

The Sweet Release.

The following touching poem was written by the late Gibbs Gardner, of Augusta, Ga., whose life was chequered with ups and downs in infinite variety:

After a while a busy brain
Will rest from all its care and pain;
After awhile the rush will cease,
And a weary heart find sweet release.

After awhile a vacant place
An empty chair—a vacant space
After a while a name forgot,
A crumbled stone, an unknown spot.

PHEBE'S EXPLOIT.

She was the daughter of John Artley, whose run on the Western Division began and ended at Orival Junction. The Junction consisted of a round house, the railway station, a few shanties, a dreary boarding-house, and a choice collection of possibilities; but Phoebe, being motherless, spent much of her time on her father's engine, or in her uncle's office at the station, and to get a larger view of life than the Junction itself could give.

At fourteen she had two ambitions. One was for her father, reaching out to the time when he should have a smart "eight-wheeler" and a passenger car. The other dated from a trip to Cheyenne with her father when he was a member of the grievance committee.

"You'll have to put in your time around the hotel while I go to the meeting," he had told her; and Phoebe took herself to the parlor, where a smartly dressed young man was playing upon an ancient and tinny piano. The music was of the kind called "popular," and the performance played as the fishman blows the horn—loud and awkward—but Phoebe went back to Orival Junction that night with a conviction that life was scarcely worth living without a piano and the ability to play it.

She said something of the kind to her uncle the next day, when she was helping him on the coal report, and he looked at her with a frown. "I thought you were beyond such things," he said. "A girl who can run a locomotive, figure bills of lading, and telegraph the arm of half the operators on the line, to be wasting such a fine lady's playing as a piano."

"Oh, but, Uncle Tom, you just ought to have heard her. She played and played until I forgot to be tired, and where I came from. You can't think how beautiful it was!"

"Yes, I can; I was night operator at Cheyenne when she first lived in the house with that piano for six months. And I hope everybody who kept me awake with it when I was trying to catch up my sleep will be forgiven," he said, and then he said, "Freight Forwarded" book from the safe.

"Don't you like music, Uncle Tom?" she asked, getting a bunch of abstracts to call to mind.

"Oh, music, yes—but that's different. We used to have music back at the old home in Ohio; your aunt Phoebe played the organ in church, and we all sang in the choir, first and last."

"Did she play?"

"Yes, I mean to learn and I mean to have a piano, too, some time. I wish you could get a run so we could live in a town; then I might hear music once in a while, anyway."

Phoebe heard the message as it clicked through the sander, and looked at the station clock. It was a quarter of eight. The men would not get quiet for half an hour. It was a vain hope. Two minutes later there was a scuffle on the platform, and Artley and the conductor dragged into the waiting-room. One of the tramps—a big, burly fellow with red whiskers and flaming eyes—acted as spokesman.

"You snot up the spoke as you got it orders you'll pull 'em we'll chuck ye into yer box, see?"

Phoebe heard the threat eyed horror.

Norman for five minutes away at the key writing a string of announcements to add to fill up time. Then the red man interrupted him.

"Gimme that time table," he pointed to the sheet over the door's edge.

Norman hesitated, obeying at the point of a pistol. The man's grimy finger up and down the figures until he found what he wanted.

"It's all right, boys, we don't need no orders. Fust meetin' point's fifty days down the road. Mister lightnin' slinger, you come out behind there, we'll take you long, an' then you won't be'll'ta switch, turned ag'in' us at the fust side track."

Phoebe's first impulse was to rush out after them to plead for her father's life; then she suddenly remembered that the special train was coming from the east, supping her father yielded, they put him on the engine and made him responsible for his life and theirs, while one of their number ran it?

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"Oh, no, indeed," replied Phoebe, candidly; "but you see, if I lived in a town, I might get some of the other tramps, and then, maybe I could learn to play, and—here Phoebe suddenly broke out into a fit of laughing, actually laughing, and she shut up like an oyster when she caught napping with it."

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THE STATE FARMERS' ALLIANCE. ANNUAL SESSION IN COLUMBIA.

A Quiet and Uneventful Meeting—President Evans Says the Alliance is Political to the Core.

The State Farmers' Alliance held its annual session on the 28th inst. in Columbia, and the following account of its proceedings is condensed from The State:

The attendance is not as large as it was in Allen last year, but there seems to be absolutely nothing of any importance to claim the attention of the body at this session. For some reason several counties are not represented by delegates, though several of these have representatives in the person of officers. Among the most prominent Alliancesmen drawn to the city by the gathering are Congressman Tabbert, J. Wm. Stokes, Lieut. Gov. Timmerman, Jos. L. Keitt and others.

