

**THE ADVERTISER.**  
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 Obituaries: All over 50 words, one  
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 Notes of thanks: Five cents the line.  
 W. W. BALL,  
 Proprietor.  
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 LAURENS, S. C., July 12, 1905.

**LAUGH AND GROW FAT.**

"A DOSE."  
 "You have been with your firm a long  
 time?" said a man to his old school-fel-  
 low.  
 "Yes," answered the friend, with a  
 patient expression of countenance.  
 "What's your position?"  
 "I'm an employee."  
 "Yes, but what do you do?"  
 "Well, I am a doer, and the others  
 are tellers. It's like this: When the  
 gov'nor wants something done, he tells  
 the cashier, and the cashier tells the  
 book-keeper, and the book-keeper tells  
 the assistant book-keeper, and the as-  
 sistant book-keeper tells the chief clerk,  
 and the chief clerk tells me."  
 "And what then?"  
 "Well, I haven't anybody to tell, so  
 I have to do it."—"Digit."

**A LIVELY ANIMAL.**

He was a good natured German and  
 his face fairly beamed as he walked in  
 to a drugstore. The first thing that  
 caught his attention was an electric fan  
 buzzing busily on the soda counter. He  
 looked at it with great interest and  
 then turned to the clerk.  
 "Py golly!" he said, smilingly, "dot's  
 a tam'd lily squirrel vot you got in  
 dare, ain't it?"—Lippincott's Magazine.

**A WOMAN WITH A WILL.**

**The Way Jessie Bartlett Davis Once  
 Conquered Her Salary.**  
 Jessie Bartlett Davis was a woman  
 of indomitable will and with a stock  
 of self confidence born of a healthy  
 outdoor life. When not engaged in  
 theatrical life her entire time was de-  
 voted to outdoor pursuits. On her  
 ranch in California she raised and rode  
 bronchos, herded cattle and sheep and  
 attended to her chickens with equal  
 facility. This combined to make her  
 a good business woman and with the  
 muscular activity to back it.  
 Mrs. Davis was once engaged to sing  
 in a vaudeville company in New York  
 city. The manager of the theater was  
 famous for his negligence in meeting  
 demands of performers whom he had  
 engaged, and in fact, there were ugly  
 rumors about checks bearing his sig-  
 nature being returned from the bank  
 with the ominous "No funds" writ-  
 tten across their faces.  
 At the conclusion of her week's en-  
 gagement Mrs. Davis received a check  
 for her salary. It was Saturday  
 night, and it was an open secret to ev-  
 erybody that she had engaged passage  
 on a steamship leaving the following  
 Wednesday morning. She had had  
 planned to take a long rest. The prop-  
 erty of the Broadway hotel where she  
 was stopping obligingly cashed the  
 check. It was returned to him Tues-  
 day afternoon as worthless.  
 Mrs. Davis took back the repudiated  
 paper and smiled grimly. "I will make  
 it all right this evening," she said.  
 Armed with a stout can she went to  
 the manager's office that evening, the  
 sick serving as excuse for a blip due  
 to a "slight sprain," she announced.  
 The manager received her with evident  
 embarrassment and listened to the  
 story of the check told quietly and in  
 moderate language.  
 "It was a mistake on the part of his  
 bookkeeper," he explained. The stupid  
 fellow should have known that the  
 manager's account in that particular  
 bank had been closed out long ago.  
 But if Mrs. Davis would wait a few  
 minutes he would give her a check on  
 another bank which would be honored  
 without fail.  
 But Mrs. Davis was not accepting  
 checks. She was to leave for London  
 the next morning and nothing but the  
 hard, cold cash would satisfy her. The  
 manager was indignant and Mrs. Davis  
 politely insisted. Then it developed  
 into a woful war, and Mrs. Davis  
 arose with the cane in hand. Handling  
 it like a foil, she passed the ferrule  
 lightly through the glass door of the  
 manager's office. Another pass and  
 the ferrule broke one of the window  
 panes. The clatter of glass brought a  
 half dozen employees to the spot. The  
 manager danced around as if on a hot  
 stove and begged her to desist. The  
 scandal, he said, would ruin him. By  
 way of reply Mrs. Davis punctured an-  
 other window.  
 One of the employees, who was a  
 relative of the manager, rushed for-  
 ward to disarm her. The cane circled  
 in the air, and the man retreated nurs-  
 ing a big welt across the back of his  
 head.  
 The audience was just entering the  
 theater and the crashing of glass  
 caused many to stop and conjecture the  
 cause. Mrs. Davis, smiling with the  
 utmost good nature, moved to the other  
 side of the office and gazed critically at  
 the glass of a large picture—the man-  
 ager's favorite possession.  
 "Stop," he almost shouted. "You  
 shall have your money." A messenger  
 was dispatched to the box office with  
 an order. He returned in a few min-  
 utes with a huge roll of bills, which  
 Mrs. Davis carefully counted and stow-  
 ed away. Then, bidding the manager  
 a smiling good night, she swept out of  
 the office and to her hotel, where the  
 bad check was redeemed and added to  
 her collection of souvenirs of her ex-  
 periences on the stage.—New York  
 Press.

