

# The Darlington News.

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DARLINGTON, S. C., THURSDAY, MARCH 29, 1894.

WHOLE NUMBER 999.

## LOCAL LAONICS.

### MATTERS IN AND AROUND PROSPEROUS DARLINGTON.

A Column of News, Tersely Told, of Interest to Our Many Readers.

Next Monday will be sales-day.

The Court of Common Pleas adjourned *sine die* on Friday.

Mrs. T. G. Patrick, of Anderson, is visiting her daughter, Mrs. H. A. Edwards.

Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Everett, of Bennettsville, are visiting Dr. and Mrs. W. B. McGirt.

Rev. R. W. Sanders, pastor of the Baptist Church at Florence, visited Darlington this week.

Mr. R. G. Pace, the practical scale man, has an advertisement in this issue that will interest grocers.

A special meeting of the Darlington Building and Loan Association is called for to-morrow (Friday) evening.

Notwithstanding the absence of Rev. J. G. Law from town, services will be held in the Presbyterian Church as usual on Sunday next.

On account of the rush of matter that came in yesterday we have been compelled to omit the editorials and many items of general news.

We advise all ladies who are in search of spring goods to read Messrs Norment & Co's advertisement. They will find it much to their advantage.

A. F. Honour treated The News office a few days since to a nice lot of milk toast and banquet wafers. They are certainly delicious and are fit for any table.

We are glad to note that the town authorities are improving the drainage of the business portion of Pearl Street. We hope that they will not stop until that section of the street is thoroughly drained.

Mr. T. Tracy Walsh having left Darlington to return to his duties at the University of the South, the regular lay services at the Episcopal Church will be resumed on Sunday morning next, at 11.30 o'clock.

The Florence District Conference will meet in the Methodist Church at this place this (Thursday) morning and will continue in session until Sunday night. Most of the delegates have already arrived.

A stock company has been organized in Darlington for the purpose of promoting the baseball sport. Work will be begun in a few days upon the erection of a park near the Mayo School. The boys promise some fine sport this season.

The attention of the traveling public of this section is called to the advertisement of the boarding house of Mrs. Amanda Davis, of Charleston. Her house is located opposite the Citadel Academy, convenient to all points of the city.

No one relished the cold snap that came the early part of this week. A long season of the balmy spring had made us think that winter was over. The freeze has killed the gardens and fruit and done great damage to crops generally.

As the appointment of Mr. A. A. Gandy as postmaster at this place will make a vacancy upon the board of county commissioners, the politicians are already speculating upon his successor. We have heard the names Mr. S. B. Gandy, Capt. Robt. Dickinson and Mr. B. C. Lampley mentioned in this connection, though we cannot state positively whether any of them are candidates for the office. The position is filled by appointment by the Governor.

On Friday last an imported liquor spy, J. D. McLendon, and Mr. Paul Rogers, the clerk at the Enterprise Hotel, became engaged in a difficulty, when the spy pulled out his pistol. By-standers interfered and prevented further trouble. The affair occurred in the dispensary. Mr. Rogers preferred charges against his antagonist to the municipal authorities and the Mayor gave McLendon a trial on the following day, with the result that he was fined \$5 for attempted assault.

## IT IS TRUE.

A Lady's Trunk was Broken Open and Contents Damaged on Saturday.

On Sunday morning last a report was circulated around town that spies had broken a lady's trunk and damaged the contents at the A. C. L. depot on the afternoon previous in search for contraband liquor. The lady is not a resident of the town, but the fact that she is a lady and was unprotected added greatly to the feeling of indignation that spread through Darlington. The citizens were thoroughly aroused and were determined to put a stop to such outrageous conduct. The only thing that prevented trouble was the fact that investigation failed to prove that the indignity was committed. The railroad officials knew nothing about it and no one could be found who did. Excitement quieted down on the belief that the rumor was untrue.

The News wishing to get at the truth of the matter pushed the investigation further, and this paper now has in its possession a letter from the lady herself who writes that the trunk was broken. She says, "the trunk has a hole two inches large in the bottom, also split ever so far. Everything was in perfect confusion and some of the contents damaged by small holes. It is a certain fact that someone had been in it. Nothing was missing."

