

The Watchman and Southerner. THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17.

The Sumter Watchman was founded in 1850 and the True Southerner in 1866. The Watchman and Southerner now has the combined circulation and influence of both of the old papers, and is manifestly the best advertising medium in Sumter.

Important Announcement.

The Weekly News and Courier to be furnished as a Supplement to this Paper.

Arrangements have been made with the News and Courier Company by which we will be able to supply the Weekly News and Courier from this office as a supplement to the Watchman and Southerner, to all subscribers who pay cash in advance, at \$2.50 per year, which will be a saving of one dollar upon the price of the two papers.

This offer embraces the News and Courier weekly from January to January, and our friends should send in their subscriptions without delay to enjoy the full benefit of the arrangement.

Change of Publication Day.

In order to give our readers the benefit of the latest information in our supplement by sending it out promptly on arrival, The Watchman and Southerner will hereafter be published on Thursday instead of Tuesday.

The practical article by "Corn Field" in this paper is well worth reading, and the advice therein is worth considering. We would add a few words to his advice: In addition to your County paper, subscribe for and read a good agricultural paper. We know of none better than the Southern Cultivator which, in connection with the Watchman and Southerner will only cost \$1.

"A New County Commissioner" replies to certain inquiries, and gives in this paper some information that we are pleased to lay before our readers. As before stated the columns of the Watchman and Southerner are open for a full and fair discussion of all public matters, and complaints of communities and explanations of officials are alike welcome.

The bronze statue of John C. Calhoun was placed in position last Tuesday, upon the monument in course of erection on Marion Square, Charleston. The four historical figures and the ornaments to the panels remain to be completed. The News and Courier says, "when the monument is completed there will be fewer handsome works of art to be seen in the United States."

In his inaugural address Gov. Green, of New Jersey, pays a handsome compliment to the President in these words: "President Cleveland, despite the cavil and complaint of the politicians, commands the confidence of the people, for his steadfast devotion to principle; his determined execution of the law; his integrity, and his strict observance of the rule that public office is a public trust."

Per contra the late criticism of the last Legislature by the Berkeley Gazette: Under the new system of conveying prisoners to the Penitentiary, seven convicts from that county sentenced at the last court have been carried by officers of the Penitentiary without cost to the county, which under the old system would have cost \$326.45. The expenses for same to the Penitentiary was only \$35.75.

The one or two organs that are booming Governor Hill, of New York, for President in '88, have been claiming that he was especially strong in Indiana, and that Cleveland was correspondingly weak. The facts in the case are well illustrated by a poll of the Lower House of the Legislature, a representative body, in which Cleveland is the choice of 31; for Hill 9; for Palmer 3; for Carlisle 1. This show of strength combats both claims of Hill's friends.

A discussion has been going on for several days past in the Charleston, Columbia and Greenville dailies in regard to the quality of beef furnished to the Lunatic Asylum. The Register deems that bad beef has been furnished, but names have been given by the other papers, in connection with statements showing that Mr. Wood, the Asylum butcher "regularly purchases second-grade beef at a price of from a half to two-thirds the price of the beef sold in open market; that he does this alleging that he is forced to do it by the contract, and that as a result the inmates of the Asylum are fed on a quality of beef inferior to that sold in open market, and bought at a cent and a cent and a half a pound in the country." It does not appear that unseasoned meat is furnished, but that lean animals that are used.

Randall's Insincerity. There can be no doubt of the insincerity of Mr. Carlisle's purpose, since he offered to make the Randall bill the basis of legislation if an opportunity were granted for the incorporation of the features which his side demanded. The attempt to secure an agreement upon a measure which should be less one-sided than that of Mr. Randall has failed through the manifest insincerity of that gentleman. His response to Mr. Carlisle's offer, whose substance was given in our special dispatches, is poor sophistry, and his counter proposition that the House should at once admit and pass under suspension of the rules, a bill removing the tobacco tax, is equally lacking in sincerity.

they could not entirely withstand. It is therefore highly probable that will permit its passage by the House this near the close of the session. Senator Beck is entitled to his full measure of credit for originating the bill whether it ever becomes a law in proper shape or not.

THE TEMPEST.

The wear and tear of time has done little to abate the majestic strength of Shakespeare's Tempest. The best efforts of other geniuses have shone with lustrous grandeur in their day, and, perhaps, were still able to hold their grasp on the attention and memories of succeeding generations, but as the current of events sweeps on its way, they fade from recollection and are as completely effaced as the grave of Alaric the Goth, over which the waters of Basso to have now rolled for fourteen centuries their foaming torrents. But time can never dispossess the Tempest of its power to charm and instruct, because it has its roots in that human nature which is perennial. Its poetic portraits are not mere abstractions of personified virtues and vices, but it places before us the outward semblance and inward character of men as they walk the earth in flesh and blood, speaking the language of the human heart.

