Going Gunning.

By Kate Thorn.

WHEN a young man does not know what else to do with himself, he goes gunning.

He says it is rare sport, and we suppose it must be, from the zest with which he prepares for it. It takes him half a day to get ready, with all his womenkind to wait on him.

He has to clean his gun first. A gun is like a fiddle—it always needs a little tinkering every time you use it. Then he has to load it, and fire it off several times, to the infinite terror of all the women in the house, who have read of such terrible accidents from guns that they are almost afraid to look at the picture of one, lest it should explode. Then he changes his boots, and tucks his pantaloons inside them, and buttons his shooting jacket tight, and settles his hat, and buckles on his cartridge belt and whistles to his dog, and tells all the lookers-on that he wishes they were coming, and off he tramps, with the air of one who expects to bring home an elephant, at least, as a trophy of the fray.

See how strongly and bravely he steps, and how upright and gallant is his bearing. So smart; so well able to conquer anything, from a chipmunk to a wild hyena. And yet, if his mother had asked this same young man to split the kindling wood this morning, or help Biddy with the washboiler, he would have been so tired that after she heard him explain it she would have been ashamed that she had asked him.

The young man who goes gunning, in these Eastern States, has a good deal of ground to go over to get a little game. Tigers are not plenty. Lions have emigrated. Foxes are busy hunting tame turkeys, and cannot afford themselves time to let our gunner practice on them.

Our young man tramps through swamp, and over hill; he wets his feet, and tears his trousers, and scratches his face with the brambles, and stumbles over a root put there on purpose to upset the unwary traveler, and barks his nose as he comes down, and breaks his watch chain, and gets plastered with mud, and says a few large words, and picks himself up, and says gunning is such glorious fun. How he does enjoy it!

By and by he spies a squirrel. He squats behind a tree and watches him. Poor little squirrel! Enjoying the last nut he is ever to crack! What a pie he will help make! or a soup! or a fricassee!

Up goes the gun! bang goes the shot! The squirrel is twenty feet up in a tree, chattering over our gunner's crack shooting, and telling all the other squirrels that that fellow with a green jacket on had better go home and practice with a pop-gun.

At last, hungry and tired, the young man who gunning goes gives it up as a bad job, and says it is not a good day for game, and he makes his way to somebody's orchard, and gets his pockets full of apples, and munches them as he goes along, and thinks he will go to the Adirondacks next summer for a month's sport.

And he shoulders his gun and starts for home, and captures a very consumptive squirrel on his way, with most of his tail gone, and a discouraged air, which proclaims him to have been the escaped prey of some foraging cat.

When he gets in sight of home he braces up, and whistles cheerily, and carries the squirrel so as to make the most show of what tail it has left, and he tells his friends what a splendid time he has had, and how he gave the dog the most of the game, and the dog devours his supper that night as if he never expected to eat another, and our gunner says that wild meat always makes a dog ravenous.

It will take most of the next day for our friend to rest and recruit. He will tell you that he has letters to write; but the initiated know that he is too stiff and sore from yesterday's tramp to be able to sit down without groaning, and the smell of liniment and arnica about him is too strong for all the musk in the country to disguise.—New York Weekly.

Massage Your Mind.

By Orison Swett Marden.

"DON'T let go of love, or love of romance; they are amulets against wrinkles." If the mind is constantly bathed in love, and filled with helpful, charitable sentiments toward all, the body will keep fresh and vigorous many years longer than it will if the heart is dried up and emptied of human sympathy by a selfish, greedy life. The heart that is kept warm by love is never frozen by age or chilled by prejudice, fear or anxious thought.

A French beauty used to have herself massaged with mutton tallow, every night, in order to keep her muscles elastic and her body supple. A better way of preserving youthful elasticity is coming into vogue—massaging the mind with love thoughts, beauty thoughts, cheerful thoughts and young ideals.

If you do not want the years to count, look forward instead of backward; put as much variety and as many interests into your life as possible. Monotony and lack of mental occupation are great age-producers. Women who live in cities, in the midst of many interests and great variety, preserve their youth and good looks, as a rule, much longer than women who live in remote country places who get no variety into their lives and who have no interests outside their narrow daily round of monotonous duties, which require no exercise of the mind. Insanity is an alarmingly increasing result of the monotony of women's lives on the farm. Ellen Terry and Sarah Bernhardt "who seem to have the ageless brightness of the stars," attribute their youthfulness to action, change of thought and scene, and mental occupation. It is worth noting, too, that farmers who live so much outdoors and in an environment much more healthful than the average brain-worker, do not live so long as the latter.—Success.