So it will be seen that the trunk was broken and the contents damaged, but the question is, who did it? The lady lives in Marion and she was on her way to the western part of the county where she teaches school. Whoever committed the act has insulted a lady!

In justice to the only two State constables that were in town when the outrage occurred—Swann and McLendon—we will state that they both emphatically deny having done it and their denials are borne out by what the railroad officials say on the subject.

Mr. J. H. Winburn has erected his photo. tent on the west side of the Square. His photos are as fine as are made in the State. He will remain but a short time and hopes to be kept busy during his stay.

Fine ground coffee 30c per lb. M. J. West.

Fresh fruits and vegetables at Coggshall & Co's.

Base ball goods, hammocks, croquet sets and a full line of sporting goods at the Book store.

## THE SPRING OPENING.

Messrs. S. A. Woods & Co. Are to be Congratulated upon their Success.

It is impossible in our limited space to do justice to Messrs S. A. Woods & Co's. magnificent opening. To give it the extended notice it deserves, that is to mention every detail worthy of particular note, would require far more space than is at our command. The opening was given on yesterday and the day before. Ladies from the town and county crowded the store on both days. The beautiful array of ladies' goods of every character, style and quality seemed to be endless. It is impossible to reproduce on paper the effect of the fairy-like scene; it is necessary for one to have seen it in order to appreciate it. We do not hesitate to say that of the many handsome openings in Darlington this one was decidedly the handsomest of all. Messrs S. A. Woods & Co. are to be congratulated upon their great success.

The lace curtains were won by the holder of ticket number 158. Who is the lucky lady? By calling at S. A. Woods & Co's store she may get the curtains.

Butternuts 90 per lb. Coggshall & Co.

See the samples of photographs at Winburn's gallery on Court House Square. They are fine.

Can cherries, 20c. M. J. West.

Fine line of men's and ladies' purses just received at the Book store.

For artistic photography Winburn's work is hard to down.

## WHITE CAPS ABROAD.

THEY THREATEN PUNISHMENT TO MR. JAMES DOUGHAN.

His Reply to Them—Who May the Whitecaps be?—An Interesting Mystery.

The following appeared in the last issue of the Florence Times:

"A CARD.  
"Mr. Dougan,  
"Sir: I will write you just a word or two in reference to the way you have been treating your family. Now this has gone on long enough and we the neighbors and citizens of this community advise you as friends to never let this happen any more. If so we are going to come and take you out and give you a good thrashing. Take warning we don't want to hear any more of it for if we do we will do you up in good shape. You ought to be ashamed of yourself. You are more like a brute than human. Now you had better mind what you are doing. We are going to watch you close, and if we hear any more of it we are coming after you.  
"Respectfully,  
"THE COUNTRY AND COMMUNITY.

I received the above communication a few days ago post-marked at Florence, S. C., and have it published, that I may be defended before the public from such base accusations which were evidently instigated by some cowardly and meddling enemy. I am perfectly willing for the decent people of the country and community to investigate my conduct in the treatment of my family if they so desire and, if they find that I mistreat them, to blast my name as it deserves and to have me punished to the full extent of the law and it is also just and right that the good and law-abiding people of the "country and community" should know there is one or more cowardly villains abroad in their midst, who, for some private spite, takes the sneaking and cowardly mode of writing anonymous letters to gratify their wrongful spite, and without the manhood to come out and say what is and ask a manly reparation.

I have lived at the same spot where I now live, about five miles from Florence, for the past twenty-five years, and I am perfectly willing for those who have known me best and longest to judge as to the truth of the base charges above, but as to the men or set of men who instigated them I desire to express my contempt and will give them something more forcible should they attempt to regulate my domestic affairs.

"Speak of a man as you find him, No matter what others may say, Speak of a man as you find him, From faults there is none of us free."  
JAMES DOUGHAN.

For sale at great bargains for cash—a lot of second-hand sewing machines, many of them practically as good as new; apply at this office.

Canned peaches at 10c a can at C. & Co's.

Hard time prices on Domestic sewing machines; \$45 the former price, \$25 the present price, \$20 saved on each machine. McCall & Burch.

## THE LAMAR FIGHT.

The Advocates of a Dispensary Have an Election "All by Themselves".

