

**LOCAL AND PERSONAL MENTION.**

**A Christmas Message.**  
(For the Laurens Advertiser.)

Time's echoes are filled with tumult and cries,  
From the warfares of hate and contests of lies;  
And the cannon's roar with the rifle's yell,  
Of man against man through centuries.

O humans so mad for glory which flies  
As the sunset's glow in the night-sky dies;  
Unrest, O unrest which dwarfs man of life  
And buries honor in merciless strife!  
Not thus did the Christ his heritage give;  
Not thus did he pray God's children should live;  
And through all the roar of man's blood-stained tide;  
Where in sin's battles the cruelist ride,  
Today, as it was on Bethlehem's hill,  
This call's ringing clear: peace, peace and good will.

O peace of the Christ! O song of his soul!  
Ring, ring your bidding, till the death clouds roll  
Away from man's eyes, and over the earth,  
Around our Saviour, we wake to new birth.

Geo. Studson DeLano.  
Mountville, S. C., 1913.

Miss Dorothy Owens, of Clinton, was in the city yesterday.

Mr. M. P. Vaughn, of Fountain Inn, was in the city on business Friday.

Mr. R. A. Cooper returned to the city yesterday after a visit to Orangeburg.

Wallace W. Harris, Esq., of Abbeville has been in the city on business for several days.

Messrs. J. H. and Frank Abercrombie, of Youngs township, were in the city on business Monday.

Mr. W. F. Power, of Youngs township, was in the city Monday visiting his brother, Mr. C. A. Power.

Mr. Jim Moore, who has been with J. M. Philpot has accepted a position as salesman for Dial Company.

Miss Minnie Crouch, teacher of the Vaughnville school, spent the weekend with her sister, Mrs. J. E. Glenn.

The county treasurer is being assisted during the busy season by his brother, Mr. H. M. Young, of Clinton.

Mrs. D. A. DuPre, of Spartanburg, spent several days in the city last week with her daughter, Mrs. Carlos R. Moseley.

Mr. and Mrs. Brooks Childress are in Sevierville, Tenn., on a visit to relatives. Mrs. Childress will spend the Christmas holidays there.

Miss Cora Medlock spent Sunday in the city with her sister, Mrs. J. Arthur Taylor, on her way from Atlanta to her home at Fountain Inn.

**SOCIAL AND PERSONAL.**

**Brown-Sitgreaves.**

The following invitations of interest to numerous friends of the young couple in this city and other parts of South Carolina were issued yesterday:

Mr. and Mrs. Edwin McB. Sitgreaves invite you to be present at the marriage of their daughter Annie Love to

Mr. Edgar Allan Brown on Tuesday evening the thirtieth of December at half after seven o'clock The Church of The Epiphany Laurens, South Carolina

**Reception**

Immediately after the ceremony Eight hundred six West Main Street

Miss Sitgreaves is a popular member of society in Laurens where she has always been admired because of her attractive personality, talents and accomplishments. Mr. Brown is a rising young attorney of Barnwell, being at present court stenographer of the Second Judicial District.

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Friday evening the choir of the Presbyterian church met at the home of the organist, Mrs. M. L. Roper, where Mrs. Roper sprung a very pleasant surprise. After the usual time spent in practice, Mrs. Roper served a most delicious salad luncheon, which was heartily enjoyed. As a beautiful climax of the evening, each member of the choir was presented by Mrs. Roper, with a very pleasing Christmas gift. The members of the choir present for the occasion were, besides Mrs. Roper, Mrs. C. F. Rankin, Mrs. H. K. Aiken, Mrs. J. H. Teague, Mrs. W. R. McCuen, Miss Mary Todd, Miss Henry Wright, Messrs. E. H. Wilkes, W. R. McCuen, S. B. Lapsley and J. N. Wright.

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Thursday afternoon Mrs. R. E. Hughes entertained a number of friends in honor of her guest, Mrs. Leigh, of Virginia. Six tables were prepared for auction bridge, a very pleasant afternoon being spent. Miss Carol Roper met the guests at the door upon their arrival and showed them into the parlor. Mrs. G. A. Guignard and Miss Leila Thompson presided over a bowl of delicious punch. Assisting with the games were Mrs. Cora Lucas, Mrs. W. C. Irby, Jr., and Miss Julia Irby. During the afternoon a delightful salad course was served.

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Saturday afternoon the Forty Two club was entertained by Miss Mary Todd at her home on West Main street. After a number of very enjoyable games were played a delicious sweet course was served. The afternoon was very pleasantly spent by all who were present.