**The Property Man's Troubles.**

The company was playing "Home  
 and Juliet" the other day, and in the  
 balcony scene a cannon went off. The  
 property man was sent for, who ex-  
 plained that it was a cannon which  
 should have gone off in the performance  
 of "Henry V." two days before.  
 That property man was spoken to more  
 severely than in a hurry.—From an  
 Address by T. R. Beeson in London.

**Unwarranted Opinions.**

Artist No. 1—My landscape's abso-  
 lutely ruined by a lurid portrait. Art-  
 ist No. 2—Yes, the hanging's pretty  
 slipshod this year. They've put me  
 next to the cruet in the show.  
 Artist No. 3 (coming up)—Hello! I see  
 they've hung you two chops together!

**The Religious Vocation.**

The religious vocation isn't necessar-  
 ily the outcome of long mental pro-  
 cesses. It may either steal upon one  
 subtly or overwhelm one at a single on-  
 slaught.—From "The Bishop's Niece,"  
 by George H. Picard.

**To Recover Her Child.**

"Can you help me to recover my  
 child?" asked the poor woman.  
 "Is your child lost?"  
 "Oh, no. His clothes are worn out."

**Heaven never helps the man who  
 will not act.—Sophocles.**

**W. L. Boyd, Laurens, S. C.**

Who sells the L. & M. Paint, are in-  
 formed by Longman & Martinez, that  
 ten thousand churches have been paint-  
 ed with L. & M. Paint. It takes the  
 least; wears the longest; and only re-  
 quires 4 gallons of the L. & M. and 3  
 gallons of Linsed Oil to paint a moder-  
 ated sized house.

**SIGNATURE EXPERTS.**

THEY ARE THE REAL SAFEGUARDS  
 OF A MODERN BANK.

Not Only the Autograph, but the En-  
 tire Body, of the Check is Closely  
 Scrutinized by These Rapid and Al-  
 most Infallible Workers.

One of the most trying positions in  
 our business, said a bank official to a  
 writer in London 24-Bis, is that of  
 signature expert—the man who has to  
 examine daily every draft that comes  
 in through the clearing house and  
 vouch for its genuineness. Our bank,  
 one of the largest in the city, employs  
 six clerks who do nothing all day long  
 but examine checks, and when I tell  
 you that it is no uncommon thing for  
 10,000 drafts to come in during a sin-  
 gle day you will understand that the  
 job is not altogether the sinecure it is  
 popularly supposed to be.

These clerks have not only to scruti-  
 nize the signatures of both drawer and  
 drawee, but also examine the "filling  
 in," the latter being just as important,  
 perhaps more so from a monetary  
 point of view, as the signatures. As a  
 matter of fact, the commonest forgery  
 which we have to deal in is the  
 "raising" of checks, and a forger of  
 this nature generally chooses a check  
 bearing a genuine signature, but hav-  
 ing very little "filling in."  
 For instance, he knows that it would  
 not be difficult to raise a check from  
 £3 to £3,000, for all he has to do is to  
 insert the word "thousand," and then add  
 the erased word again. I have seen plenty  
 of this kind of work during the time  
 I have been examining checks.

