

# The Newberry Herald and News.

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## SOUTH CAROLINA COLLEGE.

### Election of New Members of the Faculty Under the Re-organization.

(Columbia Register, 10th.)  
The Board of Trustees of the University of South Carolina held one of the most important meetings in the history of the institution last night, and by their judicious choice of professors did much to further the interests of this time-honored seat of learning and to insure the entire success of the re-organization contemplated by the legislation of the last General Assembly.

The first elections were held to fill the chairs already existing in the college and amounted to a mere form, every member of the old faculty being re-elected with some changes in the chairs. Professor Patton, who has hitherto had charge of the department of Ancient Languages, will now occupy the chair of Greek alone, and Professor Alexander, who has occupied the chair of Moral Philosophy and English Literature, will now preside over the department of Logic and Rhetoric.

The new professors and instructors are as follows: Latin, J. S. Murray, Jr., of Anderson, S. C.; Mathematics and Astronomy, E. W. Davis of Wisconsin; Pedagogics, E. E. Sheib of Louisiana; Agriculture, Milton Whitney of Maryland; Physiology and Hygiene, B. M. Bolton of Virginia; Biology, George F. Atkinson; Moral Philosophy and the Chalcography, Rev. J. Wm. Flynn of New Orleans; English, F. C. Woodward of South Carolina; Veterinary Surgery, W. B. Niles; Assistant Professor of Analytical Chemistry and Materia Medica, R. J. Davidson; Drawing, W. G. Randall; Instructor in Modern Languages and English, J. J. McMahon; Instructor in Pharmacy, Silas J. Duffie; Assistant Chemist to the Experiment Station, C. W. Sims; Secretary to the Experiment Station, I. L. Withers.

As Deans of the various colleges, the following selections were made: Agricultural College, Prof. Stone; College of Liberal Arts, Prof. Woodward; College of Pharmacy, Prof. Burney; Normal College, Prof. Sheib; Law College, Prof. J. D. Pope.

The following facts concerning the new members of the faculty elected will be read with interest:

### BOTANY AND ZOOLOGY.

George F. Atkinson is a native of Michigan. In 1885 he graduated with marked standing at Cornell University in the scientific course, taking the degree of Ph. D. During the latter part of his course he held the Fellowship in Botany, and was instructor in that branch. In a short while he resigned that position to become Associate Professor of Natural History at the University of North Carolina, where he is at present. Since moving to North Carolina he has married, his wife being a daughter of the late Dr. Kerr, State Geologist. He has done a large amount of very valuable work on Entomology for the North Carolina Agricultural Experiment Station, and his writings, of which a number have been published, show marked scientific power and brilliancy. His ability to impart instruction is very highly spoken of.

### PHYSIOLOGY AND HYGIENE.

B. M. Bolton is a native of Virginia, and pursued a thorough academic course at the University of Virginia, and afterwards graduated there with the degree of Doctor of Medicine. He received an appointment as physician to the Richmond City Dispensary, and practiced his profession with marked success for three years in Virginia and Mississippi. In 1882 he was appointed a tutor in English and Mathematics at the South Carolina College. While acting in this position, he pursued post graduate courses in laboratory chemistry. In June, 1883, he went to Europe and studied chemistry under Bunsen at Heidelberg, and physiology, hygiene, histology and bacteriology at Göttingen, Würzburg and Berlin under such great specialists as Flügge, Krause and Koch. In October, 1886, he was appointed assistant in bacteriology and pathology in the John Hopkins University, where he is at present engaged. Dr. Bolton has done a large amount of original work, and published several valuable papers, and made some important discoveries in bacteriology. He is already recognized in this subject. His recommendations are of the most flattering kind.

### AGRICULTURE.

Milton Whitney is a native of Baltimore, and was raised on a large farm in the State of Maryland, of which he had the management until he became of age. He spent three years at Johns Hopkins University in the study of Agricultural Chemistry, Physics and allied sciences, was appointed an assistant in the Chemical Laboratory in Bowdoin College, Maine, and afterwards an assistant in Agricultural Chemistry to Dr. Atwater at Middlebury, Connecticut. He assisted Atwater in his experiments upon the nitrogen supply of plants. He was afterwards an assistant at the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station. He then spent some time abroad studying the experiment stations of Germany. For the last few years he has been the Superintendent of the State Experimental farm at Raleigh, N. C.

