

# THE SAGE OF POSSUM FORK.

DISCOURSES ON BLIND TIGERS AND "BLUE DEVILS."

## Strange and Thrilling Night Adventure of a Young Man with a "Guyascutis."

Editor County Record:

I have been trying to dodge the small-pox and run some land. One man died some time ago down about Longwood, said to be from small-pox, and Ephraim Jenkins said it was as thick around Mingo bridge as the hairs on a cow's back; so I left around there and went down near Bloomingvale where the small-pox exhausted itself a year or two ago. None around there now, so I could survey without being frightened.

But I took the night at Mr Pipkin's and met Mr War, who told me of a trouble down there. A young man, riding a mule, returning at night from, perhaps, his sweetheart's house down next to Big Dam swamp, was startled by a big black fang, like a dog or a tiger, which jumped in his lap and commenced biting the mule until he could hear its teeth crunch into the gristle of the mule's neck, causing the mule to throw him; but he got on the mule and got out his long knife for defense, when the thing came again and sprang into his lap, biting the mule again—and the young man cut and slashed it with his knife until he was frantic, but could not feel the knife hit it. Then he hollered for help and dashed up to Mr War's house, calling for a gun; jumped off the mule and ran into the house, in a fearful rage, for the gun; another young man ran out and was holding the mule, when all at once it lit on the mule again which tore loose from the holder. But the thing disappeared when all ran out in the yard to shoot it.

The young man, after calming off a little, got on his mule again and rode off with his knife drawn—but the thing seemed not to follow him any further.

The strange part, however, is that no sign could be found on the mule where the thing bit it, nor could any scratches be found on the young man's thighs, although it tore holes in his pants.

But another mystery is, why did it not bite the man? So it must have been blind and went by smelling.

I had thought, however, all the tigers had gone from this part of the country. The people, however, keep the woods rough so long, no telling what may be hiding around. I have heard of tigers that were blind, but did not know that they would jump on and bite a horse while you were on it. This one seemed to be a curious one, too; for the other young man said it seemed to light on the mule; perhaps it had a sort of spiritual nature; for the knife would go right through it without resistance. Strange!—strange! Some say it was the devil; but I don't think the devil is blind; and I don't think the devil eats mules. The devil is said to be black, however, and that agrees with the color. I have heard, too, of "blue devils", and I reckon a blue devil would look in the dark like a black devil, and be hard to distinguish.

But how blue devils and blind tigers get along together, I am not able to say.

Mr War says another young man was coming along behind and heard the warfare, but thought it was people fighting, and was afraid to go on up to see. But Mr War says he locks his door now when night comes. So I left those diggings before night, for that is a long way off and I feel safer now for there are no blue devils nor blind tigers nor small-pox in POSSUM FORK.

**MONEY AS A BACKING** is a very useful thing, and it will often stand by you in good stead. But it is poor policy to run your business without a banker. The Kingstree Bank will take care of your funds and give you all necessary.

**FINANCIAL FACILITIES** in the nature of checks, drafts, etc., thereby enabling you to do business with speed and satisfaction. Checks are as good as receipts. Be dollar-wise by calling on us for an interview.

# Supervisor's Report.

The following claims were audited and allowed during the last two quarters ending, December 31st, 1904.