One of the most impudent pieces of  
 forgery, however, that I ever came  
 across was a check raised from £5 to  
 £500. The forger had evidently relied  
 on colossal impudence carrying him  
 through, for he had simply added a  
 couple of ephers and then between the  
 words "five" and "pounds" had placed  
 an omission mark and written the  
 word "hundred" above, adding the in-  
 itials of the drawer of the check just  
 to give the thing a look of careless gen-  
 uineness.

It was so astounding a piece of cool  
 audacity that we had bets on the  
 check, two of my assistants declaring  
 it to be O. K., while the other three  
 and myself declared it to be a forgery.  
 Further inquiries, of course, proved  
 that the opinion of the majority was  
 the correct one.

It is marvelous what a vast number  
 of signatures some clerks will carry in  
 their mind's eye, as it were, and thus  
 be able to pass checks by the thousand  
 without once having to refer to the  
 signature books. We had a clerk here a  
 few years ago who was little less than  
 a wonder, and at least 5,000 names and  
 numbers of at least 5,000 customers and  
 could detect the alteration of a stroke in  
 any one of them in an instant.

More remarkable still was the fact  
 that he recognized with equal facility  
 the signatures of those customers  
 whose checks only came in once or  
 twice a year. But he made an art of  
 his work, and I afterward discovered  
 that most of his evenings were spent in  
 studying and learning the signatures  
 of the customers, for he was a wonderful  
 hand at copying writing, and when-  
 ever a new signature would come in,  
 one with which he was not acquainted,  
 he would at once facsimile it in his  
 pocket-book and by the next morning  
 would be able to recognize it among  
 the rest.

Signature clerks are not, as a rule,  
 supposed to make copies of customers'  
 autographs, but many of them do, and  
 some men are clever enough at the  
 work to even deceive themselves.

Of course, it is understood that when  
 the signature clerks are not examining  
 checks they are studying the autograph  
 books in order to familiarize them-  
 selves with the calligraphy of every  
 customer. Each check, you must un-  
 derstand, passes through the hands of  
 each clerk in turn, so that if one should  
 pass a forgery or a "raised" draft it is  
 very unlikely that the entire staff  
 would do so. All these checks, of  
 course, come through the clearing  
 draft and not find out our mistake be-  
 fore 3 o'clock in the afternoon our  
 bank would be held responsible. One  
 of the commonest dodges adopted by  
 the modern check forger is to get a  
 customer of some small country bank  
 to introduce him to that institution as  
 a likely depositor. On the recom-  
 mendation of the friend (who is probably  
 quite unaware that the acquaintance  
 he made some few months ago is a  
 "wrong 'un") there is no difficulty in  
 accepting their new client's check for  
 £2,000, and the following day when the  
 same customer calls and withdraws  
 £100 to £500, as the case may be, he is  
 politely handed the cash, and then, of  
 course, loses no time in skipping the  
 town. After the bogus customer's  
 check has passed through the clearing  
 house it is returned to the bank on  
 which it has been drawn, and the fraud  
 is at once discovered.

Another part of a signature clerk's  
 duties is to see that no checks are post-  
 dated, as, of course, no drafts must be  
 paid until they fall due. On occasions  
 a careless man will postdate a check,  
 but as a rule the mistake is purposely  
 made. This spotting of postdated  
 checks, however, is the easiest part of  
 a signature clerk's work, and it is very  
 seldom that a check so dated escapes  
 him. Then, again, we are often notifi-  
 ed that payment on certain checks has  
 been stopped, and the clerk has to be  
 on the lookout for these, and it must  
 be a very careless staff indeed that lets  
 them slip by. We are held responsible  
 for all checks passed after we have re-  
 ceived notice to stop payment.

