

The Watchman and Southron.

THE SUMMER WATCHMAN, Established April, 1850. "Be Just and Fear not—Let all the Ends thou Aimst at, be thy Country's, thy God's and Truth's" THE TRUE WATCHMAN, Established June, 1866. New Series—Vol. VII. No. 2.

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SUMTER, S. C.
TERMS:
Two Dollars per annum—in advance.
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CATARRH, HAY FEVER,
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FEMALE
REGULATOR
A SPECIFIC FOR
WOMAN'S DISEASES

INSURANCE LICENSE.
State of South Carolina.
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF COMPTROLLER GENERAL,
COLUMBIA, S. C., June 9, 1881.
I CERTIFY THAT MESSRS. E. C. GREEN & SON, of Sumter, Agents of the STAUNTON LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, incorporated by the State of Virginia, has complied with the provisions of the Act of the General Assembly entitled "An Act to regulate the Agencies of Insurance Companies not incorporated in the State of South Carolina," and I hereby license the said Messrs. E. C. Green & Son, Agents aforesaid, to take risks and transact all business of Insurance in this State, in the Counties of Clarendon and Sumter, for and in behalf of said Company.
Expire March 31, 1883.
W. E. STONEY,
Comptroller General.
Messrs. J. N. SPANN and JOHN S. RICHARDSON, Jr., will act as soliciting agents for Staunton Life Association for Sumter County.
E. C. GREEN & SON.

SUMTER PALACE
ICE CREAM SALOON!
Cake & Confectionery Establishment,
In the Monaghan building, opposite Dr. DeLoane's Drug Store,
MAIN STREET, SUMTER, S. C.

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Soda Water, Sarsaparilla, Ginger Ale, Cakes, Candies, Biscuits, &c., Received Fresh Weekly.
The patronage of the ladies and the public generally is respectfully solicited, also the people of the surrounding country, to whom we extend a cordial invitation to visit us when they come to town.
No trouble to show goods; polite attention paid to all who call.
Respectfully,
LAROUSSELIERE & CO.
June 1.

BIBLES AND TESTAMENTS.
A FINE ASSORTMENT OF BIBLES and Testaments, in large print at Sumter Book Store, kept by
W. G. KENNEDY,
2 Doors North of John Fields.
THIS PAPER is published by Philip DeLoane at the Watchman and Southron Office, No. 107 N. W. AVER & SON, our authorized agents.

IN THE HAMMOCK.

In the hammock I lay swinging
Near the cool, umbrageous trees;
Fitting wild birds round me singing,
Fanned by every passing breeze,
I would lie and dream away
This long, golden summer day.
O'er the bay proud ships are sailing,
And the billows bounding free!
Swelling onward, evermore,
To a distant, foreign shore!
But as I go swinging, swinging,
Thro' the perfumed laden air,
And the songs of birds are singing—
Breezes blowing thro' my hair—
I care not for swelling waves,
Nor for shores that ocean leaves.
Here I read, and dream, and tarry
Till the golden sun sinks low;
And the twilight, like a fairy,
Flits where tangled daisies grow,
Lighting up with pink and gold
Placid bay and mountain bold.
Faint the distant church bell ringeth,
And its echo dies away
Where the robin red-breast singeth
His sweet song at the break of day!
Still I linger till the light
Pales and vanishes in night!
E'en till Heaven's lamps are lighted,
And the fickle, round-faced moon
Hath its beams with stars united
In the gloom of twilight's swoon,
I would thus swing to and fro,
In the evening's heaven-lit glow!
—Evelyn Kimball Johnson.

The Inter-State Encampment.

As the weather cleared up, the crowd increased in size, so that on the second day of the Encampment the estimated number present was over 6,000. North Carolina was well represented, there being present farmers from Polk, Henderson and Rutherford counties. Most of these are camped out in the groves that surround the Farmers' City. They brought with them all their domestic impedimenta and prepared for a stay of indefinite length, if necessary. There was also a large increase in the attendance from all parts of this State, and especially from Charleston and the low-country, there being prominent and representative planters from all the sea islands, Berkeley, Barnwell, Hampton and Colleton counties.