| IN WHOSE FAVOR            | NATURE OF CLAIM        | AM'T ALL'D |
|---------------------------|------------------------|------------|
| W G McMillan              | bridges                | 12 00      |
| R C McElveen              | roads                  | 10 00      |
| Geo Hughes                | bridges                | 8 00       |
| R S Burrows               | co constable           | 2 00       |
| W G Camlin                | bridges                | 9 00       |
| W M D McGee               | bridges                | 9 64       |
| W M O'Brien               | board equalization     | 4 00       |
| W G Burrows               | roads                  | 8 00       |
| S P Britton               | roads                  | 129 17     |
| Weekly Mail               | advertising            | 16 36      |
| W T Wilkins               | road plow              | 88 66      |
| W T Wilkins               | roads                  | 17 51      |
| Dr W S Lynch              | post mortem etc        | 10 00      |
| J J Graham                | contingent             | 2 25       |
| W W Kennedy               | bridges                | 3 50       |
| J J B Montgomery          | contingent             | 3 75       |
| G J Graham                | lunatics               | 29 19      |
| R H Kellahan              | bridges                | 22 07      |
| R H Kellahan              | road plow              | 20 00      |
| Kingstree Hardware Co     | roads                  | 21 90      |
| M W Rogers                | roads                  | 16 05      |
| Dr S W Gamble             | roads                  | 58 00      |
| Marshall Wescott & Co     | chain gang             | 17 98      |
| Marshall Wescott & Co     | roads                  | 12 70      |
| R D Guerry                | bridges                | 6 00       |
| J P Wheeler               | roads                  | 15 75      |
| J P Wheeler               | roads                  | 8 00       |
| R M Thomas                | contingent             | 12 00      |
| S M Bradshaw              | roads                  | 75 59      |
| G W Johnson               | jury & witness tickets | 438 85     |
| J J B Montgomery          | auditor                | 12 50      |
| G G Gist                  | roads                  | 72 55      |
| Dr W J Haselden           | post mortem            | 10 00      |
| W E Allen                 | roads                  | 46 60      |
| J W Chandler              | roads                  | 7 00       |
| Pauly Jail Co             | new jail               | 3919 36    |
| Chas C Wilson             | arct new jail          | 58 00      |
| W W Lynch                 | roads                  | 25 00      |
| G J Graham                | jail report            | 25 00      |
| J J Graham                | contingent             | 14 05      |
| S Floyd                   | roads                  | 35 25      |
| S Floyd                   | bridges                | 5 93       |
| E J Smith                 | bridges                | 5 00       |
| W H Dennis                | roads                  | 43 61      |
| J M Eaddy                 | roads                  | 81 75      |
| G B & S S Mitchum         | roads                  | 57 98      |
| J H Reardon               | bridges                | 59 00      |
| R W Marshall              | roads                  | 52 77      |
| B S Smith                 | roads                  | 14 28      |
| P D Cockfield             | roads                  | 40 82      |
| J C Nelson                | bridges                | 25 00      |
| Kingstree Hdw Co          | chain gang             | 14 75      |
| G E Miles                 | roads                  | 90 75      |
| W B King                  | bridges                | 23 30      |
| A R Eaddy                 | roads                  | 72 07      |
| W M D McGee               | bridges                | 18 80      |
| H R Huggins               | roads                  | 53 65      |
| R F Cox                   | roads                  | 53 81      |
| D M Young & Barrow        | bridges                | 59 50      |
| B N Stuckey               | roads                  | 46 89      |
| J J Matthews              | roads                  | 60 25      |
| J W Timmons               | roads                  | 12 00      |
| J H Evans                 | bridges                | 7 20       |
| S W Jernigan              | roads                  | 45 64      |
| W W Burrows               | roads                  | 31 75      |
| W K Wilson                | roads                  | 52 37      |
| S B Poston                | bridges                | 4 25       |
| N M Venters               | roads                  | 70 40      |
| Brown Brothers            | bridges                | 20 00      |
| H N Cameron               | bridges                | 2 50       |
| J H Eaddy                 | roads                  | 62 86      |
| W T Wilkins               | chain gang             | 58 41      |
| S P Britton               | roads                  | 97 92      |
| S P Britton               | bridges                | 9 00       |
| F W Harper                | road plow              | 1 50       |
| F H Hodge                 | roads                  | 1 00       |
| A B Windham & R B Johnson | road plow              | 93 50      |
| W W Lynch & M E King      | chain gang             | 50 00      |
| F R Smith                 | bridges                | 15 26      |
| Dr W S Lynch              | post mortem            | 5 00       |
| W C Ogburn                | roads                  | 229 40     |
| F Rhem & Sons             | roads                  | 63 77      |
| R W Marshall              | roads                  | 24 99      |
| W D Byrdie                | bridges                | 10 00      |
| J M Martin                | constable              | 10 49      |
| Edwin Harper              | chain gang             | 5 06       |
| P C Shiner                | bridges                | 17 00      |
| Dr W V Brockington        | chain gang             | 18 90      |
| E O Limmer                | magistrate             | 10 25      |
| Dr J W Mole               | lunatics               | 5 00       |
| M W Rogers                | roads                  | 42 75      |
| A J Register & Son        | roads                  | 16 62      |
| G G Gist                  | roads                  | 22 00      |
| S M Lee                   | roads                  | 38 39      |
| J J Graham                | contingent             | 8 20       |
| R C McElveen              | roads                  | 5 00       |
| S M Bradshaw              | roads                  | 41 40      |
| R S Burrows               | constable for co       | 2 00       |
| S M Lee                   | roads                  | 47 07      |
| D E McCutchen             | bridges                | 25 41      |