An election was held in Lamar on Monday, by order of the new town council, upon the question of dispensary or no dispensary. The dispensaryites carried the day. The opponents of the dispensary refrained from voting and every ballot cast, excepting one, was in favor of the State bar. The anti-dispensaryites did not participate in the election because they took no stock in it, considering the election illegal. It is stated that should the State and county boards decide to give Lamar a dispensary the opponents of the "step towards prohibition" will carry the fight into the courts.

Apricots, 15c can. C. & Co.

Fine table syrup, 50c per gal. M. J. West.

Tenney's and Royster's fine candies at C. & Co's.

Flour, 40 pounds for \$1. M. J. West.

Three of the very best papers of their kind in the country, the Weekly News and Courier and the Southern Cultivator, and THE DARLINGTON NEWS will all be sent to any address for one year for \$2.45.

## EASTER SERVICES.

Beautiful and Imposing Commemorations of the Resurrection.

Easter was a gloomy day. On the night before the rain began to fall and it continued to pour during the whole of Sunday. Despite the inclemency of the weather, however, interesting services appropriate to the occasion were held in the Methodist and Episcopal churches and these houses of worship were as usual beautifully decorated.

The Methodist Church was arrayed in most becoming decorations. Myriad plants and cut flowers vied with one another in point of beauty. A pyramid of handsome callas formed a background for the pulpit which was draped in nun's-veiling gracefully festooned with white wisteria and azaleas. On either side of the pulpit were stands of potted plants, at the base of which were handsome palms and airy Paris daises. To the right of the chancel was a touching memorial to the late Mrs. Woods. The base was formed of white and green and it was surmounted by a pure white cross twined in smilax and bearing the letters "M. J. W." worked in evergreen.

Services were conducted in the morning by the pastor Rev. J. E. Carlisle. The rain did not prevent a large congregation from attending. Mr. Carlisle delivered an excellent sermon, taking his text from Romans VI, 9: "Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him."

In the Episcopal Church the Easter emblems were never more lovely. The windows were closed and the brilliantly lighted Church made the effect very striking, though the utmost simplicity prevailed in the floral arrangements. On the altar were bases of Parian marble and carved wood holding white azaleas and the cross was trimmed with Easter roses. The font was used as the basis for a lovely arrangement of flowers in memory of Mrs. S. M. Wagner and was rendered more beautiful by the proximity of a cross of cedar rising from a bank of lilies and daises and massed with the most brilliant blooms of red geraniums.

In this church, too, a large congregation attended, despite the bad weather, the services which were held at four o'clock in the afternoon by Rev. R. W. Barnwell, who took the text for an able sermon from John's First Epistle I, 5: "This then is the message we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light and in him is no darkness at all."

Flower pots cheap at Coggshall & Co's.

Ginger preserves, 60c jar for 45c. M. J. West.

For grain and mill feed at bottom prices call at C. & Co's.

## THE PROFITS WITHHELD.

The State Board of Control Will Hereafter Give Darlington Nothing.

As a result of the controversy between the town authorities and the State board of control in regard to the dispensary profits, Mayor Dargan received yesterday the following letter from Governor Tillman:

Major and City Council, Darlington, S. C.  
Gentlemen:  
It has been apparent to us for some time that the city authorities and the police of Darlington were making no effort to suppress the illicit sale of liquor as required under the dispensary law. We have waited patiently hoping for a change of policy on your part. But as there are no indications of any purpose to do more than you are doing, and as we are informed by the constables that the police are obstructing rather than assisting them, notice is hereby given that after the first day of April no part of the proceeds of the dispensary will be paid to the city until the State board becomes satisfied that your police are enforcing the law. Very respectfully,  
R. R. TILLMAN,  
Gov. and Chm. Board.

When asked by a representative of The News what would be the next step he would take in the matter, the Mayor replied that he had nothing as yet to give out for publication.

Gold dust washing powder at C. & Co's.

Large bottle pickles 40c. M. J. West.

Fresh pickles and preserves at Coggshall & Co's.

Wheat flakes at C. & Co's.

## GIVEN HIS LIBERTY.

JOSEPH W. JAMES PARDED BY GOVERNOR TILLMAN.

The End of Darlington's Famous Case—How the Pardon was Secured.

[The State, Mch. 24.]