Beware *the* Easy Shelter.

By Hugh De Selincourt.

YEARS are but a fool's measure for youth, which is divine; they bring caution more often than wisdom, and a certain belief in the unreality of joy. A man is quickly disillusioned, which commonly means that he has set up his own idea of what things should be by the side of what things are, and sulks forever at the result. He then commits the folly of becoming old, and prefers existence to life. He clambers into one or other of the many shelters that line the way, curls up within and smiles pityingly at the young of all ages pressing on to some end, no matter what, alive to the beauty of the sky and the clouds and the birds and the trees, alive even to the beauty to be seen in one another, breathing deeply of the air of strength, living and loving and beloved, until at last they are made one with nature. But the heart, like the liver, grows torpid without exercise; a gradual decay comes to the man in the shelter, a decay from which he is released, much against his will, by death. There are too many shelters.—By Hugh De Silincourt.

Cost of the War.

It is obvious that a war conducted on a system of such magnitude as that in the East must be terribly costly. From the latest official figures given out in Russia it appears that the Czar's Government has spent, up to the end of 1904, over $300,000,000. This is, of course, exclusive of the loss represented by her fleet which is out of action and by the artillery, which has been captured by the Japanese. These two items have been estimated in round figures at $60,000,000, so that the cost of the war to Russia has been practically $7,500,000 per week since the war began.

As regards the expenditure of the Japanese, the Mikado's financiers have calculated that to March 31 of this year the war will have cost, including initial outlays, $288,000,000, or $5,000,000 a week. On this basis it will be seen that the war has cost in twelve months over $625,000,000. The total cost to this country of the South African war, it will be remembered, was estimated at $1,140,000,000. It is fairly safe to assume that for so long as the present struggle lasts the expenditure will continue on something like the same gigantic scale, draining the resources of both countries to the utmost.

Fable of the Hen.

Once upon a time (very recently) a hen went upon a strike and refused to lay. Other hens followed her example, and the scarcity of hen fruit which resulted caused eggs to retail for something like fifty cents per dozen. In other words, strictly fresh eggs laid by scab hens were worth five cents each in the shell. Even cold storage eggs, which were deadly explosive and had to be handled with care, brought thirty cents.

The people got together and remonstrated with the hens, but it did no good. Finally an arbiration committee waited on the hens and tried to persuade them to go back to work. The arbitration committee pointed out that only the rich could afford to eat eggs, but the hens refused to return to work. The arbitration committee then told the hens that if they persisted in the strike they would bring race suicide on themselves.

Then a wise old hen arose and spoke as follows:

"In the spring when us hens wish to sit the people give us porcelain doorknobs to sit on. If porcelain doorknobs are as good as eggs to sit on, they ought to be as good to eat as eggs. Tell the people to eat porcelain door-knobs."

The arbitration committee could not answer this argument, and departed in tears.

Moral—Deceit will come home to roost.—Boston Post.

Birds Are Good Fathers.

Bad fathers are rare among birds. Usually the male rivals his mate in love for their children. The carrier-pigeon—in fact, so do nearly all birds—feeds his mate while she is on the nest. More than that, the crow, the most dismal of all birds, often sits on the eggs in the nest in order that Mrs. Crow may have an hour or so of relaxation and gossip among the other Mrs. Crows of her acquaintance. The blue marten, the black-coated gull, the great blue heron and the black vulture all do the same.—Louisville Post.

Some men never wander from their own firesides because they dwell in steam-heated flats.

He who boasts that he never kissed a girl may be telling the truth, but nobody envies him.

Fear not the bold man who uses his tongue instead of a sword.

Beware of the man who speaks of the shortcomings of his neighbor with tearful eyes.

To save your life you couldn't make a girl who is just engaged believe that all men are only ordinary human beings with a good appetite and an easy conscience.

Some men were born about a hundred years too soon to suit their neighbors.

Twenty-four men were killed in the mine explosion at Frederick, W. Va.

A staging around the United States ship Charleston, in drydock at Newport News, broke and 10 workmen were hurt.

Rapidly melting snows and heavy rains have caused all the Eastern rivers to rise, the Allegheny at Pittsburg being higher than at any time since 1865, and much damage has already been done. Towns along the Susquehanna are threatened by a disastrous flood.

GOVERNOR GRANTS RESPITE

Governor Gives Ned Mack Time For Further Investigation.