According to the best accounts the Tempest was produced during a season of public excitement occasioned by the shipwreck of Sir George Somers in 1609 on the stormy and desolate coast of Bermuda, and it is also said that it and Macbeth were written within a few months of each other, in the spring and the autumn of the year 1610; and if that be true, we can account for the certain resemblance between the two, in the scenes of landscape and the scenes amidst the alternate gloom and glare of a thunder storm. Whatever might have been the true circumstances out of which this comedy originated, it is our humble opinion that it is one of Shakespeare's best productions, displaying his supernatural powers to their fullest perfection in exhibiting intelligent and rational beings that are not human, but who at the same time are conceived existing under circumstances which are true to life. The workmanship is perfect, and for moral and philosophical speculation the Tempest is unequalled.

The idea of the Tempest, as we understand it, means Retribution, and as such in the truest signification of the word is the proper theme of the Comedy. The due apportionment of temporal rewards and punishments is here rigorously meted out to the bar of poetic justice.

An extreme credulity and curiosity about extraordinary sights and strange physical phenomena has often been noticed as a foible of the English people. This weakness is well satirized by Shakespeare in the Tempest. Prospero after he became an inhabitant of a lonely island is represented as the possessor of a most magical power, little short of omnipotence. This magical power is executed by Ariel, which we interpret to be nothing more or less than imagination or thought which must always be free, or as beautifully expressed by Byron:

"O'er the glad waters of the dark blue sea, / Our thoughts as boundless, and our souls as free. / Far as the breeze can bear, the billows foam, / Survey our empire, and behold our home. / These are our realms, no limit to their sway."

The opening scene in the Tempest is indeed one of great vigor. The growling thunder, the zigzag lightning, the up-heaving of the foaming waves which madly toss the king's ship to and fro, the howling wind and the sob of the distressed sea are most terrible. The wretched consciousness of the entire crew on board of the king's ship is portrayed in this one sentence by Shakespeare: "Hill is empty and all the devils are here."

Shakespeare has given us a beautiful specimen of womanhood in the character of Miranda. She typifies all that is lovely in lovely woman. Sweet innocence itself. While the evil qualities of human nature have been held up to our abhorrence by him in the character of Caliban, who represents all that is sluggish, deadly, foul, fierce, beastly and poisonous.

The Tempest invites our attention to its claims to pathological and psychological studies of portraiture, and which makes us feel that no form of life is without relation to other forms, and that the most prosaic elements in humanity can be beautified under the touch of a master-hand. It mirrors the moral currency of the time, shows Virtue her own feature, Scorn his own image, and never sensualizes in flesh-tints the character of lovely woman, as Rossetti does in his portrait of the "Blessed Damozel," whose bosom warmed the bar of Heaven.

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reduction of the revenue must include the relief of the public from some, at least of the more burdensome imposition of the war tariff.—Boston Post, Dec.

The Resignation.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14, 1887.—Secretary Manning called at the White House this afternoon and placed his resignation in the hands of the President, to take effect on the appointment and qualification of his successor. This action is taken in order to allow Mr. Manning to accept the presidency of the Western National Bank of the City of New York. His letter of resignation will not be made public for some days. It is stated at the White House that no immediate appointment will be made to the office, and that Mr. Manning will continue to act for several weeks. It is known that the President parts with Mr. Manning with sincere regret, and that he reluctantly consents to his withdrawal from the Cabinet.

Secretary Manning left Washington at a quarter past four o'clock this afternoon for Albany, via New York. He was accompanied by Mrs. Manning, Miss Manning and Mr. Robert L. Fryer. He expects to return to Washington Friday or Saturday, Mr. Fairchild to act until his successor is appointed.

The President is reported by some of his friends in Congress to be seriously considering the question of selecting a Western man for Secretary of the Treasury, either Mr. Pendleton or Mr. Morrison.

THE GRANGE ENCAMPMENT.

THE COMMISSIONERS SELECT THE SITE FOR THE STATE BUILDING—THE TABERNACLE TO BE BUILT AT ONCE.