There was a big crush under the pavilion when the usual morning meeting was called to order. All the seats were occupied, and the crowd overflowed in all directions beyond the limits of the building. The Hon. J. M. Walker presided over the exercises, which were opened with prayer by the Rev. J. M. Reid. Among the distinguished guests at the encampment, other than those previously noted, were the Hon. J. J. Hemphill and Superintendent of Education J. H. Rice, who were invited to seats upon the stage.

The first address at the morning session was delivered by State Chemist Philip E. Chancel on the subject generally of the official inspection of fertilizers—the principles which underlie it and the practical difficulties which stand in the way of a recognition of its value by the farmer.

The second address was delivered by Col. A. P. Butler, State Commissioner of Agriculture, who prefaced his remarks by congratulating the Grange upon the success of "this great meeting." He said that it had probably surpassed in numbers and in work of practical value to planters any similar gathering that has ever been held in South Carolina. He considered the present success of the Encampment the most convincing proof of its permanence as an institution. Col. Butler's address was devoted to the discussion of the bars to the progress of the farmer. He denied that the farmers of the State are being impoverished by anything emanating from the executive, legislative, or judicial branches of the State Government, and that there was anything that it could be promptly removed. Summing up, Col. Butler suggested as remedies for present difficulties the improvement of crops, the practice of rigid economy, the improvement of the tenancy system, more independence of factors and merchants, intelligent use of commercial fertilizers, improved methods of agriculture, and the use of improved implements.

Spartanburg No. 1, 26; Spartanburg No. 2, 29. The three prizes were: Newberry, \$50; Waterboro, \$30; Glenn Springs, \$20.

THE MILITARY DRILL.

The first brigade drill was commanded by Gen. Richardson, Capt. E. Bacon, officer of the day.

The following companies participated: Sumter Guards, Edisto Rifles, Fort Motte Guards, Greenville Guards, Butler Guards, the Morgan Rifles and Newberry Rifles.

The parade was witnessed by a very large concourse, and was performed in a manner creditable to the military of this State. An inspection of the Morgan Rifles was held by Adj. Gen. Morgan.

Among the exhibits of machinery which were placed in position Wednesday were the Eagle Screw bailing press of F. W. Wagener & Co., Charleston, S. C.; Wood's harvesting machinery, of Havrick Falls, N. Y., and the exhibit of the Piedmont wagon factory, of Hickory, N. C.

LADIES IN UNIFORM.

A very interesting feature of the Encampment was the kermess and flag drill at the court house, given under the auspices of the Helen Chalmers Literary Association. The court room was a scene of brilliant decoration. The booths were presided over by young ladies in various national costumes.

The attendance was particularly large, as the affair was given for the benefit of Spartanburg's favorites, the Morgan Rifles. The flag drill was executed by the following young ladies as sponsors for the companies: Sumter Guards, Miss Ernestine Heintish; Fort Motte Guards, Miss Reina Allen; Morgan Rifles, Miss Nellie Elford; Butler Guards, Miss Fannie Blake; Greenville Guards, Miss H. Emerson; Manning Guards, Miss Clarice Colton; Edisto Rifles, Miss Mildred Thompson; Laurens Guards, Miss Carrie McKim; Newberry Rifles, Miss Helen McKim; Richmond Volunteers, Miss Bessie Mealy; North Carolina troops, Miss Sally Hardy; South Carolina, Miss Helen Russell; Georgia, Miss E. B. Chase. The flag company was under command of Capt. E. Bacon, the uniform being a blue skirt and body with white trimmings, and black felt hats with black plumes. The evolutions of their gallant military sisters were largely cheered by the various companies present.