Columbia, Special.—Upon advice of Solicitor Wilson, Gov. Heyward granted the Manning negro, Ned Mack, who was to hang this week, a respite to April 28 in order to have a commission pass upon the question of the negro's sanity about which there is grave doubt among many good people at Manning. Governor Hayward has appointed Superintendent Babcock, of the State Hospital for the Insane, as one member of the commission and has asked Solicitor Wilson to appoint the other two members. Judge Klugh telegraphed that he had no recommendation to make, but Solicitor Wilson wired to recommend a respite and in a letter which followed the telegram he says there is a strong impression at Manning that the negro is insane and he thinks that justice demands that this impression be respected to the extent of appointing a commission to investigate.

Greenwood Farmers Meet.

Greenwood, Special.—Messrs. Weston, Hyatt and Smith addressed a large and enthusiastic meeting here at the court house Monday. The meeting was composed of farmers and business men of Greenwood, and they gave each speaker the closest of attention and frequently applauded them. The meeting was called to order by County Chairman J. M. Gaines. Mr. Weston spoke first. As the secretary of the State organization he showed some of the things that had been done and offered much encouragement. He was followed by Mr. F. H. Hyatt. Mr. Hyatt is the treasurer and also president of the State Good Roads association. He spoke very earnestly of the need of good roads. Mr. E. D. Smith, the president of the State Cotton Growers' association, made a most interesting and forceful speech. He made a splendid impression. Much applause was given him and at the close of his speech many were heard to say that it was one of the best things heard in Greenwood in a long time. The farmers have been greatly encouraged in their work of holding their cotton as a result of the meeting.

Death of Mr. A. Cole Leyles.

Union, Special.—Hon. A. Cole Lyles died Monday at his home near Carlisle, of pneumonia, which succeeded an attack of grip. At the time of his death he was president of the County Cotton Growers' association, to which office he was elected February, 14, 1905, and until last fall he had served for six years as Union county's member of the House of Representatives. Mr. Lyles was born in December, 1849, at Buckhead in Fairfield county. When a boy he attended the common schools and Kings Mountain Military academy, but had to leave the latter before graduation to go home to work on the farm, an industry in which he was actively engaged from that time until his death, owning a good plantation near Carlisle. He was in 1877 married to Miss Josephine Willey, and she and two children, Mrs. R. G. Hill and a son about 10 years old, survive him. Though not a member, Mr. Lyles attended the Presbyterian church. Mr. Lyles was for many years actively associated with the agricultural and political interests of the county, and was a prominent member of the farmers alliance movement.

Dispensary Affairs.

The allotment of the dispensary school money was made by the Comptroller General. The fund was divided out among the counties of the State, according to enrollment of pupils, after what is known as the deficiency fund was distributed. In any county where the regular school funds do not amount to $75 for each school, the poorer schools are given enough out of the dispensary money to make up this $75. To make up these deficiencies this year has required $9,552.53. In addition to this, $100,023.08 was apportioned among the schools according to enrollment. The total enrollment is 288,353, the schools receiving slightly over 43½ cents per scholar.

Chief Constable Hammett made his report to the Governor Wednesday for the quarter of the 1st of March. He reports expenses of $15,909.11, paid mostly in salaries to a force of 60 men. Seizures were made as follows:

Whiskey—December, $1,824; number of gallons, 1,216; January, $1,363.50; gallons, 909; February, $358.12; gallons, 228.

Beer—December, value, $44.66; dozen, 89 1-3; January, $32.91; dozen, 95 5-6; February, $29.08; dozen, 58 1-6.

In addition to the above, there were seized 31 stills, 3 teams, 756 gallons of beer in kegs, which are of no value.

The convictions for December were 24; fines, $560; paid, $280; chaingang, 5. January convictions, 28; fines, $1,175; paid, $530; chaingang, 9; February convictions, 27; fines, $1,282.50; paid, $442.50; chaingang, 7. There are several appeals pending.

Died Under Peculiar Circumstances.

A white man, whose name appears to be D. Pesatta, died in a mysterious sort of way at Spartanburg Wednesday, and the coroner's inquest has been unable to throw any light on the matter. Pesatta was in the picture-enlarging business, but dressed well and seemed to be a quiet young man. He came to Spartanburg March 4, and has been drunk almost continuously since. He was found in an unconscious condition in his room, with a black eye, and died as a result of this wound. He said that he had been in a fight with an unknown man, who struck him, after a quarrel about a picture he had sold him.

Palmetto Items.

Two pardon petitions were refused by the Governor—that of Pink Tollison, sentenced at Greenville to seven years for burglary, and that of Stephen Hough, given six months at Lancaster for grand larceny. A number of petitions for commutations will be presented in the next few days, it is thought. This will include one in behalf of R. A. Adams, who was sentenced at Walterboro to hang.