The Alliance was called to order at noon by President W. D. Evans, whose term of office expires with this meeting. It was practically decided in the caucus the night before that he would be succeeded by the Hon. J. A. Sligh, Congressman Tabbert declining the honor. Secretary Reid was on hand as usual.

The committee on credentials reported that the following delegates were entitled to seats in the body: Abbeville—J. H. Graves. Aiken—R. H. Timmerman. Anderson—J. W. Bowden. Charleston—J. S. Week. Chesterfield—F. P. Taylor. Clarendon—D. T. Bradham. Darlington—W. H. Lawrence. Edgefield—W. J. Tabbert. Florence—T. P. Mabert. Horry—James A. Lewis. Lancaster—W. G. A. Porter. Laurens—John M. Hudgens. Lexington—Dr. E. Argle. Marion—W. Stackhouse. Marlboro—D. W. McLaurin. Newberry—Dr. W. E. Lake. Oconee—J. B. Pickett. Orangeburg—Dr. J. W. Stokes. Pickens—John T. Boggs. Richland—E. P. Whitman. Spartanburg—W. F. Brown. York—W. H. Edwards and W. N. Ide.

THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS. When the body had been properly organized President Evans proceeded to deliver his annual address, speaking as follows:

Members of the South Carolina and Industrial Union: It is a time since the first of the Farmers' Alliance, which was organized here in 1882, that we need us to keep up the union of the industrial revolution, peaceful in its nature, but it will be settled by the force of arms. How impotent is the rest should have such which they influence the political core of the government through the knowledge of the government will be able his ballot. Political parties interests for the people's good. These are the things which we should give support to. There is a great deal of work to be done in the South. The members of the Alliance should be careful in their work. In the Mr. Edwards' After these speeches the Alliance took a recess until 8 o'clock.

THE NIGHT SESSION. The night session of the Alliance was a long one. The members were at their work with the intention of completing the business and adjourning sine die before morning, and they did it. The final adjournment was reached about 1 a. m. The night work of the night's work was the election of Keitt over Sligh, by a close vote, as president.

The Alliance adopted a resolution to petition the constitutional convention that, in the framing of the new constitution, nothing be done in relation to the election laws, "calculated to deprive the people of their responsibility; to blunt the conscience or de throne man within God's soul." The following resolution was adopted: "Inasmuch as ignorance is frequently the mother of poverty and the fruitful source of crime, and inasmuch as a well educated and intelligent citizenship is a chief asset in civil prosperity and social purity, therefore be it resolved that it is the duty of the approaching constitutional convention to make provision for the establishment of a complete system of common school system, which shall be vigorously enforced throughout our State."

Resolved that in the appropriation of the necessary funds for common schools, while lib ral provisions be made for the colored race, that due regard be had for the excess in taxes paid for this purpose by the whites, and that such a ratio of division be adopted as shall best show justice to the needs and rights of both races.

The following was then adopted: "Whereas the freight on guano to the farmer being much higher per ton than on cotton seed to the fertilizer factories, be it resolved that we ask the railroad commission to equalize the rates so that the injustice to the farmers be rectified."

Columbia was chosen as the place for the holding of the next meeting on the fourth Wednesday in July, 1896.

SEVERAL CHANGES WERE MADE IN THE STATE CONSTITUTION, MOST OF THEM IN CHARACTER. THE MOST IMPORTANT ONE WAS THE DELETION OF THE WORD 'SOUTH' FROM THE TITLE OF THE CONFEDERATE LEADERS AS WELL AS THE DELETION OF THE DUTIES THEREOF UPON THE SECRETARY AND THE VICE PRESIDENT RESPECTIVELY.

The section of officers resulted in the choice of the following: President—Jos. L. Keitt, Newberry. Vice president and State lecturer—J. C. Wilborn, York. Secretary and treasurer—J. W. Reid, of Spartanburg. Executive committee—W. N. Elder, of York. Delegate to the National Alliance—J. W. H. Edwards, of York.

A resolution of thanks was adopted directed to the Columbia Alliance and its friends for the cordial treatment accorded the member while in the city. After the installation of officers, the alliance adjourned sine die.

THE WEATHER AND CROPS.