**KILLING AT FORK SHOALS SATURDAY**

**Clyde Willis Shoots and Almost Instantly Kills Alec Pruitt. Self-Defense is Claimed by Willis.**

Alec Pruitt was shot and almost instantly killed yesterday afternoon by Clyde Willis, both white, the killing taking place in the Fork Shoals neighborhood about three o'clock. Four pistol bullets struck Pruitt, one in the face, one in the abdomen, one in the wrist and one in the side or back. The shooting took place in front of Pruitt's blacksmith shop. Clyde Willis is said to have given himself up to Magistrate McCauley. He came on then to Greenville and was placed in the county jail. No statement could be obtained from him last night. Pruitt was a man with a large family, and a tenant upon the place belonging to the father of Clyde Willis. The latter is a well known planter of the Fork Shoals vicinity.

The facts relative to the killing were difficult to ascertain, except in so far as the coroner's inquest is concerned. The result of this inquest was the returning of the verdict "that the said Alec Pruitt came to his death on December 13th, 1913 at his shop near Fork Shoals from the effects of pistol shot wounds inflicted by the hands of Clyde Willis. The coroner's jury was composed of Messrs. J. R. Terry, H. B. Jordan, C. T. Thompson, R. L. Tumbling, B. P. Coleman, Foreman, C. P. Slaten, T. E. Calcea, G. E. Phillips, John Linley, R. H. Turner, Charley Kellett and G. M. Williams.

Testimony at the inquest was obtained from Avery Pitts, Henry Lark, son-in-law of the dead man, and Jesse Pruitt, son of the dead man. This testimony was to the effect that the killing took place in front of Pruitt's shop, that Pruitt was unarmed, so far as the witnesses knew, and that the shooting occurred after Pruitt had walked out to the road to see Willis with reference to some difference Willis and Henry Lark had had. The body of the dead man was searched by G. B. Byrd, Henry Lark testified that Willis cursed Pruitt before the

**ODD REASONS FOR DIVORCE**

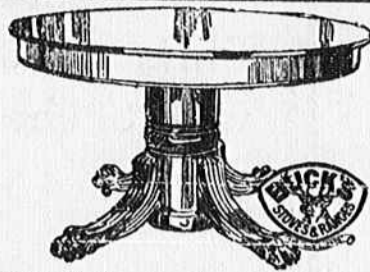
A Milwaukee brewery worker recently applied for a divorce from his wife on the ground that she had bought bottled beer from a rival company.

A reason just as curious was put forward by a man named Adolph Schnell, who, a short time ago, filed a suit for divorce in Kansas City against his wife, who was described as a "trance medium." The applicant named four spirits as the cause of his domestic troubles. These were Mike Conroy, whom Mrs. Schnell called her chief guide, and three Red Indians—Red Wing, Red Feather, and High Horse. Schnell declared that he was unhappy when the ghosts were around, and could not sleep. "As soon as I get into my first sleep," he said, "my wife begins to yell, and when I ask what is the matter, she says: 'Mike Conroy is here. He wants you to get up and talk to your grandfather.'" When Mike possesses her she talks with a brogue, and keeps asking me if I cannot see my grandfather standing over beside the dressing table. I strain my eyes, but never once, catch a glimpse of the old gentleman. It is too deep for me, and I have lost so much rest entertaining Mike and the three Indians that I simply cannot stand it any longer."

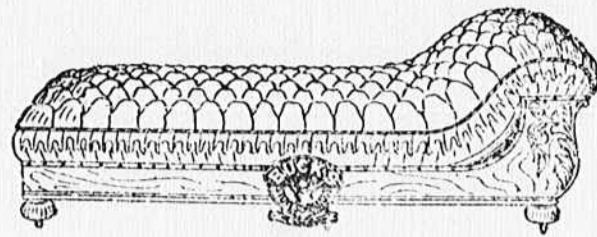
It is on record that the shaving off of his beard by a French King was the cause of a long and disastrous war between France and England. In the United States it has been responsible for at least one matrimonial tragedy. Only last year a lady applied for a divorce on the ground that her husband had given too much license to his barber. He had—without, of course, consulting his "better-half"—actually dared to remove his beard. "He looks too young without his beard," complained the fair petitioner. "He has not enough dignity to pass as my husband unless his weak little chin is covered up and hidden away behind a beard. I've told him many a time that if he ever let a barber cut it off I'd get a divorce; and one day, a few weeks ago, he came home with a clean-shaven face. And now it's all over."