### PEDAGOGICS.

E. E. Sheib is a native of Baltimore, where his father was an influential minister of the Dutch Reformed Church. He finished his education abroad, spending five years in Germany—1871, '72 at Heidelberg, and '73, '74, '75 at Leipzig, where he took the degrees of M. A. and Ph. D. on pedagogics and allied branches. On his return to this country he was elected President of the State Normal School of Louisiana, a large and flourishing institution situated at Natchitoches. He married a New Orleans lady and is between 35 and 40 years of age.

## VETERINARY MEDICINE.

W. B. Niles, of Iowa, is a graduate of the veterinary department of the Iowa Agricultural College, one of the largest establishments of the kind in the West. After graduation he pursued post graduate courses, and afterwards was appointed home surgeon and gave instruction in veterinary science in the college. He is now Assistant State Veterinary Surgeon of Iowa. He is a man of about 30 years of age.

## CHAIR OF MORAL PHILOSOPHY AND CHALCAGRAPHY.

The Rev. J. W. Flynn, of New Orleans, who was elected to the chair of moral philosophy and chaplain, was born in Mississippi in 1847. Although but 44 years of age in 1881 he gave up study and entered the Confederate army. He was actively engaged in eighteen battles and was wounded four times. At the close of the war he entered the University of Mississippi, from which he was graduated in 1871 with the highest honors in the gift of the institution. After teaching for a year he entered the Theological Seminary at Columbia, S. C., and was graduated in 1875 as bachelor of divinity. After finishing the course at Columbia he entered the University of Edinburgh, Scotland, where, in the years 1875-76, he made a special study of philosophy, under the famous and brilliant Drs. Calderwood and Fraser, and of English literature under Prof. Masson. Also, while in Scotland, he prosecuted a year extended course in theology, in the university, and under Drs. Rainey, Blake, Davidson and others of the Free Church Theological College. On his return to America he was called to the pastorate of a church in North Carolina, but his eminent abilities soon spread his reputation and in another year's time he was called to the charge of the Franklin street Memorial Church of New Orleans, La. While engaged in his duties as pastor during the great epidemic of 1878 he was stricken with yellow fever, but was soon again at his post. In New Orleans, where he still is, he is quite popular and is noted as a brilliant speaker and earnest preacher. He is possessed of a very fine private library of metaphysical books and is regarded as a writer of great clearness and force. He is very highly recommended.

## THE CHAIR OF ENGLISH.

Prof. F. C. Woodward is too well known in this State to require extended notice. As a professor in Wofford College, first of Latin and afterwards of English, he has established a reputation as scholar and teacher which justified his call to the University of the State without application on his part and will cause his acceptance to be welcomed with universal pleasure by the friends of the University.

Prof. Woodward is a Virginian by birth, and was graduated from Randolph-Macon College, where he was also tutor, giving early promise of a distinguished career. His services at Wofford College have been most conspicuous.

## ESPECIALLY IN THE CHAIR OF ENGLISH.

Prof. Woodward has acquired a reputation second to none in the South. His scholarship is thorough and fully abreast with the latest results. His views of language and of language teaching belong to the most advanced and philosophical school of thought, and, as set forth in his recently-published essay on "English in the school," have met with an appreciative recognition in the highest quarters. His methods of instruction are thorough, inspiring and effective; indeed, few teachers in the South have ever awakened more enthusiasm. His accession to the faculty of the University will greatly strengthen its teaching power in one of its departments of widest interest and importance.

Prof. Woodward is in the prime of life. His personal qualities are most solid and attractive. He is a member of the Methodist Church and of the leading laymen of this State.

## THE CHAIR OF LATIN.

Mr. J. S. Murray Jr., is a native of Anderson, S. C. He was graduated from Furman University, and in 1878 took the degree of master of arts. In 1880 he was admitted to the Bar of South Carolina, but soon determined to devote his life to classical study, and accordingly in 1882 he entered John Hopkins University, where he pursued a course in classical philology under Dr. Gilliespie. In 1883 he was a student at Göttingen and at Leipzig. Finally in 1884 he entered the University of Berlin, and has there pursued for the last four years a very advanced course of work in classical philology. The degree of doctor of philosophy in philology will be conferred upon him in June.