The Spartanburg Herald of the 10th says: On Tuesday evening Col. Butler, Commissioner of Agriculture, Col. Duncan, President of the State Agricultural and Mechanical Society, Col. Lipscomb, Master of the State Grange, and Mr. Roache, arrived on the Columbia train to locate the building for the South Carolina exhibit at the Grange Encampment. The building is to cost \$1,000. On Wednesday morning they went out to the Encampment ground with a number of our citizens. The grounds have been cleared of all the forest growth except such as is intended for shade. It would be hard to find in the State a more suitable place for the Encampment, and the commissioners were charmed with it. There is nearly a quarter of a mile front along the railroad—perfectly level. It is along this line the buildings will all be erected. A broad avenue will be made between these buildings and the railroad, and will be extended around the Encampment, forming a charming drive and a fine course for the display of speed by fast horses. In addition there will be a broad avenue down the center of the grounds. This will lead to the stalls for animals in the rear.

The "Tabernacle" will be a large shelter 80 by 100 feet. It will be the place for the speeches and lectures, and will be located near the center of the Encampment, on a ground just sloping enough to give every one an easy view of the speaker. Tanager & Lemaster have already contracted for the building of the Tabernacle for \$245. The three shares which they agree to take will make the net outlay, only \$215. A pile of logs has already been hauled, and work will be commenced in a few days. The visiting gentlemen seemed greatly impressed with the advantages this place will offer, not only for the Encampment, but also for the experimental station, which is to be established in a short time. There is no doubt that this is the place for it.

OTHER STATES ASKED TO HELP MAKE IT A GRAND SUCCESS.

The following letter will be sent to the Masters of State Granges of our sister States by our Grange Commissioners:

Dear Sir and Bro: The State Grange of South Carolina at its recent annual session (2d and 3d Feb., 1887) appointed the undersigned as commissioners on its part to meet similar commissioners from the States of Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee and North Carolina, to form and arrange a board of management and supervision of the Inter-State Grange Encampment already agreed upon by these respective State Granges, through the masters of the same. Ample grounds with all needed buildings, railroad sidings, water facilities, &c. &c., have already been contributed free of cost by the liberal and public spirited patrons and citizens of the enterprising city and county of Spartanburg. Direct and quick railroad transit has been secured at the most favorable rates allowed to any others. This is to respectfully request that you will at once arrange for the three commissioners (yourself and two others) from your State Grange to meet similar ones from the other four States at the city of Spartanburg, S. C., on the 6th day of April, 1887, then and there to organize the said fifteen commissioners into a permanent board of management of the said Inter-State Grange Encampment, and to make all by-laws, rules and regulations for conducting and governing the same. The State of South Carolina has instructed her Commissioner of Agriculture to make an exposition of this department at the Encampment, and appropriated \$1,000 to build a hall for the same. The ground for this hall has been donated by the Encampment company to the State, and the same will be donated to any of the other States desiring to make exposition of their resources. We most respectfully and earnestly urge that your commissioners shall meet the others at the time and place stated without fail, for it is of vital importance that everything shall be promptly done, and in time to have the first annual Encampment fully advertised in all the Grange newspapers throughout the Union. Let us hear from you as soon as possible.

Very respectfully and fraternally, JAS. N. LIPSCOMB, A. P. BUTLER, J. W. WOFFORD.

Commissioners of So. Ca. State Grange for the Inter-State Grange Encampment. Randall is now passing through one of his periodical attacks of financial gripes and will vote against the appropriation of \$21,000,000 to construct a navy and manufacture steel guns. He is willing to go as much as \$10,000,000. But this same Randall is willing to take \$79,000,000 for the Government to teach school in the States.

THE POOTALIGO CAUSEWAY.

Statement by a New County Commissioner.

Mr. Editor: As so much has been said in reference to the "Pootaligo Causeway," and some seeming to think that the taxpayers have been outraged by the old Board of County Commissioners, I have determined to make a few statements through your columns, so that those who read, as well as those who write, may know something of the true state of affairs.

I am reliably informed that the causeway over Scape O'er Swamp, called Nelson's Crossing, was built in the same manner as that at Pootaligo, and cost, I am told, something over three thousand nine hundred dollars: The Pootaligo Causeway is as long, but not quite so wide, as the Scape O'er, and cost, as put out by the old Board of County Commissioners, less than one-half as much, viz: \$1,697.

The work which was done for that amount, however, was not sufficient to make a good causeway, it being composed of the trunks of the trees which were cut out of the right of way, and laid lengthwise, which were covered to the depth of six inches with swamp mud. The feet of the animals passing over it in many instances penetrated the mud, and when they struck an opening between the logs, went down to an unknown depth, a walking stick thrust through such openings to its full length, and the arm of the person holding it did not touch a solid place.