### THIRD QUARTER ENDS.

|                                      |                  |        |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|--------|
| A L Cook                             | roads            | 6 00   |
| W W Lynch & M E King                 | chain gang       | 50 00  |
| B N Stuckey                          | roads            | 50 86  |
| R E McKnight                         | bridges          | 9 50   |
| W B McCants                          | mag and con      | 17 50  |
| J D Cooper                           | constable        | 4 20   |
| P D Cockfield                        | roads            | 30 00  |
| W B Haselden                         | roads            | 42 25  |
| J G Nesmith                          | bridges          | 31 25  |
| W N Clarkson                         | bridges          | 3 38   |
| W J F Huggins                        | bridges          | 18 75  |
| S C Gdwin                            | bridges          | 13 00  |
| S J Singletary                       | co com           | 22 50  |
| Asa B Burrows                        | bridges          | 2 50   |
| W M D McGee                          | roads            | 29 70  |
| A R Eaddy                            | roads            | 6 00   |
| S D Hanna                            | roads            | 57 75  |
| H R Huggins                          | roads            | 14 85  |
| E F Prosser                          | bridges          | 15 05  |
| R M Thomas                           | roads            | 10 00  |
| C R Thomas                           | road plow        | 1 75   |
| W C Hemingway & Co                   | roads            | 76 16  |
| G B Gowdy                            | bridges          | 6 80   |
| N M Venters                          | roads            | 58 10  |
| W W Burrows                          | roads            | 31 65  |
| B B Johnson                          | chain gang       | 1 50   |
| L L & D C Rogers                     | mag & con        | 23 90  |
| G B Mitchum                          | roads            | 14 48  |
| G E Miles                            | roads            | 58 45  |
| J C Nelson                           | bridges          | 17 00  |
| H P Baldwin                          | magistrate       | 24 00  |
| J W McCutchen                        | constable        | 32 77  |
| E B Gaskins                          | roads            | 3 50   |
| T E Salters & A R Mosley             | mag and con      | 12 10  |
| T D Gamble                           | bridges          | 26 00  |
| A J Register & Son                   | roads            | 4 05   |
| R D Blakeley                         | co com           | 22 50  |
| R E Blakeley                         | roads            | 14 31  |
| T A Blakeley                         | roads            | 49 56  |
| C B Ogburn, T E Blakeley & H N Moore | roads            | 6 00   |
| W C Ogburn                           | roads            | 98 94  |
| Wm Cooper                            | supt ed          | 156 92 |
| Rufus Burgess                        | poor             | 8 00   |
| J N Hammet                           | clerk            | 50 00  |
| W W Grayson                          | magistrate       | 37 50  |
| C G Shaffer                          | bridges          | 5 00   |
| J J Graham                           | co sup           | 175 00 |
| R B Johnson                          | road plow        | 15 00  |
| W H Weaver                           | road plow        | 8 25   |
| C J Graham                           | house for jailor | 15 00  |
| R H Kellahan                         | bridges          | 10 94  |
| R H Kellahan                         | bridges          | 2 00   |
| G J Graham                           | sheriff's salary | 326 00 |
| W T Wilkins                          | chain gang       | 46 96  |
| J W Martin                           | constable        | 10 41  |
| W D Bryan                            | roads            | 10 00  |
| J J Evans                            | bridges          | 2 00   |

(Concluded next week.)

There Won't Be

Any Kick in the End If You Begin Right.

The new year is a good time to consider that fact. You'll get good, square treatment and find our store a most desirable place to do your shopping all the year 'round. Just now we're offering some unusual bargains in

PRINCE ALBERT COATS AND VESTS.

Because we have too many on hand.

PRINCE ALBERT COATS AND VESTS

that were \$20, now \$15.75.