Mr. Murray had the advantage of studying under some of the greatest classical specialists of the world and is spoken of very highly by them. Dr. S. Wahlen, professor in the University of Berlin, director of the Philological Seminary and Fellow of the Royal Academy of Sciences, says: "By such long and zealous attention to these various studies he has acquired equally a sound understanding of the Latin language and a clear insight into the methodical treatment of Latin authors. Moreover, Mr. Murray has been for some time engaged in the execution of a philological investigation on Cicero's book 'De Inventione,' and by personal conversation

I have had repeated opportunities to recognize that he has grasped his subject with interest."

## THE CHAIR OF MATHEMATICS AND ASTRO-NOMY.

Dr. E. W. Davis graduated at the University of Wisconsin with distinction, taking the degree of bachelor of science, and received an appointment as assistant in the large astronomical observatory attached to that institution. He pursued an advanced course of mathematical study under Sylvester at Johns Hopkins University, where he took the degree of doctor of philosophy in 1881. While at the university he did the mathematical work required by Dr. Rowland in his admirable determination of the value of the Ohm. He was for some time employed in the United States coast and geodetic survey, and next received an appointment at the Florida Agricultural College, where he has been teaching mathematics with distinguished success for the past three years.

## ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF ANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY AND MATERIA MEDICA.

R. J. Davidson, of Georgetown County, S. C., is one of the recent graduates of the South Carolina College. During his undergraduate course he exhibited marked brilliancy of intellect and power of concentration of thought. He was graduated as a member of the class of 1885 with an enviable stand, and was immediately elected by the faculty to the position that he held for two years. In June, 1887, he received with distinction the degree of master of arts. His thesis upon molecular motion was noteworthy. For the past year he has been holding the position of assistant in chemistry, as well as secretary of the faculty. His practical experience both as a student and as an instructor have been valuable. He will undoubtedly contribute in his new position much towards increasing the reputation of this already noted department of the University. There is no appointment that could have given more pleasure to the students now in the University and to those who have graduated since the re-opening of the College.

## ASSISTANT CHEMIST TO THE EXPERIMENTAL STATION.

Mr. C. W. Sims, of Columbia, S. C., was one of the first students at the College after its re-opening in 1880. In 1883 he was graduated with degree of bachelor of science as a member of the first class since the reorganization. He continued his attendance, however, upon the University courses, devoting himself exclusively to work in botany, chemistry and agricultural chemistry. In June, 1886, he was graduated as master of arts. For several years he has been teaching with marked success and increased popularity in the graded schools of Columbia, S. C. Although thus hampered for time, he has been during the present session engaged in still further advanced work in the University. He is a thoroughly conscientious workman and an excellent analyst, and the station has a valuable acquisition in his services.

## INSTRUCTOR IN MODERN LANGUAGES AND ENGLISH.

Mr. J. J. McMahon is a native of Fairfield County, S. C. He entered the South Carolina College in the fall of 1882, and from that date to the time of his graduation in 1886 he was conceded to be the most brilliant man of his class. After completing an enviable successful course he received with honor the degree of bachelor of arts in June, 1886.

Immediately upon his graduation he was chosen by the faculty tutor in modern languages and English, a position he has since filled most acceptably. During these two years he has prosecuted further study along his favorite line of work in French and German, and at the ensuing commencement is certain to receive the degree of master of arts with honors.

## INSTRUCTOR IN PHARMACY.

Mr. Silas J. Duffie is a native of Columbia, S. C. He matriculated at the South Carolina College in the course preparatory to medicine and pharmacy and completed it with marked merit. He next entered the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy—one of the most noted institutions in the land. He soon showed his natural brilliancy of intellect, and benefit of his thorough training in the South Carolina College also being rapidly apparent. He was in a short time appointed to an assistant's position in the laboratory even before graduating. He took at the completion of his course the degree of Ph. D. with distinguished credit.

After his graduation he returned to Columbia where, as a member of the firm of Duffie & Berry, he is rapidly making for himself a reputation as a druggist.

## THE TEACHER OF DRAWING.

Mr. W. G. Randall is a native of North Carolina and a graduate of the University of North Carolina, with the degree of civil engineering. While in that institution he exhibited wonderful talent for both mechanical and free hand drawing. His attainment of an education was up-hill work, and he encountered many difficulties in finishing his course, owing to his poverty. Dr. Kemp Battle, the president, devoted six pages of his annual report for 1886 to a detailed statement of Mr. Randall's college experience. His friends now come to his rescue and enabled him to attend the National Academy of Design, where he distinguished himself. While in New York city he was engaged as instructor in drawing in the Fifth Avenue School for boys. He has had practical experience as an active civil engineer on railroad work.