Such being the condition of the causeway when the present Board went into office, it was imperatively necessary that such additional work should be done as to render it fit for travel, or the money already expended would be a dead loss to the County. The New Board advertised for bids to put the causeway in good condition. At the appointed day they met at the causeway and put it out to the lowest bidder, there being many persons present, and the contract was knocked off to Mr. D. E. Durant for \$660, he being at that price the lowest bidder for same, and agreeing to complete the job in three months.

In referring to above causeway "Citizen" states that the work could have been done at a cost of fifteen cents per cubic yard of solid earth, i. e., that the road bed across that swamp could have been built of solid earth at a cost of about six hundred dollars.

Now, Mr. Editor, I do not wish to criticize "Citizen," but for the information of those persons who might otherwise accept the statement made by "Citizen" without entering into a calculation or ascertaining facts as to the cost of the work for himself, and here let me say that "Citizen" himself has not well considered his statements, being made, as I am unwilling to think that he would wilfully mislead others.) I will state, after an interview with a prominent gentleman who is well versed in these matters, that to construct a causeway out of solid earth, (hill dirt) it will cost at least fifty cents per cubic yard.

Now, with a causeway over 1,000 yards long, one yard high, and four yards in width, it certainly would cost over \$2,000 to construct it. Let any one who desires to do so, make a calculation for himself.

I do not wish, nor do I intend, to enter into a newspaper controversy with "Citizen" or any one else, but only desire to inform the public of the true condition of things; and I will further say that I do not propose to answer any further articles through the public prints.

In reference to the two causeways mentioned in the article signed "A Tax Payer," I desire to state that one has been advertised to be let out for repairs, and the other ordered to be worked by the road hands.

A NEW COUNTY COMMISSIONER.

From the Boston Globe.

Ready to Jump at 97.

CAPTAIN ANDREWS' OFFER TO ANY MAN OF HIS AGE IN AMERICA.

To the Editor of The Globe: I will bet any man in the United States that I can out-walk and out-jump any man of my age in the United States of America, best two in three. I am now in my ninety-seventh year of my age, and will be 97 years old on the 5th day of next July. I was born and raised in Sumter district, South Carolina, in the year 1790. I have walked all over the United States. I have travelled over 8000 miles on foot the last ten years, and my little dog, Fido, and I hope to walk many thousands more if I live. I am writing a history of my life, and if I have good luck I will walk and sell my history. I hope to start out with my books as soon as I supply my good friends at the North, and then I will start homeward and go South.

I don't expect to get through before the last of next June. Then I will celebrate my ninety-seventh birthday with my family—my wife and children and grand-children and great grand-children—where I was born and raised, and then, if no one takes me up at my offer, I will stop and rest awhile.

If I can get a man to take me up, he can meet me any time and take a little dinner with me. Then we will start away together and take the long walk, if God spares me to do so.

CAPTAIN ROBERT W. ANDREWS.

Now in Boston, Mass.

On Saturday night the Masonic Theatre of Augusta, Ga., together with the Globe Hotel and thirteen stores adjoining were burned to the ground. The fire was caused by the carelessness of a stage employee who had left one of the back windows of the theatre open so that the wind blew one of the border curtains into a gas jet. The curtain was soon in a blaze and communicated the flames to the wood-work of the building. The loss is estimated at about \$200,000 in round numbers.

Col. Wm. S. Dogan, of Union, died at the Asylum in Columbia on the 13th, of softening of the brain, after a short illness. His remains were conveyed to his home in Union. Col. Dogan was for years known throughout the State as the travelling agent of the Columbia Register. Always of marked individuality, and in later years eccentric in his habits and manner, he was a man always to be respected for his good heart and active benevolence. It is said that many young men struggling for an education experienced his bounty, while he lived poorly and feared hard.—Cor. News and Courier.

Mrs. Henry Wood, the novelist, author of 'East Lynne' and other stories, is dead. She was born in England 1820.

Look Out for the Comet.

According to appointment a comet, supposed to be the great one of 1880, ought to become visible in these latitudes within a very few days. Mr. Chandler, of the Harvard Observatory, says that its brightness is diminishing, as it is receding into space, but, still, as it was spoken of as being of the first magnitude in the Southern hemisphere, it will no doubt be visible to the naked eye here, and should be looked for somewhat low down in the southwest directly after twilight. At Melbourne, Australia, the tail extended upward from the horizon about 30 degrees, while the nucleus was below the horizon and invisible. There is some uncertainty as yet in regard to the exact orbit of the comet, owing to its close perihelion distance and the difficulty in obtaining exact observations; but unless some very material error exists in the observations, the comet should become visible shortly in the southwest after sunset, and will set later every night. About the 18th of February it will not set until about 10 o'clock p. m.