But it is very seldom now, owing to  
 the cleverness of the experts, that any  
 forged checks, "raised" checks, post-  
 dated checks or stopped checks pass  
 the vigilant eyes of our staff without  
 being detected. It is often one does  
 well, although the signature clerks are  
 not held monetarily responsible for the  
 loss, it means a bad mark against them  
 in the future, and they feel its effects  
 next time promotions or "raises" are  
 being handed out.  
 Altogether, though the work is inter-  
 esting and even fascinating in a way,  
 the responsibility is so great that the  
 effect on the nerves is often very  
 trying at times. One thing we are par-  
 ticular about, and that is to take no  
 chances. If we have the slightest doubt  
 about the genuineness of a check we  
 at once communicate, either by tele-  
 graph, special messenger or telephone,  
 with the supposed drawer of the check  
 and in this way turn doubt into cer-  
 tainty. During the last three years not  
 a single wrong check has passed our  
 vigilant optics, and, though I say it,  
 who should not, I do not believe there  
 is a cleverer set of experts anywhere  
 than those who compose my staff.

What's the secret of happy, vigorous  
 health? Simply keeping the bowels,  
 the stomach, the liver and kidneys  
 strong and active. Burdock Food  
 does it.

**A LINCOLN STORY.**

The Sawmill Hand Who Didn't For-  
 get About the Goat Hook.

"The first citizen of Illinois and the  
 greatest of American presidents" is the  
 name in which Mr. Carr refers to  
 Abraham Lincoln in "The Illinois." He  
 recalls the first time he ever heard Mr.  
 Lincoln's name. It was at a country  
 hotel, and one of the residents of the  
 town was telling of a "curious young fel-  
 low" who had worked in a sawmill, but  
 gave up the job to go into the Black  
 Hawk war.

"He was working for a gentleman  
 named Kirkpatrick, and one day some-  
 body said to Kirkpatrick: 'You ought  
 to get a cant hook for that young fel-  
 low to move logs with. It's too bad to  
 make him roll them about without one.'  
 "The sawmill tender asked what a  
 cant hook would cost, and they said  
 \$1.50. The young fellow said, 'If you  
 give me the dollar and a half I'll go on  
 tackling the logs as I do now with a  
 wooden spike that I make myself.'  
 "Done!" said the boss, and he didn't  
 need to buy any cant hook.

"But, do you know, that boss was so  
 mean that he boot that poor boy out  
 of that money. He never gave it to  
 him."  
 "That fellow went on tending saw-  
 mill and telling stories and never let  
 on about the cant hook. Presently  
 came the Black Hawk war, and they  
 pitched in and raised a company, and  
 Kirkpatrick set all his sons to be cap-  
 tain, but that young fellow hadn't for-  
 gotten about the cant hook, and he just  
 became a candidate for the captain's  
 place himself, and when the company  
 voted he beat old Kirkpatrick four to  
 one. I helped to elect him, and when  
 he got elected he turned to me and  
 said, 'Bill, I've got even on that cant  
 hook!'"

"He is the most curious fellow I ever  
 saw. There never came a man into the  
 neighborhood but he'd find out just the  
 things that man knew best. He never  
 gave the schoolmaster any pence after  
 he found he knew grammar until he'd  
 learned all the grammar the teacher  
 knew. He found a fellow who knew  
 how to measure off land, and, sure as  
 you live, this fellow quizzed him and  
 quizzed him until he learned the trade,  
 and then he got some tools and went  
 out himself setting section corners  
 and making lines and setting stakes to  
 show people where to put their fences."

"What became of this young man?"  
 "Well," said Green, "he went and  
 learned law, set up in Springfield and  
 got to congress. But he couldn't get  
 elected for the second term. He's as  
 good a fellow as ever lived," continued  
 Mr. Green, "but he's kind of common,  
 sort of just like everybody else, no bet-  
 ter, no worse; just a good feller."

"What's his name?"  
 "Abraham Lincoln," replied Green.

**The First Walking Stick.**

The well born Egyptian carried a  
 staff with him inscribed in hiero-  
 glyphics, but walking sticks, in the  
 general sense of the word, were first  
 used by the gallants of the fifteenth  
 century. Canes are first heard of in  
 the reign of Henry VIII, probably in-  
 troduced to Europe after the discovery  
 of America.