## SECRETARY TO THE EXPERIMENT STATION.

Mr. I. L. Withers is a native of

Winnboro, S. C. In the fall of 1883 he entered the freshman class of the South Carolina College, and successfully completed the course of study leading to the degree of bachelor of arts. He was graduated in June, 1887, with honor. Upon his graduation he was elected by the faculty as tutor of history, in which capacity he is now serving. During the year since his graduation he has been devoting himself to the pursuit of post-graduate scientific study, and expects next session to complete his course for the degree of master of arts.

Mr. Withers is a young man of fine talents and brilliant promise, a graceful and easy writer, skilled accountant and with much experience in office work. He will be able to render valuable service to the station.

## A Southern Major on the Stage.

[Alex. E. Sweet in Texas Sittings.]

It must occur to the average theatergoer that the representations of persons and character on the stage are true to life. The stage Indian of the Fenimore Cooper tribe, with his stately pose and "hifalutin" talk, does not bear the slightest resemblance to the greasy buck of the plains. An utterly impossible good old negro of the Uncle Tom type is also trotted out to the infinite amusement of those of the audience who are acquainted with the negro as he is. Then, again, there is a purely mythical soldier, who is everlastingly dancing, lurching up his pants, and shivering his timbers.

Why, even the stage moon is usually three-cornered, and after it has by fits and starts climbed up about three feet above the horizon, it gets stuck and can go no further. No sober man has ever seen the real moon act in this peculiar way. Artemus Ward was often compelled to excuse himself to his audience while he went back to his panorama to control the eccentric motions of the moon that traveled with his show.

I don't care much about the three-cornered moon, nor impossible negroes nor Indians, but the Southern Colonel or Major should be reduced to the ranks. I have seen several Southern Colonels on the New York stage, the likes of which have never been observed in the south.

All the stage Southern Majors wear a big sombrero and a cascade of hair flowing down their backs a la Buffalo Bill. Usually the Southern Major jimps, and every few minutes he tells the hero, who is from the north and wants to marry the "Majah's" daughter, something about "that bullet, sah, in my leg, sah, where you yankees shot me, sah, at Gettysburg, sah."

When the sage Southern Major is not talking about his game leg, he is saying: "I'm a Southern gentleman, sah, from Georgia, sah; I am a man of honor, sah." In one play the Southern "Majah" whose daughter has been jilted, is perpetually threatening to "appeal to the law." The southern majors or colonels may possibly commit some of the absurdities with which they are charged, but there never was an instance of one of them ever appealing to the law where the honor of any female member of his family was concerned. He may appeal to the shotgun or the coroner, but never to the law, and it is a great pity that a similar custom does not prevail in the north. The relatives of the saucer-faced dude or ambitious drummer who banks on the Southern Colonel appealing to the law in such cases are to be pitied.

On the stage the Southern Major is eternally pulling out a little popgun of a pistol, which he threatens to use, but never does. Here is another grievous injustice. When the real Southern Major pulls a pistol it is of the proper calibre and he does it very suddenly, and it always goes off and hurts somebody.

On the stage the Southern Major is often called a liar with impunity. This is not the case in real life. Calling a Southern Major a liar off the stage is never destined to become a popular pastime like baseball.

## Sam Jones' Rival.

[From the New Orleans Democrat.]  
Rev. Sam Jones has a rival claimant for platform honors, who has come up out of his own State of Georgia. It is Rev. J. B. Culpepper, and he talked to a large congregation at Nashville, Tenn., on Sunday last. Among other things, he said: "There are too many men standing upon their blood, though it is pretty thin by this time, and they know they haven't done a month's solid work for the Lord in ten years. I would rather be a negro with red eyes, kinky wool, boneloss nose and a hollow of the foot that makes a hole in the ground, than play poker till one o'clock in the morning and go home and deceive my wife about it."

## THE CLEMSON CONTEST.

Col. Simpson's Statement—Miss Lee Gets a Liberal Share After All—An Explanation of Mr. Lee's Animus—Outside Backers for the Contest.

[Greenville News, 10th.]