The selection of a clerk to the historical commission, about which there has been so much talk, because of so much politics being injected into the matter, was made day, after a competitive examination. The successful applicant was Mr. Alex. S. Salley, Jr., of Charleston. The other applicants were George D. Cutcheon, assistant professor of the South Carolina College; Thomas E. Richardson, of Sumter; T. J. Plyles, of Mountville; B. B. Harle, of Leesville; J. C. Garlington, of Spartanburg; L. C. Sylvester, of Columbia, and Miss Adalize Thorn, of Blackstock.

PALMETTO AFFAIRS

Many Newsy Items Gathered From all Sections.

General Cotton Market.

These figures represent prices paid to wagons:

Strict good middling	7¾
Good middling	7¾
Strict middling	7⅝
Middling	7⅝
Tinges	6⅝ to 7⅛
Stains	5½ to 6⅛

Charlotte Cotton Market.

	Middling
Galveston, firm	7 11-16
New Orleans, quiet	7½
Mobile, firm	7 11-16
Savannah, quiet	7⅞
Charleston, steady	7⅝
Norfolk, steady	7⅞
Baltimore, normal	8
New York, quiet	8.15
Boston, quiet	8.15
Philadelphia, quiet	8.40
Houston, steady	7 11-16
Augusta, quiet	7 13-16

A MOST HORRIBLE AFFAIR

Young Man Kills Woman and Ends His Own Life.

A Conway special to Friday's Columbia State gives an account of a most horrible occurrence, as follows:

One of the most awful and sickening tragedies which has ever occurred within the borders of the county took place Thursday morning about 7 o'clock at Homewood station on the Coast line Railway. As soon as the news reached this place your correspondent secured a horse and buggy and went out to the scene—a peaceful looking, one-room board cabin, surrounded by a small clearing, planted in English peas and strawberries, in the midst of the pine woods. In the yard, almost in the spot where he fell, lay F. O. Sessions, commonly known as "Buddie" Sessions, dead, with a bullet through his brain by his own hand, and on a table within the cabin was stretched the prostrate form of Belle Sessions, a young girl 18 or 20 years of age, wounded in five places by the hand of the dead man lying outside. She and her mother Betsy Sessions lived together alone in the cabin, which was on the land of Mr. George Bray, for whom they worked as day laborers. From all that can be gathered, Sessions had been persecuting this woman with his attentions for some time past, having on several occasions threatened to kill her if she would not marry him, although she was the mother of two illegitimate children, the youngest of whom is said to be his child. It seems that there was another man in the case, now living in Florida or Georgia, who was the favored lover, and who had sent on tickets for her and her mother to come and join him; they were to have gone Wednesday, and had their trunks hauled into this place, but were unable to leave on account of some mistake or irregularity of the tickets. The testimony of the mother at the coroner's inquest, was that she did not know where they were going, nor who was furnishing the transportation, but that her only idea was to get away somewhere in order that the life of her child might be spared. The knowledge of the threats made by the deceased were, more or less, a matter of common information, and there are some rumors to the effect that they had even been called to the attention of the officials, who, however, had not taken any action, thinking that the women were unnecessarily alarmed over mere idle words.

As neither mother nor daughter have ever been lawfully married, their house bore a very unsavory reputation in the community and no one would have regretted their departure had they gotten away.

Just before the hour of the tragedy, the mother went to the home of Mr. Bray to borrow a pitchfork for her day's work, and after she left the house Sessions, who must have been concealed in the woods, waiting just such an opportunity, went up to the cabin, entered, caught the girl with his left hand while he pulled his revolver 38 calibre, and emptied every chamber into her body at arm's length. After releasing her she staggered a few steps and fell in the yard where she was found, with her two small children crying over her, by those who first arrived upon the scene. He then deliberately unbreached his pistol, reloaded all the chambers, and, placing the muzzle just behind his right temple, fired the shot which penetrated the brain, coming out on the other side of the head just above the left ear. The woman was wounded in both arms, they being broken between the elbow and shoulder, once just below the left breast, and twice just below the right breast. She was attended by Dr. Hoke Burroughs, the coroner, and Dr. Joseph S. Dusenbury, both of Conway, and was still alive at 1 o'clock, though there is no chance whatever of her recovery.

Palmetto Items.

Mr. S. A. Salley, Jr., of Charleston, has been elected secretary of the State historical commission. The selection was made after a kind of civil service examination. Of the 29 who applied for the position over a month ago but eight were present for examination.