It is estimated with every show of reason that fully 10,000 people passed through the streets of the Farmers' City on Thursday. Certainly there appears to be no limit to the energy displayed by the farming classes in the endeavor to at least visit the Encampment. There are instances of men, women and children who walked from fifteen to twenty miles during the night to reach the city. Taking the Encampment in all, it is something novel in South Carolina, and some of the old men say it has been the first time in this State that a successful effort has been made to attract and hold together for such a length of time so many thousands of the farming class. There is, indeed, no telling how long the multitudes will remain in camp, for they have come well provided for any emergency. The woods around the city are alive with men, women and children, some of them having found accommodations in the wagons and others sleeping out under the open sky, which for the past two days has been particularly favorable.

THE LAST DAYS.

As to the character of the crowd it is, possibly the most motley that has ever come together in South Carolina. All classes are represented and the visitor can see almost everybody from the Governor of the State to the bootblack from the neighboring rival city. The plain country girl and the belles of Gauffrey City, Laurens, Union, Spartanburg, Greenville and other counties of fashion are to be found indiscriminately mixed in the crush at the art gallery, or in the pavilion, or in the inter-State booth of the Women's Christian Association, or in the State building, or in the State booth of the Women's Christian Association, or in the State building, or in the State booth of the Women's Christian Association.

The morning session began at 10 o'clock, President Dawson in the chair. This day had been devoted to the exercises of the State Agricultural and Mechanical Society. The president invited all the farmers to visit the fair next fall.

An instructive essay was read by Mr. John P. Townsend, the well known stock raiser and cotton planter of Edisto Island, on the future of the sea islands. A great many of the points made were of a revelation to the up-country farmers.

closed with an excellent and humorous speech by Col. J. G. McKissick, of Union.

Friday was "Governor's Day." The opening address being made by Governor Richardson. Among the other addresses was one on the subject of signal service in our bearings on agriculture, by Capt. R. Graham, of the U. S. Signal Service.

Camp was broken and the military companies returned home Saturday.

Inaugural Address.

Delivered by the Hon. D. P. Duncan at the Farmers' Encampment.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen: I have the honor, in the name of all citizens of Spartanburg county, to bid you a warm welcome to this Encampment.

We sincerely hope that the deliberations and discussions which will occupy the days of your sojourn here may be marked by great good to all who participate and to all who witness your labors. May your gathering be accompanied in its influence and practical results with the largest amount of intelligent information and exposition in the arts and work of that great science which you represent. Upon this all growth and prosperity rest.

Always the largest contributor to the happiness of the people at home, agriculture has made this, the greatest of republics, renowned abroad for its contributions to the sustenance and comfort of the millions of other lands. If the pursuit of knowledge, the labors of the workshop, the whirl of the factory wheels, the busy industries and commercial interests by land and sea, lag and languish, it is only because the valleys are not covered over with corn, because there is no fatness in the pastures, because the cattle do not rejoice upon the hills and the earth fails to yield her increase.

We are the more rejoiced on this occasion because of the evidence we have of the awakening and awakened interest in your avocation, which now seems to be taking in importance precedence of all other questions. How shall the largest intelligence and the most reliable experimental knowledge be invoked and enforced in behalf of tending this garden of earth, which was delivered to the first farmer of creation with the command to keep and dress it—a proposition not new, indeed older than all others, and yet, strange to say, it has now less of intelligence, pressing and push than any if those things which command the time and talents of men.

While it is true that the agriculture of this extensive country is conducted on a scale unknown in ancient or in modern times, yet in these important departments of knowledge we are singularly deficient. No other field holds out a more inviting prospect to the diligent and the enterprising, a life-work which may fill the noblest ambition. There is no closed door to the followers of this art. As illustrated from the days of George Washington down to the success of the poor farmer's boy of the Valley of Virginia with his reaper, endowing seminaries, orphan's homes and university professorships, there is no temporal interest of humanity which exceeds in importance that of your pursuit, and all others it has outlived. "It survives Turk and Time and Goth." Upon it the merchant and mechanic, the bench and bar and the forum and camp depend. Indeed, as has been said: "The necessity of this art is evident, since this can live without all others, and no one other without this. The principles of it being of all nature, earth, water, air and the sun and the sea, it comprehends of philosophy more than any one profession, art or science in the world besides."