A variety of misleading reports have been set in circulation recently about the Will and the Estate of the late Col. Thos. G. Clemson. Many of these originated from the published letters of Mr. Gileon Lee, Col. Clemson's son-in-law, and their general tenor has been the belittling of the bequest made to the State on the one hand, and the representation on the other, that by that bequest Miss Florida Lee, Col. Clemson's granddaughter, was being cut out with a pittance, the State in case it accepted the bequest being placed in the light of an usurper.

Certainly no man living could be found better prepared to furnish the facts about Col. Clemson's will than Col. R. W. Simpson, the sole executor of the will and the friend and adviser of the testator. A representative of the Greenville News had an opportunity for a brief interview with Col. Simpson a few days ago and quickly seized on the moment to ask Col. Simpson about the report that Miss Lee would get only a small share in the property left by the Clemson will.

Col. Simpson said that the reports were erroneous altogether, and that he had a plain statement of plain facts to contradict the whole batch of them. Miss Florida Lee gets, he said, \$15,000 in cash under the will, and her share of the Fort Hill place valued at \$5,000. Besides this, she receives an amount decided by way of settlement by Mr. Clemson to the descendants of Mrs. Clemson, which amount is outside of and has nothing to do with Mr. Clemson's estate. This sum, \$5,000, is in the hands of Col. Simpson in State bonds, and is subject to the order of her guardian. She gets also Col. Clemson's handsome and costly family silver, valued by the appraisers \$1,800, in addition to the Calhoun silver, which she already has; also the family pictures and any one article she may select from Col. Clemson's house, and certainly one-third, and most probably one-half of the tract of land owned by Col. Clemson in Maryland, which was bargained for just before Col. Clemson's death, for \$10,000. Further, she already has \$1,900 in her father's hands, given her by Col. Clemson, and on which eight or ten years' interest has accumulated. Col. Simpson did not think these amounts inconsiderable by any means.

Asked if Col. Clemson had seen his grand-daughter during the later years of his life, Col. Simpson said he had not. Col. Clemson had time and again begged Mr. Lee to allow his daughter to come down and visit him at Fort Hill, and Col. Simpson himself had written to Mr. Lee directly before Col. Clemson's death, repeating the same request and emphasizing the wishes of the old gentleman. But Mr. Lee had in every case refused, and it had been eleven years since Col. Clemson had seen his grand-daughter. Col. Clemson was deeply fond of her, and earnestly wished to see her before he died, and Mr. Lee's continued refusal to allow her to come grieved him sorely.

In answer to a question whether Mr. Lee knew the extent of his father-in-law's wealth before he died, Col. Simpson said that Mr. Lee did not know that Col. Clemson had any property outside of Fort Hill.

As an evidence of the impression Mr. Lee was under about Col. Clemson's circumstances, Col. Simpson said that a short while before the death of Col. Clemson, a merchant in Pendleton had received a letter from Mr. Lee telling him to let Col. Clemson have \$100 worth of supplies and he would see the bill paid. He evidently believed Col. Clemson very near to, if not in actual poverty.

Referring to the published statement of Mr. Lee's that Col. Simpson had told him the whole estate would be \$90,000, Col. Simpson said that he did not tell Mr. Lee that. What he did tell him was what he had told the representative of the Greenville News before, that the investments in his hands would at a very low estimate amount to \$90,000, outside of all other property.

Continuing, Col. Simpson said that he had informed the representative of the News who visited Fort Hill, and it had been published in the News two days before the time that Mr. Lee alleged. Col. Simpson told him \$27,000, that Col. Clemson's investments would probably realize "between \$50,000 and \$60,000." This statement was in print and widely circulated before the time when Mr. Lee charges that Col. Simpson informed him they would amount to about \$27,000.

In response to an inquiry whether or not Mr. Lee was acting solely on his own account in making the contest over the Clemson will, Col. Simpson said that he had positive information that he was not.

"In fact," Col. Simpson said, "I am in possession of the fact that Mr. Lee is receiving money from outsiders to aid in contesting the will with the intention of speculating on the place if he succeeds."

Pressed with the inquiry who these "outside parties" were, Col. Simpson said: "I have seen a letter from J. C. Calhoun, of New York, saying he and Pat Calhoun were backing up Mr. Lee in his contest and if the will was set aside they were to get Fort Hill."

In connection with these facts, which in themselves throw much new light on the subject, it may be stated that the representative of the News had a con-

versation with a gentleman who knows Pat Calhoun, now of New York, and who stated incidentally that Mr. Calhoun had told him that it was one of the ambitions of his life to get possession of Fort Hill, the old Calhoun homestead, and make of it a place worthy of the memories associated with it.