The weather conditions were on the whole, favorable to crop development. The temperature was low, and consequently, a better and more hopeful feeling extant among farmers, especially in the northern and western counties, where the improvement was most marked. The general improvement was not shared fully in the general improvement was cotton, for which there was too much rain, in places causing shedding and running to a slightly greater extent than here, but in the eastern half of the State; in the western counties the weather was entirely favorable for cotton.

The work was characterized by an even temperature, along the coast where it ruled steadily about two degrees above the usual; in the interior and western portions the fluctuations were more irregular, but well within normal limits, the daily mean temperature ranging from 4 degrees below the reasonable on the 21st (Wednesday) to 77 above on the 22nd (Sunday). The highest temperature for the week was 90 degrees at Batesburg on the 20th and at Greenwood on the 21st; the lowest was 59 degrees at Liberty, on the 21st, on the 22nd. The average daily mean temperature for the stations for the week was 79 and the normal for the same period is approximately 78.

The percentage of sunshine ranged from 49 to 90 of the possible, with an average of about 70 for the State. There was a heavy wind and hail storm on the 20th. There was also hail in the vicinity of Cartersville, Florence County, on the 21st, that riddled tobacco and corn fodder, and damaged crops generally. On the 22nd there was a violent wind storm in the vicinity of Ellerbe, Orangeburg County, that blew down trees, corn, etc.

Many of the reports on cotton say the crop is all that can be expected, having grown well and fruited heavily since the rains became general over the western portions of the State; a few reports are growing too much to weed; there is serious section but that reports excessive shedding and the appearance of rust, but both are more common in the eastern portions of the State; the general is in a very satisfactory condition; the cotton are opening freely in the eastern and central sections and picking will begin this week; the first bale was marketed on the 20th; Boll worms have appeared in Edgefield County.

Late planted corn continues to improve, being greatly benefited by the heavy rains. The cotton seedling made; the only source of danger is freshets in river bottoms. Fodder pulling was pushed vigorously over the entire State, but much of the fodder was damaged by the rain. The crop on the stalk and much while being gathered; the weather was generally unfavorable for gathering fodder. The crop is all that can be expected, having grown well and fruited heavily since the rains became general over the western portions of the State; a few reports are growing too much to weed; there is serious section but that reports excessive shedding and the appearance of rust, but both are more common in the eastern portions of the State; the general is in a very satisfactory condition; the cotton are opening freely in the eastern and central sections and picking will begin this week; the first bale was marketed on the 20th; Boll worms have appeared in Edgefield County.

THE CONFEDERATE GOLD. Ex-Governor Bullock Delivered a Large Quantity in Augusta—He Tells an Interesting Story About the Incident.

Ex-Governor Rufus B. Bullock was in New York City on Monday, and there talked in a very interesting manner about the gold of the Southern Confederacy. In its introduction to the article, the New York Advertiser has this to say: "Before Richmond fell and before the Confederacy had given up the ghost those in power evidently saw the crash coming, and all the gold in the treasury of the fast crumbling government was hurried to South Carolina. It was safely deposited in a bank in Augusta, Ga., and as the legates of the defunct government have never come forward, it may be there yet. It was conveyed to Augusta in sealed boxes, and the total sum was about \$1,500,000. There is no stirring romance connected with the journey of the gold, but the manner in which it was carried, slept with it and finally delivered it, relates an interesting story."

"The only Republican, perhaps, in the South who has been socially ostracized by the seceding States is Col. John H. Hogewald, living at High Shoals, of Atlanta. He is more properly a National Republican and a Southern State Democrat. He was born in Bethlehem, N. Y., and went South some years before the war. During the latter days of the war he was acting as assistant quartermaster general and manager of the express service for the Confederacy. In the latter capacity he did not see the Federal forces of the gold."

In giving the story of the gold, Mr. Bullock said: "I was commanded to go to Columbia, S. C., and take all the gold there belonging to the Confederacy to Augusta, Ga. It was in the early spring of 1865, three months before Lee surrendered at Appomattox. I had not long been understood, but I presume that in charge of the government knew that it was only a question of time when the city would succumb and naturally they did not wish the Federalists to secure, probably, all the gold the Confederacy possessed. I have nothing to say as to how the gold got to Columbia, but it was there, and the express was prepared to take it. It should be carried still further South. My orders were explicit, and as acting assistant quartermaster general and manager of the Confederate Express I went to Columbia to see that the gold was carried. I had some six wagons and received the gold in sealed boxes and kegs amounting to \$1,500,000. Of course I kept quiet about the object of my visit to Columbia because gold is a mighty temptation and I did not care to be ambushed and robbed. Strange to say, I had no military escort what ever, but only regular teamsters and express men for the service. The road was open to Augusta, and we apprehended no attack from the Federals, as they were many miles away under General Sherman. After loading the wagons with the auriferous metal we started out of the city. Wagons, of course, were going everywhere in those warlike times, and little heed was paid to my small train. I had my assistant George W. Parrott, now president of the Capital City Bank of Atlanta, who was then in charge of the Tennessee River Equipment. He is a splendid man, and being young, enthusiastic and courageous, on that memorable occasion, felt that I had a valuable lieutenant in him. In fact, I