The Commercial Savings bank of Florence has increased its capitalization from $25,000 to $50,000. The directors are: John Kuker, president; J. F. Muldrow, E. F. Douglas, vice president; J. P. McNeill and A. M. Kittrell, cashier.

A commission was issued the corporators of the Charleston Poultry association which proposes to hold annual exhibitions of poultry. The capitalization is $2,000. T. J. McCarty, B. W. Hunter, J. E. Crass, A. H. Lucas J. M. Connelly and W. K. McDowell are the corporators.

A commission was issued the Andrew Hanley Manufacturing company of Charleston—doors, sashes and blinds. Capitalization $8,000. Corporators, Jane Hanley, Andrew Hanley, J. F. Brooks and Huger Sinkler.

Commissions were issued the Lands End Social club of Beaufort and the Lancaster Normal and Industrial institute.

Although corporations have until April 1st to pay the franchise or license tax, the comptroller general has received already $32,000 from domestic corporations in payment of their assessments. While this is a larger amount than had been expected from domestic corporations, the total which had been estimated upon may fall short because the railroad companies will get out at one-third what was expected of them.

B. Y. P. U. STATE CONVENTION

Annual Convention of Young Baptists to be Held Next Week in Charleston.

The annual convention of the Baptist Young People's Union of South Carolina will be held in Charleston, April 5-7, the meeting to be held in the Citadel Square Baptist church.

The B. Y. P. U. is a strong factor in the work of the Baptist denomination, a "union" being an organization of the young people in any particular church for the furtherence of the work of the church.

The programme for the convention next week is as follows:

Convention key-word, "Development," Ephesians 4:7-16.

KEY-THEMES.

"Spiritual Life Prerequisite to Spiritual Growth."

"Christlikeness the Aim of the Christian's Growth."

"God's Provision for Attainment of this Development."

FIRST SESSION, APRIL 4.

8:00 p. m.—Devitional service, Rev. A. T. Jamison, Greenwood.

8:30 p. m.—Convention sermon by Dr. Kerr Boyce Trupper, Philadelphia, Penn.; subject, "Christian Expansion."

SECOND SESSION, APRIL 5.

9:45 a. m.—Praise service, Rev. F. M. Satterwhite, Sumter.

10:15 a. m.—Organization of convention.

10:45 a. m.—Reports of officers and Departments.

11:00 a. m.—"Spiritual Life the Prerequisite to Spiritual Growth," Rev. W. M. Jones, Williston. Intermission, 10 minutes.

11:45 a. m.—"Christlikeness the Privilege and Duty of Every Christian," Rev. J. O. Gough, Manning.

12:00 m.—"Our Undeveloped Forces," Dr. D. M. Ramsey, Charleston.

12:30 p. m.—"Overcoming Hindrances to Christian Growth," (open), led Supt. O. B. Martin.

THIRD SESSION.

8:00 p. m.—Song and prayer service, Dr. J. D. Chapman, Anderson.

8:30 p. m.—"The Holy Spirit's Preeminence in the Christian's Development," Rev. J. C. Massee, Raleigh, N. C.

9:15 p. m.—"Some Things We Stand For," Dr. K. B. Tupper.

FOURTH SESSION.

9:45 a. m.—Prayer service, Dr. D. W. Ken, Greenville.

10:15 a. m.—"The Teacher's Obligation in Developing Christlikeness," J. W. Gaines, Hartsville.

10:30 a. m.—"The Reflex Influence of Soul Winning," Rev. E. M. Lightfoot, Orangeburg.

10:45 a. m.—"My Indebtedness to the Union for Spiritual Growth," led by Will Evans, Columbia, Intermission 10 minutes.

11:30 a. m.—Plans for convention's New Year's work.

12:00 m.—"Influence of Worship on Character," Rev. W. B. Oliver, Florence.

12:15 p. m.—"Growth by Study of the Bible," Rev. H. M. Fallow, Cameron.

FIFTH SESSION.

8:00 p. m.—Expressions of Thanksgiving by delegates.

8:30 p. m.—"Development Through Obedience to the Missionary Commands," Dr. T. M. Bailey.

9:15 p. m.—"The Strengthening Power of Fellowship," Rev. J. McLean, Aiken.

Capt. T. T. Hyde of Charleston is the president of the B. Y. P. U. in this State, Rev. J. R. Moore is the secretary, A. C. Jones of Batesburg is treasurer and Rev. Walter Wilkins of this city is editor of the B. Y. P. U. department in The Baptist Courier.

An Important Opinion.