The closing scene in a tragedy, the details of which rival the best story of fiction, was enacted yesterday, when Joseph W. James, a white man, who has faced the gallows and who has for the past six years looked through prison bars with no other prospect than ending his days behind them, went home to his young wife in Darlington county under the escort of many of the men of prominence of that county, a free man.

About seven years ago this man was wealthy, being worth \$30,000. He was happy. Then his father was murdered, and around him was woven a web of evidence which was so strong that the crime was laid at his door.

Since May, 1892, Joseph W. James has been an inmate of the State prison. All are familiar with the details of the terrible crime of which he was found guilty, and all remember how near he came to being hanged.

Mr. Cole, at the time sheriff of Darlington county, worked up the case. He believed that the young man was guilty, and since his conviction has brought suit against him in the State courts to secure the \$1,000 reward he had offered for the detection of the murderer of his father. This case will hardly be pushed now, as Mr. Cole is one of those who have been instrumental in securing the pardon of James. The young man, when he went to the State prison, as he thought, to spend the remainder of his days, placed his fortune in the hands of some friends. Through bad investments it has nearly all been lost.

James was at the March term of court, 1890, tried for the murder of his father, and upon conviction was sentenced to hang on June 10, 1892. He had previously been convicted, once before Judge Pressley, and one other trial resulted in a mistrial. Just about the time for the execution to take place, the negro strong facts being presented to the Governor, a commutation of sentence to life imprisonment in the State penitentiary was granted by Governor Tillman on the 23d day of May, 1892.

As soon as the pardon was granted yesterday morning a telephone message was sent to the officers of the penitentiary instructing them to have James ready to take the afternoon train for his home.

## HOW IT CAME ABOUT.

A few days ago Governor Tillman received a request from the Hon. E. K. Dargan, James' attorney in Darlington, asking if his excellency would receive a committee of the citizens of Darlington county if they came to Columbia yesterday. He did not say what they wanted. The committee came yesterday morning. It consisted of the following gentlemen: B. A. Early, foreman of the grand jury which heard James' case; J. W. Woodham, J. S. DuBose, W. F. Early, J. S. DuBose, member of the House from Darlington county; T. H. Stokes and W. H. Lawrence.

They called upon Governor Tillman at his office and presented the developments in this famous case which they had unearthed, together with proof of everything they presented. They also presented petitions signed by over fifteen hundred of the best citizens of their county asking the pardon of young James.

They presented to the Governor the following paper signed by each of the committee, covering briefly all the other papers in the case:

DARLINGTON, Mar. 23, '94.  
Governor B. R. Tillman, Columbia, S. C.:  
Dear Sir—We, the undersigned citizens of Darlington county, appearing in person before your excellency respectfully petition you to pardon Joseph W. James because he was convicted on circumstantial evidence, bolstered up by the testimony of one who called himself an ac-

complice, and a majority of the white people of Darlington county, as appears from the accompanying papers, are dissatisfied with the verdict. The residents of the immediate neighborhood in which the murder was committed are all unanimous in their belief in the innocence of the defendant who has already suffered greatly as the result of his conviction.

The petition for pardon is signed by the prosecutor, Ex-Sheriff W. P. Cole, the man to whose efforts more than anything else the conviction was due, and by the foreman of the jury, who does not feel satisfied and who now comes to you in person to urge you to grant this pardon. It is signed by two of the members of the Legislature from this county and by a majority of the white people of Darlington county. A striking feature of this petition is the large number of women who implore pardon for this poor friendless man. When the good women of Darlington county rise up in large numbers and ask as they have done in this case to be allowed to sign a petition of a man charged with murder there is something worth investigating. A good woman's intuition is often worth as much in helping us to form a conclusion as a wise man's reason. It is worthy of notice in passing that the presiding judge of this circuit, who has followed the case closely, holds the opinion, as will be seen from his letter accompanying this petition, that the defendant did not have a fair trial. Our committee comes from different localities of the county and are familiar with the sentiments of their neighbors as regards this case. We beg to assure your excellency that the people almost unanimously declare for the pardon of Joseph W. James.

With this expression of the highest regard and esteem, and invoking your clemency, your committee will ever pray. [Signed] T. H. Stokes, W. H. Lawrence, B. A. Early, J. W. Woodham, J. S. DuBose, W. F. Early, J. S. DuBose.