Let me call your attention to what an able essayist wrote two hundred years ago. He said: "Who is there among our country that does not entertain a dancing-master for his children as soon as they are able to walk, but did ever any father provide a tutor for his son to instruct him betimes in the nature and improvement of that land he intended to leave him?" That is a superfluous and thus a great defect in our manner of education, and therefore I could wish (but cannot in these times much hope to see it) that one college in each university were erected and appropriated to this study, as well as they are to medicine and the civil law. There would be no need of making a body of scholars and follows with certain endowments. It would suffice, if after the manner of stalls in Oxford, there were only four professors constituted to teach these four parts: First, Motion and all things relating to it. Second, Pasturage. Third, Gardens, orchards, vineyards and woods. Fourth, All parts of rural economy, which would contain the government of bees, swine, poultry, decoy birds, &c., together with the sports of the field and domestic conversation and uses of all that is brought in by industry abroad. The business of these professors should not be as is commonly practical in other arts, to read pompous and superficial lectures out of Virgil's Georgics, Pliny and Varo, but to instruct their pupils in the whole method and course of this study, and the continued accession of scholars upon a moderate taxation for their diet, lodging and learning would be a sufficient constant revenue for the maintenance of the house and professors, who should be men not cleverer for the ostentation of critical literature, but for solid and experimental knowledge of the things they teach.

Col. W. D. Evans, of Marlboro, read a paper on the duty of the farmer as a citizen and as a legislator. Mr. D. K. Norris, of Anderson, discussed in a very able paper the necessity of direct legislation. Experiments with the corn plant, by Mr. H. E. Perry, of Greenville, contained many suggestive points and brought about another interesting meeting, the debaters being Capt. C. P. Perry, of Spartanburg, Messrs. C. Dixon and A. Melroe, of Greenville, C. Turner, of Spartanburg, and H. T. Hawley, of Darlington. The session

tion of Agriculture," stating that its objects included the institution of a farm for experiments in agriculture and the importation and distribution of foreign productions suited to the climate of the State.

He who was first in the hearts of his countrymen, in almost his last utterances to them, with prophetic earnestness urged upon the founders and representatives of the young republic this great matter of agricultural education as one of the foremost demands of the times. The national interest and importance of his language is in proportion. As the nation advances in population and other circumstances of maturity, this truth becomes more apparent and renders the cultivation of the soil more and more an object of public patronage. Institutions for promoting it grow up supported by the public purse, and to what object can it be dedicated with greater propriety? This species of establishment contributes doubly to the increase of improvement by stimulating enterprise and experiment, and by drawing to a common centre the results everywhere of individual skill and observations and spreading them thence over the whole nation. Experience hath shown that they are very cheap instruments of immense national benefit. A few years afterwards the founder and great apostle of the Democracy, in his distinguished inaugural, speaking of good government, placed in the circle of our felicities the encouragement of agriculture and commerce as its handmaid, a well disciplined militia, our best reliance in peace and for the first moments of war, and we welcome them to-day as one of the Jeffersonian platform planks in recognition of the fact that the tillers of the soil are ready, as its defenders, when needed to become the heroes of the field and camp.

I will not trespass further upon your time, upon more interesting exercises. Allow me to repeat the cordial salutations of the committee and people whom I represent. Desiring to do all in their power to fill the days of your sojourn in our midst with the fullest enjoyment and profit, we feel sure that in the preparation of the second Encampment our experience will eliminate very much of what we are conscious are the imperfections and shortcomings of this, the first.

Pine Leaf (Straw).

FELTON, S. C., July 11, 1887.
HON. A. P. BUTLER,
Commissioner of Agriculture, Columbia, S. C.