Attorney General Gunter rendered an opinion of much interest to the school people. He decides that the State board of education has authority to say what constitutes a college within the meaning of section 1200 of the State school law exempting candidates for certificates to teach in the public schools of the State from the examination by the county boards. This section exempts those who produce a full diploma from any chartered college or university of the State. The State board has decided upon the list of colleges it will recognize—South Carolina College, Wofford, Furman, Newberry College, Chicora College, Converse, Winthrop, Clemson, Charleston College, Presbyterian College for Women, Lander Female College, Presbyterian College of South Carolina, Due West Female College, Limestone Female College, Greenville Female College, Erskine College, South Carolina Military Academy, Columbia Female College—and these colored colleges: Claflin College, the State Colored College at Orangeburg, Benedict Institute, Avery Normal College and Allen University. The good sense of the opinion is manifest when it is remembered that any school may be chartered as a college if it is willing to pay a few dollars for the charter fee.

To Run for Governor.

Newberry, Special.—Mr. A. C. Jones has returned from New York and resigned his position as traveling salesman for Arnold, Constable & Co., to enter the race for governor. In a few days he will make a formal announcement of his candidacy. During the next 12 months he will devote his time to his business interests here and will make the necessary steps toward his campaign. He has many friends throughout South Carolina and has decided to enter the race at the solicitation of those in Newberry. With his announcement he will state his views on certain issues likely to come up in the campaign.

Terms Accepted.

Washington, Special. — President Roosevelt has accepted the proposition of the Dominican government, made through Minister Dawson, for the control of the finances of that republic, with a view to setting aside a portion of the revenues of the republic for the payment of its debts. The officers who will collect the money and hold it, will be appointed by the Dominican government, but they will be nominated by this government.

State Pension Board.

The State pension board met Tuesday in the office of the comptroller general and passed upon the various applications which have been sent in by the county boards. There is a slight decrease in the number of applicants this year, but many who were in the lower classes have been advanced.

The board consists of the following: Conptroller General Jones, chairman; Dr. B. M. Levy, Charleston; Capt. W. H. Hardin, Chester; Dr. William Weston, Columbia. There is a vacancy on the board caused by the resignation of Capt. W. D. Starling, the supervisor of Richland county.

FEBRUARY WEATHER

Monthly Report of the Bureau Concerning Progress of Farm Work.

The weather bureau has issued the following report on the progress of farm work and the weather for February:

The month was unusually and persistently cold until about the 20th, after which mild and pleasant and dry weather prevailed to its close. The mean temperature compares closely with that for the same month in 1895, and these two are the coldest Februaries in the last 18 years.

The precipitation was copious over the whole State, and locally excessive, although the State avearge was but slightly in excess of the normal. During the first half much of the precipitation was in the form of snow, sleet and rain mixed, the rain generally freezing as it fell, and from this ice coating, melting as it did slowly, the larger portion soaked into the ground, thoroughly saturating it. The soil was thus unusually well supplied with moisture.

The persistent cold, and the wet soil prevented the prosecution of farm work and little plowing was practicable except during the last week when rapid progress was made over the entire State. The delay in farm work was most serious over the coast trucking regioins.

Reports on the damage to small grain, particularly to oats, agree in this, that some damage was done, but they vary as to the extent of the injury. It will not be possible to estimate it until after active growth sets in. Some oats were killed outright and the fields have been resown. Wheat suffered scarcely any damage. The good effect of the steady cold weather was to retard the swelling of fruit buds, thus saving them from injury by probable frosts in March. The wet soil delayed the preparation of seed beds for tobacco, although some were burnt and seeded.

The month as a whole was unfavorable for the progress of farm work.

Climatology From the North.

The mean temperature for February, 1905, was 38.9 degrees, which is 7.7 degrees below normal. The highest local mean was 46.5 degrees at Beaufort; the lowest was 33.5 degrees at Greenville. The monthly extremes were a maximum of 72 degrees at Yemassee on the 20th, and a minimum of 0 degrees at Walhalla on the 14th, making the State range 82 degrees. The greatest local range was 70 degrees at Bennettsville. The mean of the daily maximum temperature was 48.0 degrees and of the daily minimum temperature was 29.8 degrees, making the average daily range 18.2 degrees.

The precipitation averaged 5.21 inches, which is 0.87 above normal. The greatest local amount was 8.20 at Blackville, the least was 2.87 at Barksdale. The greatest 24 hours fall was 3.26 at Blackville on the 12th-13th. The average number of days with 0.01 inch, or more, of precipitation was 9, ranging from4 at Allendale Clemson College and Trial to 13 at Columbia.