## READS LIKE FICTION.

The committee then presented the entire case to the Governor as follows. The story is one of intense and romantic interest: "Jos. W. James was convicted on testimony which was purely circumstantial, the ground work on which all the evidence against him was constructed being the confessions of one Bill Scott, the negro thief and blackleg, who had served a term in the penitentiary. This negro turned State's evidence and when placed on the stand testified in substance, that the fatal shot was fired by Lewis Williams, he (Scott) and one Robert Arthur being present to see the work well done; that the gun used was his (Scott's) and that the party had been hired by Jos. W. James to commit the deed. Jos. W. James and Lewis Williams were tried separately, were both convicted and were sentenced to be hung on June 10, 1892, and the sentence of both was subsequently commuted by the Governor to imprisonment in the penitentiary for life. Lewis Williams died in that institution several months ago.

"The attention of the executive is most earnestly called to the fact that if the testimony of Scott, the ex-convict and self-confessed assassin, be eliminated from the record, the balance of the State's testimony will be found as 'thin as air,' and will have literally nothing to support it. On the other hand, if permitted to remain as a part of the record in the consideration of this case, how much weight must the executive give to the following facts. 1. That the witness, Scott, has said, more than once, off the stand, that Jos. W. James had nothing to do with the case. 2. That the defendant, Lewis Williams, after his conviction and in the very shadow of the scaffold as he verily believed, made no less than three full and voluntary confessions, which tallied with the confessions of Scott in all essential particulars, except that he (Williams) never once mentioned the name of Jos. W. James in connection with the affair and that it was not he, (Williams) but Scott who fired the fatal shot. 3. That it is commonly believed by those who in the main credit Scott's story and regard James as

## THE FLORAL FAIR.

PREPARATIONS BEGUN FOR THE ANNUAL FLOWER SHOW.

The Dates Fixed, Judges Selected and Premium List Arranged—Two Evenings of Pleasure.

The Darlington Horticultural Society has decided to hold the annual floral fair on Thursday and Friday, April 26 and 27. The spacious hall in the Darlington Guards' Armory has been secured for the purpose. The ladies are busily preparing for the event, which they promise to make an unusually great success.

The following premium list has been arranged:

## ROSES.

Judges—Mrs. H. L. Charles, Mrs. L. V. Zimmerman, Miss Mollie Boyd.  
Best twelve named and distinct varieties, \$2.  
Second best twelve named and distinct varieties, \$1.  
Best six named and distinct varieties, \$2.  
Second best six named and distinct varieties, \$1.  
Best single specimen of any named variety, \$1.  
Second best single specimen of any named variety, 50 cents.  
Best vase of roses not named, \$1.  
Best twenty-four roses not named, \$2.  
Best design in cut flowers, \$1.  
Best vase of mixed flowers, \$1.

## GREENHOUSE PLANTS.

Judges—Mrs. C. Bacot Law, Mrs. J. J. Ward, Mr. W. D. Woods.  
Best collection of greenhouse plants, \$2.  
Second best collection of greenhouse plants, \$1.  
Best collection of begonias, \$2.  
Best collection of lilies, \$1.  
Best hanging basket, \$1.  
Best pansies, \$1.  
Best collection of ferns, \$1.  
Best palm, \$1.

## VEGETABLES.

Judges—Mrs. C. Bacot Law, Mrs. J. J. Ward, Mr. W. D. Woods.  
Best collection of vegetables, \$1.  
Best strawberries, not less than a quart, \$1.

## Norment & Co.

Our New Dress Goods and Trimmings are now open and we solicit a careful examination of our new styles.

All the New Seasonable Fabrics in Correct Styles at very Low Prices.

IMPORTED NOVELTY ROBES.  
DRESS SILKS,  
FIGURED WASH SILKS FOR WAISTS,  
DRESS GOODS AT ALL PRICES,  
NEW LACES AND EMBROIDERIES,  
NEW TRIMMINGS, ASSORTED.

Printed Mulls, Swisses, Dimities, Muslins and other Popular Summer Goods.

Thompson's Glove-Fitting Corset at 90 cents.  
Also, Best 50c Corset ever made.

Our goods are all new and are offered at prices that we know will please.

Respectfully,  
**Norment & Co.**

Mar 29—

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