In compliance with your request, and for the benefit of some of our farmers, I will give you my experience, and that of some of my neighbors, but more particularly my own, as I can speak more definitely, of the use of pine straw as a manure. I have been using it for sixteen years, and for the most of this time I have been using *two cords* to the acre for cotton, and with that amount of straw and 100 lbs. acid phosphate, 100 lbs. kainit, and 18 bushels of cotton seed, I make an average of a bale of cotton to the acre, and some years I get a bale and a half, on what was said to be old worn-out land, but the use of the above I now have my land in good heart. It is said by some farmers that straw will kill the cotton, but I have never had it to kill my cotton and would use double the quantity that I do if it were so that I could get it to the land, as getting it in the land is a small matter with us. We break the old beds down with six furrows with a seven inch turn plow, then open with an eight inch double-winged straight hoe sixteen inches long; thus it may be seen how I get in my terds to the acre without trouble. It is said by some that I claim too much for pine straw, but this is a mistake, as I only claim what the analysis, I believe, gives it, about 8 per cent. potash; but to take it at much less, and still I am an advocate for its use, for I claim a good deal for its percolating influence in the land—the same that yeast has in our bread—for in this: it opens the soil and lets in the air and admits the gases from the rain, which, in a close clay soil, is very necessary, and as I think, in all soils, whether it be clay or otherwise. There are many objections to the use of straw. One adduced by men of intelligence is that straw, when rotted, becomes sand, which according to my experience, is both false and true, for I claim that the same soil that produces the growth, when rotted it will be the same, either sand or clay. I believe all the farmers know that cotton grown on clay land has a yellow tinge, produced by the clay; and if our lint partakes of the soil, why not pine straw?

But to give you other than my own experience. In speaking to a well-to-do farmer on the subject, he said he would quit the farm if he could not get pine straw, as he is one that uses it largely. But my question is, how are we to get in such quantities? I can only say how I do it. In this writing I have in the woods fifteen hundred piles, four feet high and four feet wide; these have been raked when the weather was such that I could not do other farm work; and when we lay our crop, which we usually do about the 12th of July, then, between that and the blade gathering, we get all we use in the lot; and when we first get it in the lot it is ten or twelve feet deep away from the fence. If this is not done we could never get it from the woods in the Spring, and having it in the lot, it is tramped by the stock, and though not cut up, as it cannot be on account of depth, it becomes compact, and once wet, does not get dry until having been in the lot for piling. I may be wrong, but I think the reason why there is no more straw used is because there is not enough put in the hand, for it takes a large quantity, in bulk, to make a little earth when rotted; and I will say this: the more one uses the more phosphate he may with paying results if he will only be sure and

get the straw well in the furrows. I have used forty-five large piles to the acre for sweet potatoes, and this alone, and made very fine potatoes; but I put two mules to the plough, and got the straw well in the ground. There is one fact about straw that may not be generally known; it is this: very soon after it is put in the ground it goes through a sweat, and does not get dry any more until rotted, at which time I have taken it up from the bottom of the plant furrow and found that the decomposed straw was a network of fibre roots that have been feeding through the season. But I must say, before I close, that the first year in the use of straw it does not pay so largely, but each succeeding year will pay more and more, or this has been my experience, and Mr. R. M. Pitts, of Sumter County, gave me the same as his experience, and he has used it broadcast with good results, which I have never done. Now, in conclusion, let me say, while the cotton plant is made up of seven component parts, and pine straw will and does constitute one of those parts, a little *push and pluck* and we have that on hand in the barnyard at no great cost. Yours faithfully &c.
LOUIS H. DESCHAMPS.

Annual Reunion of Company "E", 6th S. C. Infantry.