Excessive Precipitation—Allendale, 12th, 3.20 in 24 hours; Blackville, 12th-13th, 3.26 in 24 hours; Clemson College, 20th, 2.60 in 24 hours; Ediso, 12th, 2.60 in 24 hours; Florence, 12th, 3.00 in 24 hours; Liberty, 20th, 2.50 in 24 hours; St. Matthews, 12th-13th, 3.00 in 24 hours; Sumter, 11th, 3.00 in 24 hours; Trial, 12th-13th, 3.05 in 24 hours.

Snows—Allendale, Trenton, 4th; Anderson, 2nd; Barksdale, 3, 4, 5, 13, 19; Bennettsville, 3; Cheraw, 4, 14; Columbia, Lugoff, Santuc, 13; Dillon, 3, 4, 5, 13; Gaffney, 3, 5, 7, 12; Liberty, 3, 5, 8, 19; Newberry, 13, 19; Saluda, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9; Seivern, 6, 14, 20; Society Hill, 3, 19; Spartanburg, 3, 13; Walhalla, 5, 19, 20; Winthrop College, 3, 4, 12.

Sleet—Aiken, Bennettsville, 3, 4, 5, 6; Allendale, Clarks, Hill, Stateburg, Trial, Summerville, 3, 4, 5; Anderson, 2; Barksdale, 4, 5, 8, 12, 19; Batesburg, 4, 5, 6, 20; Beaufort, 12; Blackville, 3, 4, 5, 13, 19; Bowman, Walterboro, 4, 5; Cheraw, 5, 6, 8, 18; Columbia, 4, 5, 6; Dillon, Winthrop College, 8; Due West, 3, 6, 8, 9, 19; Florence, Sumter, 3; Gaffney, 3, 5, 7, 12; Heath Springs, 5, 7, 8, 13; Liberty, 5, 8, 12; Little Mountain, 3, 4; Lugoff, 3, 4, 5, 13; Newberry, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 19; Saluda, 4, 5, 13, 19; Santuc, 4, 5, 6, 8, 20; Seivern, 3, 4, 5, 6, 14, 20; Society Hill, 5, 7, 8; Spartanburg 5, 8, 11, 20; Trenton, 4, 5, 8, 9; Walhalla, 5, 9, 11, 12, 20; Yorkville, 5, 6, 8, 9, 12, 20.

Weather—The average number of clear days was 10, of partly cloudly ones, 4, and of cloudly ones 14.

Winds—The prevaling direction of the wind was from the northeast at 23 stations, from the west at 15, from the nortwest at 7; from the north at 6, and from the east and southeast at 1 station each.

$200,000 Fire From Spark.

Memphis, Tenn., Special.—A special from Corinth, Miss., says that a spark from switch engine set fire to the Taylor Compress Company, late Saturday, destroyed the building and 1,504 bales of cotton and, spreading to the north of the compress, consumed two cotton seed oil mills and fifteen dwelling houses. The total loss will probably aggregate $200,000 with insurance of about half that amount. A high wind prevailed, and all efforts to prevent the spread of the flames was unavailing. No loss of life occurred.

An Important Ruling.

Columbia, Special.—In an opinion just filed the Supreme Court affirms the finding of the lower court which gave Mrs. John B. Badger of Charleston $1,276.60 damages against the Blue Ridge railroad for losing her trunk checked from Walhalla to Charleston in September, 1903. The opinion is interesting and of more or less general importance as establishing the liability of all roads for baggage.

Talk by Booker Washington.

New York, Special—Booker T. Washington spoke to John D. Rockefeller, Jr's. Bible class Sunday. "The longer I live," he said, "the more I am convinced that, after all, the one thing worth living for and dying for is the privilege of making some being more happy and more useful. I hope you will always remember that by a thoughtful and kind act you can lift the burden from the shoulders of a member of my race. In proportion as you help us, so in the same portion you will help yourselves."

Governor Heyward Thinks Should be Kept in the Relic Room in Columbia.

Governor Heyward is in receipt of the flags which were captured from Confederate regiments from this state and have been in Washington since the close of hostilities between the sections. The captured banners which have been returned are the Eighth, Eleventh, Sixteenth and Twenty-seventh regiments infantry, Sumter Flying artillery, Sumter Heavy artillery, garrison flag, Castle Pinckney; garrison flag, Fort Moultrie; garrison flag, Citadel; garrison flag, James Island; garrison flag, Fort Ripley; Third South Carolina regiment.