Practical Farm Talk by a Farmer.

LYNCHBURG, S. C., Feb. 14, 1887.

Mr. Editor: In your editorials regarding farmers, I perceive that you write kindly about their shortcomings and mistakes. In behalf of the husbandmen and proletariat of our county I thank you.

The farmers in this section are breaking ground, first, to try to make subsistence for the next year, and especially, to provide means to pay off old scores. The weather, like the disposition of an invalid or nursing, is capricious, interrupting farm work. Oats are now mostly planted in the spring, experience having proven that, unlike wheat or rye, it is a grain not hardy enough to withstand the frozes of winter.

In this article, with your permission, I wish to give to my fellow-farmers some plain talk, assuming all responsibility therefor. I am a farmer, and am interested in all that concerns agriculture. By my own blots I help to make my living, and regard my calling as honorable as any other. What are the prospects of the farmer for a crop this year? This is a matter of much concern, and uncertainty. Many of us do not enter upon the duties of the year with the hopes that have inspired us in days gone by. The returns from their cotton crop have again, as usual, proven delusive, while we find that necessities are advancing in price. Moreover, debt, that faithful friend, drives away repose from many a breast already laden with anxiety.

In writing the admonitions to my fellow-farmers, which are to follow, I disclaim any prerogative, or any superior fitness for giving advice, but, indite from a sense of duty, hoping that I may benefit a class to which I belong.

Let no man boast of the number of acres he proposes to plant, but rather, of a "little farm well tilled." Reduce acreage, and thus cultivate better, and save the labor of man and beast. On ten acres put all the fertilizers you intend to put on twenty. Keep open your ditches, so that you may escape the calamity of a flood as befell us last year. Never plant so that any season may force you to throw away one half of your crop to save the other.

As to fertilizers, let us look mainly to the home-made article, as swamp mud, ditch banks, hedges and virgin soil, rather than to the debris of Noah's lone yard on the Wando and Ashley. The further we go to get rich dirt, the worse we may fare. Under certain circumstances, as when no one has any virgin land to draw from, these short-lived bagged-up mixtures may fill a want, but are we driven to such resources? Will Wando or Ashley tell to the row 10 years? I have seen swamp mud do it. What we need is a perennial, and not an annual manure; something that will not run down the land. I am inclined to think that we will see this in its true light, after we have suffered enough from our impatience, and want of foresight. My opinion is that our lands would be benefited by a supply of lime, potash, ashes; and the purchase of such articles might not be justified. The ashes we can make, and are better far than potash alone. Kainit (a large proportion of which is common soil) seems to keep off rust in cotton, and is expert to use, but it is awfully heavy. Cotton seed as a fertilizer has never been beaten ("the hair of the dog is good for the bite") but farmers differ as to whether the seed should be ground or not. The ground seed cut more slowly than the ground, and the latter are therefore, more suitable for late sowing. It is true, grind your own seed and save toll. This will all come about after awhile. One great weakness about us farmers, is we hate to forsake old habits. We hate to be out of fashion. We don't see far enough ahead to be willing to labor and to wait for slower but surer returns.

I must take occasion to allude to other drawbacks that impede the farmer along the road to prosperity. Our expenses are too often out of all proportion to our class, and are too often, in the matter of eating and drinking, I might well conclude by saying that a wooden nutmeg and horn gusset maker would live on the crumbs that fall from the table of the farmer, if he would but eat and drink as he should. We ought to dress as becomes our calling and the price of cotton and subsistence. Shakespeare says the apparel of proclaimers is the man. Yes, and it off-proclaims the black-guard. But old Uncle Will further says:

"It is the mind that makes the body rich; / And as the sun breaks through the darkest cloud, / So honor pereth in the meanest garb;" &c.

Fellow-farmers! what we want is men that will get fairly down to their noble calling, go to work with a will and purpose, men who will "score debts and lead in the day;" men of industry; otherwise, we may expect to be "heavers of wood and drawers of water—mere serfs." Franklin says: "What signifies wishing and hoping for better times; men will 'score debts and lead in the day.'" Keep out of debt; keep far away from extortioners; quit cross roads chit-chat about Congress, tariff, women's rights and mormonism; don't quarrel and lead in the day; men of industry; otherwise, we may expect to be "heavers of wood and drawers of water—mere serfs." Franklin says: "What signifies wishing and hoping for better times; men will 'score debts and lead in the day.'" 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