PRINCE ALBERT COATS AND VESTS

that were \$18, now \$13.75.

Better call or send early and secure your size.

Mail orders receive prompt and careful attention.

BENTSCHNER & VISANKA

Cor. King and Hasel Sts.

CHARLESTON, S. C.

The Largest and Most Complete Establishment South.

GEO. S. HACKER & SON.



MANUFACTURERS OF—

Cash, Doors, Blinds

Moulding and Building Material,

Sash Weights and Cord

CHARLESTON, S. C.

FOR SALE.

Brick in any quantity to suit purchaser. The Best Dry Press Machine-made

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Special shapes made to order. Correspondence solicited before placing your orders.

W. R. FUNK.

W. L. BASS,

Attorney at Law

LAKE CITY, S. C.

Dr R J McCabe

Dentist

KINGSTREE, S. C.

Additional Tax Notice.

The tax levy for year of 1904 is as follows:

|                 |         |
|-----------------|---------|
| For State       | 5 mills |
| Ordinary County | 4 mills |
| For Schools     | 3 mills |
| Jail            | 1 mill  |
| Roads           | 1 mill  |

For special school District Nos. 15, 23 and 24

No 15 4 mills

No 18 1 mill

No 19, 20, 21, 22 2 mills

A capitation tax on all males between the ages of 18 and 60

years unless exempted by After

December 31st 1 per cent for

January, 1 per cent penalty for

February and 5 per cent for March, with

added to all unpaid taxes.

Commutation tax of \$1.00 for year 1905, collected until March 15, 1905.

After March 15, 1905 executions will be issued.

I will be in Kingstree (Saturday excepted) from this date until March 5 for the purpose of receiving unpaid taxes.

G. W. JOHNSON, County Treasurer.

# SPECIAL RATES,

VIA

## ATLANTIC COAST LINE.

TO

NEW ORLEANS, LA., account the Interstate Cotton Convention, January 24-26th, 1905.

One First-class Fare Plus 25c.

Tickets on sale for round trip for trains scheduled to reach New Orleans before noon of Jan. 24th, 1905, with final limit returning to Jan. 28, 1905.

Tickets will be sold at regular coupon ticket agencies only.

For full information call on your nearest ticket agent, or write,

H. M. Emerson, W. J. Craig,

T. M. G. P. A.

WILMINGTON, N. C.

We Are Proud

OF THE CUSTOMERS WE HAVE MADE IN WILLIAMSBURG, AND THE NUMBER IS CONSTANTLY GROWING.

BECAUSE: First—We give just as much and possibly a little more than can be obtained elsewhere for the same money.

BECAUSE: Second—We give prompt personal attention to orders the day they are received.

BECAUSE: Third—We study to please when the selection is left to us and our prices are the same to all. These are points to consider in purchasing Jewelry or Silver Ware. Our name is the hall-mark of quality.

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257 KING STREET, CHARLESTON, S. C.

Watch Inspectors for Southern and Consolidated Railway.

## GUNS and AMMUNITION

AND ALL KINDS OF SPORTING GOODS FOR THE HUNTING SEASON.

### SPECIAL ATTENTION

Is Called To Our Fine Line of HOLIDAY GOODS.

CARVING SETS, SALAD SETS, ENGLISH CHINA DINNER SETS, ARE A FEW OF THE MANY PRETTY AND USEFUL ARTICLES WE HAVE THAT ARE SUITABLE FOR PRESENTS.

LAKE CITY HARDWARE CO.

LAKE CITY, S. C.

## EPPS' CASH STORE.

STAPLE DRY GOODS, SHOES, NOTIONS.

FANCY GROCERIES A SPECIALTY.

CANDY and FRUITS, SCHOOL SUPPLIES

ALL GOODS FRESH AND NEW.

ONE PRICE TO ALL AND THAT THE LOWEST.

A Cordial Invitation Extended To All.

## G. OLLIE EPPS,

New Brick Store at Railroad Crossing, KINGSTREE, S. C.

### Don't Worry

Over the low prices of Cotton. We will sell our goods in proportion to the prices you are getting.

We always exchange goods or refund money if you are not satisfied with what you buy from us.

S. Marcus, Kingstree, S. C.