The survivors of Company E, 6th Regiment, South Carolina Volunteers, met at the residence of Capt. W. J. McLeod on the 29th ult. To the great surprise and pleasure of all, Col. J. D. Blanding of the 9th Regiment was present, and took part in all of the business and pleasures of the day. The association of Col. Blanding with the members of Co. E during nine months of the war, caused its members to feel as if only another one of the boys was with them while he from appearances, having come out for the full purpose of enjoyment, entertained them with rich and spicy jokes of the war.

The business of the day was introduced by a bountiful supply of fine watermelons, after which a general smoke was entered into; each one, apparently, determined to enjoy all of the comforts and pleasures of a puff at the pipe of peace. After this all hands were called together for business. The president being absent, Capt. W. J. McLeod was called to the chair, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and adopted. The only unfinished business was the reading and adoption of a portion of the history of the command, but owing to the absence of the President, who had it in his possession, the reading was postponed until the next meeting. A committee of three, consisting of E. W. Cannon, H. E. C. Fountain and J. J. Durant, was appointed to adopt a plan for the organization of a relief association of the old company, for the care of any member who may come to need or distress.

Letters were read from Maj. J. L. Coker, E. W. Cannon, and J. A. and M. E. McDonald, expressing their regrets at their absence, and giving their reasons therefor. Two invitations were received for the next reunion, one from Major Coker of Hartsville, and the other from J. A. and M. E. McDonald of Marion, N. C. Major Coker's invitation was accepted, and a vote of thanks, by the comrades, extended to both him and the Messrs. McDonald, for their kind and generous invitations. A vote of thanks was extended Col. J. D. Blanding for his presence and remarks, together with an invitation to him to meet with the command at the next reunion. Dinner being now ready, adjournment was in order, to which the old comrades responded promptly. There were no sick to report at this time, but from the appearance of things while the dishes were being passed around, the delicate and dyspeptic might have feared that in the end it might have become necessary to call in a doctor.

After dinner the Colonel and some of the boys betook themselves apart and for the entertainment of the ladies, indulged in a feast of music and reminiscences of a reunion prior to the organization of Co. E, when we were boys, and when those little black eyes deceived us and caused us to join a modest "no" to resolve to join the army and be killed by the "Yanks."

"Not Guilty."

Verdict of the Jury in the Edgfield Lynching Case.

EDGFIELD, August 5.—The great Culbreth lynching case, perhaps the first of its kind ever brought to trial, came to an end to-day at 3 o'clock. The whole of the morning session of court up to 2 o'clock was taken up with the able, eloquent and exhaustive argument of Attorney General Earle for the State and Edward Butler for the defense. Both covered the entire ground of their respective sides, and each wound up with a most telling *resumé*. Judge Wallace's charge was, so to speak, a clearing up thunder shower after the two days of heated debate. The jury were not out quite an hour, when they brought in a verdict of not guilty.

At the last term of the court there was a severance, so that only two of the lynchers, Parkman and Holmes, were on trial, and upon the announcement of the verdict as to them, the State's attorney entered a noli. pro. se. as to the remaining thirty defendants.

The largest crowd ever known to have assembled in Edgfield Court House since the Attorney General's case, was present when he arose to address the jury. Before daylight men on horses and in buggies could be heard coming from all five of the public roads which lead into the village. Many were not able to get into the court room, and the public square during the day was filled with a mass of sweltering humanity.

The verdict was not a surprise to any one, as nobody expected a conviction. Everything in connection with the case, during the progress of the trial and the rendition of the verdict, passed off quietly.

Our State Contemporaries.

Edgfield Advertiser.
Miss Daisy Hampton, daughter of Senator Wade Hampton, glories in pedestrian exercise. Recently she walked all the way from her home to Charleston, a distance of 145 miles. One day she made a record of twenty-five miles.

Query.

Abbeville Press and Banner.
If prohibitory laws do not prohibit the sale of whiskey, why should the whiskey men be so much opposed to the law? If such laws do not prohibit why is it that the distillers and wholesale dealers contribute so freely of their money to defeat prohibitory laws in distant States? If the whiskey men are willing to conform to the will of the people, why are they opposed to an expression of opinion by the people? If prohibition doesn't prohibit why should a wholesale liquor dealer in Charleston boycott a prohibition newspaper in Abbeville.