ELOQUENT FIGURES.

Compiled from the Official Records of the War for Southern Independence.

In his address to Camp Ron, at Ridaway, in Fairfield County, Col. John P. Thomas gave the following figures as to the skill of the Confederate leaders as well as the valor of the private soldiers, stating that the disparity appeared from the official records on each side:

Second Manassas—McClellan 115,000 Lee 80,000 Federal excess 35,000

Sharpsburg—McClellan 87,000 Lee 37,000

Fredericksburg—Burnside 100,000 Lee 78,000

Chancellorsville—Hooker 132,000 Lee 57,000

Gettysburg—Meade 105,000 Lee 62,000

Wilderness to Petersburg, at opening of the campaign—Grant 141,000 Lee 84,000

Wilderness to Cold Harbor—aggregation of all troops—Grant 192,000 Lee 78,000

Federal loss at Wilderness, Spottsylvania, North Anna and Cold Harbor 60,000 men, as given by Swinton, the Northern historian.

On the 21st of June, 1862, at the battle of Lee himself there were, when he retreated from Petersburg, but 33,000 Confederates from the Chickahominy on the left to the North River House on the right, while Grant, March 1, 1865, had an effective total of all arms, including Ord's and Sheridan's forces, of 162,000.

There were at Appomattox, April 9, 1865, 33,000 men, present for duty, 8,600 volunteers. Col. Thomas stated that his authority for the figures given was the Confederate text book, "Four Years with General Lee," by General Henry W. N. Taylor, whose privilege it was to occupy the position of a confidential staff officer with Gen. Lee during the entire period of the war for Southern independence, as Col. Taylor was in the army of the Confederacy. He claims in the preface to his admirable argument, based upon indisputable facts, and which bears witness to the immense valor of the Confederate soldiery.

Story's famous "Hymn of the Conqueror," in the light of such figures, is in order: "Speak, history! Who are life's victors? Who are the long animals and say Are they those who conquer the world or the victors. Who won the success of the day? The heroes of the world who fell at Thermopylae's strait, Or the Persians and Xerxes?"

STATE NEWS IN BRIEF.

Mr. Parrott is one of our foremost citizens, and I may add that I felt quite sure with that large amount of gold in transit as long as he was my assistant. In the language of the late Jeremiah Rush, the fearless Western statesman, "We seen our duty and we done it. But I guess our wagons lumbered southward and the gold grew heavier. We crossed creeks, ramshackle bridges, and had miles of rail road roads. The mule drivers popped their whips, and with that familiar style which the mule is accustomed to hear, and away we went, putting miles between us and Columbia. The mule drivers were in the lead, and they had great difficulty in finding his father, but we had no trouble whatever in tracing the way to Augusta.

The nearer we came the happier we all were, because we expected to rest a few days after depositing the treasure. One dusty afternoon we rolled into the city and wended our way to the Mechanics' Bank. The few able bodied citizens who were in the city, and who passed near the bank on that day saw six wagons discharging the auriferous freight. This bank, by the by, is now the headquarters of the Confederacy's sub-treasury.

What became of all that gold, Mr. Bullock?

It is none of my business, I delivered the gold and got a receipt for it. As the receipt of the gold, I would say, my mission being ended, I turned my horse's head in another direction and thought no more of the precious burden I had safely delivered. Now and then I see a man who has the gold of the Confederacy was never more seen by me, except by the bright candle of imagination in after years.

REMEDY FOR NEURALGIA. A Familiar Plant is Claimed to be a Specific.

Joseph Bonaparte, ex-king of Spain and Napoleon's elder brother of the French Revolution, died in 1820, aged 70. He was a man of great energy and was shot in the heart and Adams received the load in his abdomen. The French Emperor Napoleon III. was all his mother's child. The French Emperor well to do and respected.