## The South and Her Prisoners.

For fifteen years Dr. J. William Jones, of this city, had charge of the records of the Southern Historical society. In reply to an inquiry as to what was the most important matter settled by those records, he said: "The humane treatment of prisoners by the confederate government. The Historical society records settle beyond dispute the following points:

"1st. The federal government was challenged to show from the confederate records in its possession a single order suggesting or tolerating anything but the most humane treatment of prisoners. This it failed to do.

"2d. We showed countless orders of the strictest nature providing for the humane treatment of prisoners above every other consideration, and orders from our generals that 'all the field' should be treated alike by our surgeons.

"3d. We proved that the South religiously adhered to the cartel, and that the North repeatedly broke it. For instance, it was agreed that the excess of prisoners above the exchange should be paroled. We kept this inviolate until Vicksburg, when the north acquired the excess of prisoners. It was then disregarded openly and avowedly.

"4th. We proposed that the surgeons of each side, with medicines and supplies should go into the prisons of the other side, and treat the prisoners. This the North refused.

"5th. We then proposed to let their surgeons come with medicines and treat their prisoners, without them giving the same privilege. They refused to send them.

"6th. We then proposed to buy quinine and other medicines, contraband of war, paying for them in gold, cotton or tobacco, and pledging our honor to use them exclusively and solely for federal prisoners in our prisons. They refused to sell them.

"7th. In January we proposed to parole 15,000 prisoners then in Andersonville, if they would send steamer to Savannah for them, without demanding a like parole of our prisoners from them. They did not accept this offer until six months later, though we had notified them we were utterly without proper food and medicine for them. It was during this six months of shameful delay that the greatest mortality occurred at Andersonville.

"8th. We proved by the records of Secretary Stanton and Surgeon Barnes that the confederate mortality in northern prisons was actually four per cent greater than the federal mortality in southern prisons, although they had the world's markets and the world's medicines open to them, and we were beleaguered, poor, and with every medicine and scalpel made contraband of war.

"The above points, each and severally, are proved beyond dispute in the records of the Southern Historical society."

We respectfully submit that if the Southern Historical society had done no work but this, it would have amply justified the trouble and expense it cost. Every newspaper in the South should lay these statements before its readers, so that young and old may know precisely what the record is, and be prepared to defend it.

## BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

Will Subscribe \$1000 to the Immigration Association.

[Special Augusta Chronicle.]

COLUMBIA, S. C., May 10.—At a meeting of the board of agriculture, held here to-day, Commissioner Butler submitted a communication from Col. E. R. McVey, of Darlington, inclosing a check for \$2500, balance due of the \$5000 subscribed by the citizens of that county in aid of the experiment station located there.

The applications of the following parties for general rights phosphate license were granted: John Hanson, Charleston; Sea Island Chemical company and Carolina Mining company, both of Beaufort; John T. Freeman and C. O. Campbell, of Charleston.

Mr. Porcher, chairman of the phosphate committee, submitted a report on the recent inspection of the phosphate territory, showing the present condition of the mines, working force employed, etc. The report was received as information and will be forwarded to the Legislature.

Col. Duncanson, chairman of the finance committee, submitted a favorable report on the recommendation of the South Carolina delegation at the Hot Springs immigration convention, that \$1000 should be appropriated to entitle the state to representation on a board of directors of the Southern Immigration association, and it was unanimously adopted.

## Lived in Boston.

[From the New York Star.]

"If I might venture to make a suggestion, madam," said a tombstone agent in a sombre yet respectful manner, "I should say the motto: 'He has gone to a better land,' would be an appropriate one." "You forget, sir," said the lady in black, with cold dignity, "that he lived in Boston."

## ELECTRICITY EXTRAORDINARY.

Bill Nye Pictures the Wonderful Possibilities of the Great Modern Force—An Entirely New Device.

[New York World.]

Little did B. Franklin wot that some day the little start he made when he baited his pin-hook with a good conductor and tapped the low-browed and bellowing nimbus with his buoyant kite, and the pickle jar of electricity thus crudely applied, would be the egg from which inventors and scientists would hatch out a system which could not only encircle the globe with messages swifter than the flight of Pegasus, but that anon the light of day would be filtered through a cloud of cables loaded with destruction sufficient for a whole army, and the air be filled with death dealing, dangling wires.