**Christmas Gifts the Year Round!**

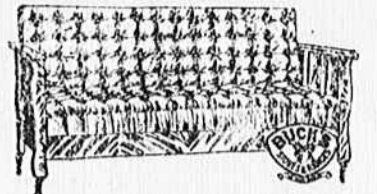
You have read Christmas Books and Christmas Flowers are withered. But the Christmas Rocker, or the Christmas Table, is as real and as attractive as the morning you found a place for it in your home. It endures after many yuletides have come and gone. It's usefulness is inexhaustible and it reminds you constantly of the generosity of the giver.



Dining Tables in Fumed, Early English or Golden Oak, and in Mahogany \$10.50, \$12.50, \$16.50, \$19.50, \$23.50, \$29.50 and up.



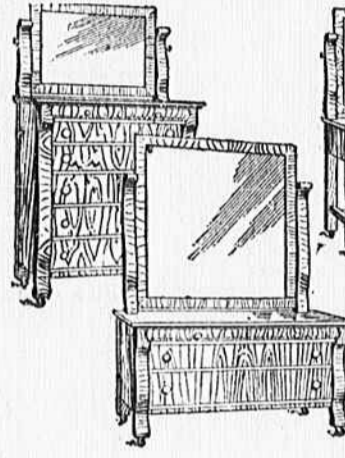
Couches with guaranteed Oak frames, finely upholstered \$9.90, \$12.50, \$13.50



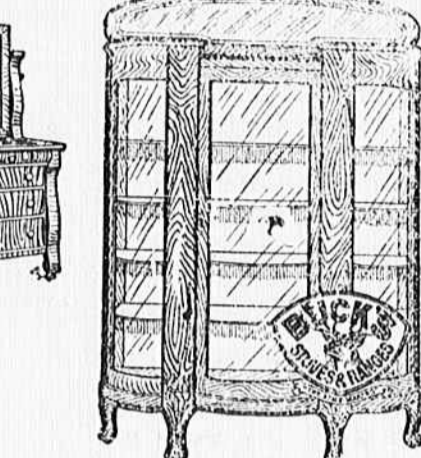
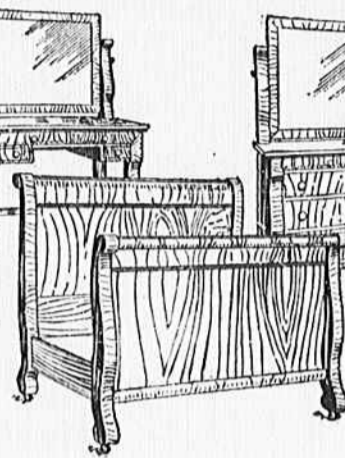
Fine Davenports \$18.50 up to \$40.00



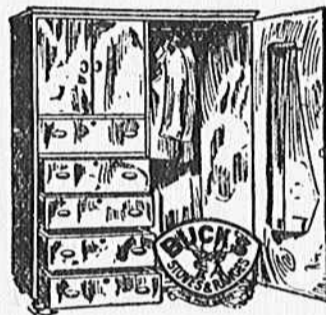
Beautiful Odd Dressers in Oak, Mahogany or Maple from \$9.50 up.



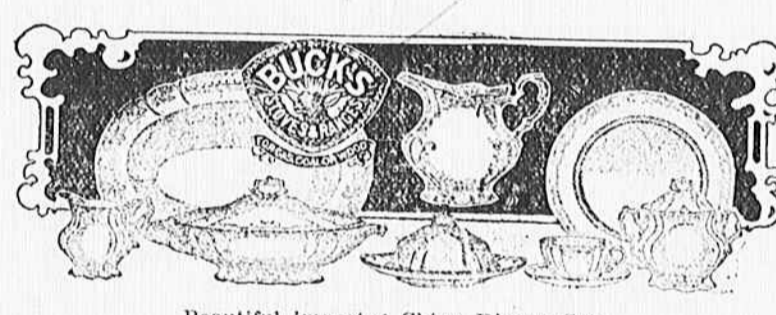
Beautiful Bed-Room Furniture at any price you may want to pay.



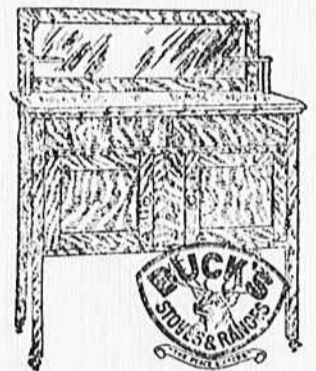
China Closets in all finishes from \$14.75 up.



