and her wealth being more than commensurate with the demands, her admirers were legion. But she gave her heart to a sturdy young lieutenant, who, in Germany, it was said, the father of the young lady, it was feared, would object to the match, and the two now schemed to overcome his resistance. The officer could speak no word of English, but his intended thought it best that he should embark at once for New York, disclose the secret and obtain parental consent. With perseverance she taught him the following expression: "I came to ask you for your daughter's hand." Repeating it during the entire voyage, he felt no apprehension, but was certain of victory. He landed, and arriving to the brown stone front on Fifth avenue, he was met by the father. 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