Let it be understood that the temperance people of Abbeville county mean to get an expression by a vote of the people—as to whether the sale of whiskey shall continue to be licensed. In case our representatives neglect or refuse to put the necessary laws on the books the voters must seek a remedy for their wrong.

"Chicken-Hearted Men."

It is reported that a negro was taken up and severely whipped by citizens in the Sardinia neighborhood a few days ago for attempting an assault upon a young white lady. The fiend entered the lady's room after she had retired at night. Her screams frightened him to flight. She recognized him, and a party pursued and caught him. The young lady identified him as the guilty party, and he was whipped and ordered to leave the State. It is a shame that men are so chicken-hearted.

Charleston.

The general impression in the up-country has been and is, that the City Government in Charleston was first-class; that the very best elements of the business community in native and adopted citizenship were in the Common Council; that extensive improvements were visible on all hands; that City securities were above par, and so far as administration was concerned the City by the Sea was well cared for and wisely looked after. For several weeks past, however, a systematic attack has been going on by a series of advertisements in the *News and Courier*, which certainly surprised us. One would have supposed that a carpetbag government was in charge of the City, and not the very best people in it.

An explosion took place not long since, and the mendacity and impertinence of the advertiser was very thoroughly exposed at the meeting of Council.

There is one feature of this whole business, and that is, Capt. Dawson concived at this abuse and denunciation for a certain price per line—cash. That is to say, the proprietor of said journal contracted to abuse the Mayor and City Council at so much per column—cash! The *Sunday Dispatch* says: "So long as the abuse was freely given to Mayor Courtenay and the Aldermen, all was smooth, but the advertiser found fault with our great (Editor) Caesar, when summarily the so-called contract was ended for the time. This is the point of inquiry we would make—if the contract was such as to compel the printing of offensive matter, as against the Council, how came it not applicable to Capt. Dawson? Won't our Caesar explain this loop-hole in the contract?"

Jones the Triple Murderer.

New complications have arisen at the present term of the Edgfield court in the Jones murder case. It will be remembered that Jones killed Edward Presley, Sr., Edward Presley, Jr., and Charles Presley. At the last term of the court he was convicted of the murder of the elder Presley. At the close of the term his attorneys demanded an unconditional discharge in the other two cases. The motion was argued before Judge Norton, who granted the order of discharge. Jones now claims that he has been completely and permanently discharged from these cases, just as if he had been tried and acquitted. The State denies this, but Judge Wallace sustains the prisoner's views of the case. The further question arises whether or not the State can hand out new bills in the cases.

Blind Tom.

BALTIMORE, July 30.—Judge Bond, sitting in the United States District Court to-day, decided that Thomas Wiggins, known all over the world as "Blind Tom" the pianist, shall be delivered on or before August 16 to the custody of Mrs. Eliza Bethune, mother of "Blind Tom," and that Jas. W. Bethune, who has had charge of him, shall at the same time pay to Mrs. Bethune the sum of \$7,000 for past services. The case has been in the courts for several years, and has attracted considerable attention from the fact that Tom has been held as a chattel by the Bethunes ever since his musical genius made him valuable. The suit was brought in the interest of his mother to regain possession of him.

A Debt that Follows a Man.