Walking sticks were adopted by the  
 effeminate Henry II. of France about  
 the middle of the sixteenth century.  
 These French sticks, with a ribbon and  
 tassel to pass over the wrist, were,  
 however, not used by gentlemen of  
 fashion in England until 1655.

When first introduced they were  
 formed with an indented head to afford  
 a more easy rest for the hand. After-  
 ward they were crowned with a round  
 and hollow top, which contained nut-  
 meg or ginger and sometimes sugar  
 candy for the asthmatic or a store of  
 snuff.

**Straw Hats Half Price**



Remember You have Four Months yet to wear Straw Hats. You can't afford to miss this opportunity of buying a Stylish Hat for so little Money. Come at once and see them.

**R. E. Copeland**

STAR BRAND SHOES ARE BETTER

Customer's Shoes Shined Free

**Shoes, Hats and Men's Furnishings**

The One Price Store

**Keep Cool!**

A FULL LINE FANS AT

**W. G. Wilson & Co.**

Plain and Fancy Sheer White Lawns, White Mercerized Waistings, Good Designs in Printed Muslins, Embroideries, Laces and All-over. Ladies Sunshades at Low Prices

**W. G. Wilson & Co.**

**The Painter-Man with the Proper Can**



Painters who use ready-mixed paints, and who have thoroughly tested them all without prejudice, readily recommend

**Mastic Mixed Paint**

"The Kind That Lasts"

To be certain of getting the right kind see that, like the painter-man, you get the goods in the proper can. That's the only way to identify the paint before using it. After you once use Mastic paint the appearance of the work and the durability of the paint will convince you that the painter-man was right in his recommendation. You will need no further proof and you will recommend Mastic paint to your friends.

Manufactured by PEASLEE-GAULBERT CO., Incorporated, LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

FOR SALE BY

**Dodson's Drug Store.**

**THE HUB THE HUB**

**Only a Few Words Needed to Tell The Story of Our Special Sale**

The best evidences of its success are the hundreds of satisfied customers who have taken advantage of the splendid offerings. They came expecting great values and they were not disappointed. The people know we never advertise a bargain we cannot show, or make a promise we cannot back up with the Merchandise. Sale closes

**Saturday, July 15th.**

The last week's offerings are just as great values as the first week's. The place of every broken lot has been supplied with something just as good or better. Don't neglect this great Money-Saving opportunity.

Lot Figured Batiste, all desirable patterns, worth 10c, 12c and 15c. This sale	8 1/2c.	Lot neat figured Batiste, 27-inches wide, fast colors	.04
Lot Yard-wide Percals, desirable Patterns fast colors, worth 10c., 12c, yours for	.08	Lot yard-wide Percals, short lengths. This sale	.05
Lot Fancy Gingham, worth 7 cents and 8 cents. Reduced to	.05	Good yard-wide Bleaching Ladies' Bleached Vests, taped necks	.05
White Persian Lawn, worth 20 cts. This sale	.15	Ladies' fine Batiste Corsets with hose supporters attached	.50
20 pcs Brown Dress Linen, the 15c. kind. This sale	.10	Lot Ladies' Shirt Waist Patterns, put up with Trimming to match	.48
40-inch White Lawn during this sale only	.05	Lot Cambric Embroideries and Insertions, the biggest values of the season	5c and 10c
Special 40-inch wide India Linon, you can't match it	.10		

All Ladies', Misses' and Children's Oxfords go in this Sale at actual Cost.

**Sale Will Continue Until July the 15th.**

**The Hub. The Hub.**

ARRIVALS:—Train No. 1, Daily, from Augusta and intermediate stations 1:45 pm; No. 2, daily, from Greenville and intermediate stations 1:35 pm; No. 37, daily, except Sunday, from Greenville and intermediate stations 4:00 pm; train No. 2, daily, from Spartanburg and intermediate stations 1:30 pm.

C. H. Gasque, Agt., Laurens, S. C.  
 G. T. Bryan, Gen'l Agt., Greenville S. C.  
 Ernest Williams, Gen. Pass. Agt., Augusta, Ga.  
 T. M. Emerson, Traffic Manager.