GENERAL NEWS SUMMARY. Latest Items and Curious Notes from Our Exchanges.

It is not generally known that the custom of keeping birthdays is many thousand years old. It is recorded in Genesis, xii, 20: "And it came to pass the third day, which was Pharaoh's birthday, that he made a feast unto all his servants."

A lover who addressed a love letter to the object of his affections, asking the young lady to become his partner through life, inscribed on the envelope the following "scaled proposal": "The result was he was awarded the contract."

The Kansas City Star says that in the great horse raising state of Iowa the lower grades of horses are now being sold at 25 a dozen. The unbroken mustangs are held for \$1 each, and a thoroughly broken horse, sound in every way, for from \$5 to \$8.

Hon. Emory Speer, United States judge for the Southern Circuit of Georgia, has been chosen for the opening exercises of the Cotton States and International Exposition and has signified his acceptance of the honor in a letter received by President Collier.

The trial trip of the battleship Texas, the first vessel of the new navy built by the government, will take place from Hampton Roads about September 23. The trial will be for the purpose of testing the machinery, which was furnished by private contract.

Hezekiah Roberts, a young farmer at Beulah, Ky., cut his wife's throat with his own throat. He died instantly, and she was injured. He is supposed to have been insane. The bloody deed was witnessed by their three children, aged from one to five.

INTERESTING NOTES FROM VARIOUS SOURCES.

O'Neill & Sons, of Charleston, recited the first new crop of rice, on 30th inst. The rice was raised on a plantation of J. Louis Lumber, Georgetown County. This is the third consecutive year Labruce has marketed the first crop.

Prof. Charles B. Smith, financial agent of Worford College, has returned from a business trip through South Carolina in the interest of the college. Professor Smith thinks that the outlook for a large enrollment at Worford this year is very promising.

The State Board of Control has been cutting down the salaries of certain dispensers. The object is to get the salaries on a basis commensurate with the work and it has been announced that the salaries of several of them were materially reduced.

It is the intention of the Columbia, Newberry and Laurens Railroad people to build the nine miles from Laurens to Clinton, but for the present they will utilize the track of the Laurens Railroad, now in the hands of a receiver. Permission has been granted and the trains will run in about two weeks.

The meeting of the railroad commission on September 4 will be one of the most important it has held in many years. The matter of the general revision of rates is to be considered, and it is intended to discuss in a general and full discussion of the matter. The commission desires to hear all sides of the question of rates on fertilizers and cotton and other matters.

A Darlington special to The News and Courier says that reliable information tells of a terrible double tragedy that occurred in the Swift Creek section of Darlington County. Adams shot and instantly killed his son-in-law, Dorsey Atkinson. Both men fired simultaneously. It is said, Adams being killed and his father-in-law mortally wounded. Adams was shot in the heart and Adams received the load in his abdomen. The French Emperor Napoleon III. was all his mother's child. The French Emperor well to do and respected.

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A Special to the Atlanta Constitution from Tallulah Falls says that Seymour Keener has been convicted at Clayton, Ga., and sentenced to be hanged. Keener killed his two young sons, Lemuel and Andrew, on Sunday afternoon, June 23. There has never been a legal hanging in Tabun County.

Continuing, bixson country girls, apparently eighteen years of age, wheeled to Napoleon, O. Wednesday arrayed in striking bloomers. This was a little too much for a half dozen men, and the girls were taken from the streets. It was Napoleon's first case of real unclean bloomers. The girls are daughters of wealthy farmers living a short distance from Napoleon. They had been seduced and proposed to do what they supposed their city sisters do. The latter did not take kindly to the proposition, and four of them, all well-known young women, got into a first-class carriage and with threat of physical force, drove a two cyclist out of town. The first day they can get away from the harvest fields the fathers of the two bloomers girls will be in a hot water. They will be the only girls who insulted their daughters.

In one of General Benjamin F. Butler's political campaigns, says The Boston Herald, he went to a meeting in a hall which had a small aperture over the speaker's desk. Some of the younger and dare-devil element secreted themselves in the loft from which they could observe the proceedings. At a moment in the general's speech a huge wooden spoon suspended by a cord was seen descending slowly from the ceiling. The effect upon the audience was instantaneous, and amid tears of laughter, in which even the dignified occupant of the platform could not help joining, the spoon pursued its downward course. The effect upon the audience was instantaneous, and amid tears of laughter, in which even the dignified occupant of the platform could not help joining, the spoon pursued its downward course.