Hon. Wm. H. Taft, secretary of war, in forwarding the flags, said in a letter to Governor Heyward:

"Sir: I have the honor to advise you that, under the authority conferred upon the secretary of war by the joint resolution of Congress, approved February 28, 1905, entitled a 'joint resolution to return to the proper authorities certain Union and Confederate battle flags,' I have caused to be forwarded to you today by express the Confederate battle flags that were in the custody of the war department at the time of the approval of said joint resolution and that could be identified as belonging to your State or as having been borne by military organizations thereof.

"Herewith are enclosed a list of the flags transmitted to you today, and a copy of executive document No. 163, House of Representatives, Fiftieth Congress, which sets forth all the information that the war department is able to furnish on February 16th, 1888, with regard to the Union and Confederate flags then in its custody. A few of the flags that are described in that document cannot be identified at the present time, their numbers or distinguishing marks having been lost, and as few of the flags that could be identified in 1888 have since been identified and are now returned to the States from which the organizations which bore them belonged."

Governor Heyward has not decided what to do with the flags, but is inclined to think that they should be kept in the relic room here. He will confer with the official organization of the United Confederate veterans.

Several Large Corporations.

The secretary of state Monday chartered the Carolina Building and Loan company of this city with $200,000 capital. The purposes of the company are those usually appertaining to a building and loan association, and William Barnwell is president, W. K. Duffie, vice president and Jno. T. Melton secretary and treasurer. Among those on the board of directors are: Geo. W. Warning, Geo. L. Baker, H. E. Wells, E. W. Parker, J. T. Fisher and W. D. Melton, in addition to the exofficio members.

A charter was issued the Hermitage cotton mills, of Camden, with $225,000 capital, H. G. Garrison is president and treasurer; C. H. Yates vice president and secretary; W. M. Shannon, attorney. These genetlemen and D. R. Williams, Jr., constitute the board of directors.

Another big concern seeking for a charter is the Salkeatchie Lumber company of Barnwell county, capital stock $100,000. Corporators, Jno. P. Schofields of Philadelphia, Ralph P. Brush of Royersford, Pa., and Conrad B. High, of Reading.

The Smith-Pruitt company of Mullins has applied for a commission of $5,000 to manufacture brick, lumber and shingles.

The Myrtle Beach Development company was chartered, capitalization $75,000. F. A. Burroughs is president; B. G. Collins, vice president; G. R. Sessions, secretary, and J. E. Bryan, general manager. The purpose of this company will be to "purchase, improve and sell real estate, clear up land and swamp land, drain and cultivate same. Also to sell or manufacture the timber removed from the land under its control. Also to possess, have and exercise the necessary power for acquiring rights of way for drainage purposes and be vested with the powers of a drainage corporation.

A foreign corporation which filed its annual return is the Union Bleaching and Finishing company of New Jersey, which has offices in Greenville. The directors are: J. B. Duggan, president; J. B. Duke, B. N. Duke, W. W. Fuller, Thos. F. Ryan, S. A. Beardley, R. B. Arrington, secretary; M. S. Watts, and W. A. Erwin.

Privilege for Receipts

The amount of privilege tax paid into the State treasury since the 1st of January is $102,426.75, against $98,471 for the same time last year, a difference of $4,000. These figures are astounding when it is considered that at the 1st of March the receipts for this year had fallen behind last year by nearly $24,000. This means that the excess for March of this year is at the rate of $1,000 a day, and the amount received for the year 1905 is nearly as much as for the 12 months of 1904. As has been published before, the receipt of these payments does not mean that the use of fertilizers has incrased, for it is quite probable that a great quantity of guano is being stored in warehouses.

Captured in Arkansas.

Newberry, Special.—Sheriff M. M. Buford arrived here Monday night with two negroes he had brought from Conway county, Arkansas. These two men fled from Newberry some time ago, their names being Manuel Burd, wanted for assault and battery with intent to kill; and Wash Ham, wanted for burglary. Sheriff Buford had to exercise considerable strategy in getting the men out of Conway county and deserves much credit for his work.

Fights Merger.

Houston, Tex., Special.—The Maryland Trust Company has filed in the Federal Court here an amended bill in the receivership of the Houston Oil Company, in which its asks that the court prevent the turning over to the Houston, Beaumont & New Orleans Road, or other corporations, the tram roads belonging to the Houston Oil Company, under the terms of an agreement entered into between John H. Kilby and B. F. Yokaum, which is fully set forth.

Murderer Escaped Jail.

Greenville, Special.—While Jailer Noe and a trusty were carrying coal Monday night they were overpowered by a negro murderer, Dennis Wood, and other prisoners, who made their escape. All were captured except Wood. In the struggle for freedom, the trusty, a negro named Goldsmith, was injured, being struck in the head with a lock. Sheriff's posse is hunting for Wood.