Chiffonobes in Oak or Mahogany at \$22.50 and \$25.00.



Beautiful Imported China Dinner Sets \$12.50, \$12.90, \$18.50, \$19.50, \$21.50 and up.



Sideboards and Buffets in all finishes from \$13.50 up.

Come and look through our stock. You will find hundreds of other articles that will make lasting gifts for every member of the family.

**S. M. & E. H. WILKES & COMPANY**  
Laurens, South Carolina

shooting began. He further testified that Willis shot once at him, after Pruitt had fallen. The latter never spoke after falling in the road. The three witnesses were all near the shop when the shooting occurred. One of the witnesses said the two men talked about three minutes before the shooting began.

Relatives of Clyde Willis state that the killing was in self-defense, and it is understood that such will be his plea. Alvin H. Dean has been retained as attorney for Willis. Last night, a relative who had talked with Clyde Willis said that Pruitt was advancing upon Willis with a knife in his hand, and was cursing as he came. Willis retreated a few steps and then opened fire. This gentleman further stated that it was a clear case of self-defense, that Clyde Willis was a man of excellent reputation and never before had been into any trouble. Little further than this could be learned, as the prisoner could not be seen last night. The prisoner's father accompanied him to Greenville.

Alec Pruitt was a man of middle age, and is survived by a large family. Clyde Willis is about twenty-eight years of age, and has a wife and two

children. Pruitt and his son-in-law Lark were both tenants upon the place of Clyde Willis' father.

The coroner's inquest was conducted by Coroner Black at Fork Shoals yesterday afternoon. Internal hemorrhage was the cause of death, according to Dr. R. C. Bruce who examined the dead body.

Clyde Willis is a nephew of Mr. G. K. Willis of this city.

**That Occasional Chord.**

There are chords in the human heart, strange, varying things, which are only struck by accident; which will remain mute and senseless to appeal to the most passionate and earnest, and respond at last to the slightest casual touch. In the most insensible or childish minds there is some train of reflection which art can seldom lead, or skill assist, but which will reveal itself, as great truths have done, by chance, and when the discoverer has the plainest and simplest end in view.—Charles Dickens.

**Parental Problems.**

Where a whipping may improve who boy it will create a grudge and a thirst for revenge in another. Parents have several problems besides making a living.—Achtson Globe.

**Executors Sale of Lands**

BY VIRTUE OF AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME BY THE LAST WILL OF DR. JOHN A. BARKSDALE, DECEASED, I WILL SELL AT PUBLIC OUTCRY ON SALES DAY IN JANUARY, 1914, BEING THE 5TH DAY OF THE MONTH (IF NOT SOLD AT PRIVATE SALE BEFORE THAT TIME) IMMEDIATELY AFTER OFFICIAL SALES, THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED LANDS, SITUATE, LYING AND BEING WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF LAURENS, ONE MILE NORTHWEST OF THE PUBLIC SQUARE, TO WIT:

All that tract of land called Tract No. 1, containing Sixteen and sixty-six one-hundredths (16.66) acres, bounded on north by lands of W. J. and A. D. Barksdale, east by new street between it and Tract No. 2, south by lands of the estate of Dr. John A. Barksdale, deceased, from which it is divided by a spring branch, and west by lands of the estate of Dr. T. E. Todd, deceased.

Also all that tract called Tract No. 2, containing sixteen and sixty-six one-hundredths (16.66) acres, bounded on north by lands of W. J. and A. D. Barksdale, east by Little River which is the line between it and lands of J. D. Watts, south by a spring branch which is the line between it and other lands of the estate of Dr. John A. Barksdale, deceased, and west by new street between it and Tract No. 1.

TERMS: ONE-HALF OF THE PURCHASE MONEY TO BE PAID IN CASH, AND THE BALANCE ON A CREDIT OF TWELVE MONTHS, SECURED BY NOTE AND A MORTGAGE OF THE LAND, WITH INTEREST AT THE RATE OF EIGHT PER CENT PER ANNUM—WITH LEAVE TO PAY ALL CASH. PURCHASER TO PAY FOR PAPERS. PLATS MAY BE SEEN AT MY OFFICE.

**C. D. BARKSDALE**  
As Executor

**Bicycle For Sale or Exchange!**  
One Ladies' Bicycle in first-class condition cheap to a quick purchaser. Will either sell or exchange.  
Phone No. 52 or 270