Little did he know that he was bottling the genie which would one day pull out the stopper with his teeth and grow till it overspread the sky, planted its bare, bleak poles along every highway, carrying day messages by night and night messages when it got ready, darkening the air with its rusty wings—providing, of course, that the genie wear wings—and with the harsh, metallic, goidish laughter of a single key with one foot on the neck of the sender and one on the neck of the recipient, with one hand on the throat of the convention and the other in the pockets of the world, defy aggregated humanity to do its worst and command all civilization in terse, well-chosen terms, to either fish, cut bait or go ashore.

Could Benjamin have known all this at the time, possibly he might have considered it wisdom to go in when it rained.

I am not an old fogey, though I may have that appearance, and I rejoice to see the world move. One by one I have laid aside my own encumbering prejudices in order to keep up with the procession. Have I not gradually adopted everything that would in any way enhance my opportunities for advancement, even through tedious evolution, from the paper collar up to the finger bowl, eyether and nyether?

This should convince the reader that I am not seeking to clog the wheels of progress. I simply look with apprehension upon any great centralization of wealth or power in the hands of any one man who not only does as he pleases with said wealth and power, but who, as I am informed, does not read my timely suggestions as to how he shall use them.

To return, however, to the subject of electricity. I have recently sought to fathom the style and motif of a new system which is to be introduced into private residences, hotels and police headquarters. In private houses it will be used as a burglar's welcome. In hotels it will take the mental strain off the bell-boy, relieving him also of a portion of his burdensome salary at the same time. In the police department it will do almost everything but eat peanuts from the corner stands.

The system is an exhibition in a large room down town, with the signals or boxes on one side and the annunciator or central station on the other. By walking from one to the other, a distance in all of thirty or forty miles, I was enabled to get a slight idea of the principle.

It is certainly a very intelligent system. I never felt my own inferiority any more than I did in the presence of this wonderful invention. It will do almost anything, it seemed to me, and the main drawback seems to be its great versatility, for it thereby becomes so complex that in order to become so intimate with it a policeman ought to put in two years at Yale and at least a year at Leipzig. An extended course of study would thus perfect him in this line, but he would not then be content to act as a policeman. He would want to be a scientist, with dandruff on his coat collar and a far-away look.

Then, again, take the hotel scheme, for instance. We go to a dial which is marked Room 32. There we find that by treating it in a certain way it will announce to the clerk that Room 32 wants to act as a policeman. He would want to be a scientist, with dandruff on his coat collar and a far-away look.

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through a course of study in this branch of business, he takes one room at a time, and addressing a pale young "Banister Polisher" by the name of "Front," he begins to scatter information, baggage, towels, morning papers, tables, etc., all over the house. It is also supposed to be a great time-saver. For instance, No. 80 wants to know the correct time. He moves an indicator around like the combination on a safe, reads a few instructions, and then pushes a button, perhaps. Instead of ringing for a boy and waiting for him some time, then asking him to obtain the correct time at the office, and come back with the information, conversing with various people on his way back, and expecting compensation for it, the guest can ask the office and receive the answer without getting out of bed. You can leave a call for a certain hour, and at that time your private gown will make it so disagreeable for you that you will be glad to rise. Again, if you wish to know the amount of your bill, you go through certain exercises with the large barometer in your room; and, supposing you have been at the house two days and have had a fire in your room three times, and your bill, is therefore \$132.18, the answer will come back and be announced on your gong as follows: One pause, three, pause, two, pause, one, pause, eight. When there is a cipher in the amount I do not know what the method is, but by using due care in making up the bill this need not occur.

For police and fire purposes, the system shows a wonderful degree of intelligence, not only as a speedy method of conveying calls for the Fire Department, Health Department, Department of Street Cleaning, Department of Interior and Good of the Order, but it has perfected a method of transmitting emergency calls so that no citizen—no matter how poor or unknown—need go without an emergency. The citizen has only to turn the crank of the little iron martenhous till the gong ceases to ring, then push on the "Citizens' button," and he can have fun with most any emergency he likes. Should he decide, however, to shrink from the emergency before it arrives, he can go away from there or secret himself and watch the surprise of the ambulance driver or the Fire Department when no mangled remains or forked fire fiend is found in that region.

This system is also supposed to keep its eye peeled for policemen and inform the central station where the patrol