In view of the large number of our citizens insured in "Co-operative" companies, the following from the Indianapolis *Journal* may not be without interest and value:

"The worst feature of this assessment life insurance business," said a well-known lawyer to the writer, "is not that which stands out most prominently. It is bad enough to agree with people you know nothing about upon to do so by officers you know nothing about, and to have no means of knowing how much of the general collection is turned over to the purpose for which it is paid; but a graver feature is that when a man gets into one of these assessment concerns he is in for all time, no matter if a bar is put up against possible benefits that might accrue by failing to respond to assessments, or if the concern itself 'busts up,' for the courts have decided that in joining an association of this kind 'the debt is then contracted, and not when the debt is payable—at the death of a member.' Only the other day, in the light of this common-sense decision, 500 members of the defunct 'Order of Mutual Aid,' California, had judgments entered up against them in a suit brought by the heirs of one of the deceased members, and in Minnesota at the present time a suit is pending against the members of another defunct assessment society which is certain to go the same way. This is a peculiar feature, and not generally understood. To be able to contract a debt that will follow a man beyond the grave (if he should be fortunate enough to possess anything) is something to be thought about in the contemplation of assessment or fraternal life insurance."

A Chain of Cousins.

In the Washington *Herald* the "Loungeur on the Avenue" says: "The number of 'cousins' any Virginia, South Carolina or Kentucky family 'that was ever anybody' has and claims kin with, has always been a matter of great astonishment in the North, where this charming 'cult' is not cherished. And these cousins, 'down to the fourth degree,' are to be found everywhere. A charming lady, whom the writer has the pleasure of knowing, said to me the other day: 'You would scarcely believe that Virginia and South Carolina families could be related by blood ties to so many people as they really are in England and France. Now here, holding up a late Parisian journal, is the announcement of the marriage of Princess Eugenie Murat, the great granddaughter of Marshal Murat, better known as the commander of the cavalry in the grand army than as the king of Naples, which he nevertheless was, to Prince de Torlesi, an Italian magnate. This bride, Princess Murat, has not less than 100 Virginia and South Carolina cousins. Her grandmother was Miss Fraser of Charleston, whose brother was the founder of the great commercial house that, during the war, was so famous as Fraser, Trenholm & Co. Both the sons of Marshal Murat married Southern women. The eldest, Achille, came to America. His wife was Miss Bettie Willis of Virginia, whose mother was the distant cousin of the Dandrighs, the Harrisons, the Pages, the Cadwells and many others whose names are historic. His brother, the second son—Murat's wife, you know, was Caroline, sister of the great Napoleon—married Miss Fraser, as I just now told you. So her granddaughter, who though a princess, looks like any well bred and well nurtured Virginia girl, is the great grandniece of the first Napoleon. When John Y. Mason of Virginia, was our Minister to France, the ladies of the Murat household were his particular friends. I know he used to astonish some of the old French gentlemen about the court of the second empire by gravely explaining that these ladies were his cousins. The Empress Eugenie heard of it and was much interested in the fact that the granddaughters of the ex king of Naples, Napoleon's brother-in-law and greatest cavalry commander, were akin to a representative from the great republic. I think both the Carrington and Stone families of this city were connected with the Willises, either by direct line or collaterally, and if I am right they, too, are akin to this young scion of English and imperial lineage on one side, and good old Virginia blood on the other. I thought this might be interesting to you, and so I mentioned it."

News Items.

"King Solomon's Mines" is to be put into dramatic form for James O. Barrows.
Miss Belle Cole, the American cantatrice, has decided to remain in England until next year.
Patti Ross will have two new plays next season—Imp., by Fred Marsden and P. A. T.
Mrs. Fannie Harpe, wife of James Harpe, was gored and trampled to death by a man bull at Tuscola, Ill., the other day while attempting to drive the brute out of the front yard. She fought the animal as long as her strength held out, but as no one came to her assistance she was killed before the eyes of her little children. The body was shockingly mangled.
Sarah Bernhardt has been coining money in London. Her receipts have averaged over \$2,500 for each performance.
The grand jury of Edgfield county have been examining the public offices of that county. In a special report made to the court now in session at that place, they present S. S. Tompkins, the Master, as a defaulter for nearly \$5,000. The report has created a sensation. Mr. Tompkins is about seventy years old.
Prohibition now prevails in 115 of 137 counties of Georgia and is said to be gaining strength rapidly, especially in Atlanta.—*Greenville Daily News*.
The strawberry was introduced into England from Flanders in 1530.