

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

THAT SPECIAL ELECTION.

As will be seen by reference to our advertising columns, an election has been ordered for January 9th, 1889, being Wednesday on the question of bonding the city to the extent of thirty thousand dollars, if so much be necessary, to establish an electric light and waterworks plant.

Voters must register between Dec. 10th and 24th, inclusive. No unregistered voter need apply.

It thus appears that the people will be called upon to decide what must be regarded as a momentous question for the city of Sumter. We have no satisfactory information, none that is decisive, to give our readers as to what such a plant will cost, but we presume that the City Council must be satisfied that it will not cost more than \$30,000 for both purposes, or that sum would not have been mentioned.

The gentleman who was here, Mr. Garden, gave those figures as approximating the cost, as we are informed. He afterwards withdrew his offer but that was only because he did not desire to keep it open for months, while the cost of material might be advanced meanwhile.

So much on the general question. As to the election, as we look on it, the questions to be decided are these:

1. Are lights and waterworks needed? No two opinions can exist on the subject, from our point of view. The present system of lighting, if it may be so called, costs in the neighborhood of \$1800 a year. For \$2500 electric lights, that will be lights indeed, can be procured. On this point, we may consult Greenville and Columbia, which have such a system in operation.

As to waterworks, will any man undertake to say that we have an adequate supply of water now? Vast sections of the city are comparatively at the mercy of the fire flood, and if we wish to know how the insurance men rate Sumter, in point of danger, just remember that from 4 1/2 to 6 per cent. is asked on property nearest the best water supply we have, and nearest to our steam fire engine. That tells the whole story in a sentence.

Ten thousand dollars are paid out annually in this city for insurance. The cost would be reduced one-half if an adequate water supply existed. Had not that better be saved, even if a portion of it goes into the waterworks? It is an easy sum in arithmetic.

A step like this, especially in view of the fact that this city is on the eve of becoming one of the most important railway centres in the State, would be bound to attract the favorable notice of investors, and of persons seeking a place of residence. It cannot fail to advertise the city, and no one will deny that what we need is capital and population. In our opinion this is Sumter's golden opportunity to lengthen her cords and strengthen her stakes. A false economy now will retard the city's growth to an extent that will enable other competing towns to get ahead, and keep ahead of her. We must not forget that other towns are moving, and will move only the faster when they see Sumter standing still. We have lost ground already by our inactivity at critical times in our history. Let us not repeat the mistake, nor suffer the glittering generalities and the plethoric platitudes of the over-cautions to make us shut the door in the face of the progress that is knocking at it. If now denied, she may never return.

POLITICAL BACK-PATTING.

That portion of the fourth estate which hath its being at the North, and represents the party of great moral ideas, has been considerably exercised of late in the effort to express its admiration of the grand character of the American body politic, which could go through the ordeal of a revolution such as that which has recently reinstated the Republican party in power, and yet possess the self-restraint to refrain from overmuch crowing on the part of the victors and an excess of kicking on the part of the vanquished. It is indeed a splendid example of the wonderful stability of our young republic; or at least that portion of it which lies to the South of Mason's and Dixon's line. Because, after all, to what a trifling extent is the North affected by a change of administration? Whichever party be in power, the North has all the benefit and advantage of excellent and efficient and respectable Federal office-holders, but how about the South? What guaranty have we that our offices will not be filled with all the broken-down political hacks and offensive partisans who lorded it over us in the olden time? If there is any portion of the country that is excusable for kicking, it is the South. All the reconstruction, all the financial, industrial and political crises and revolutions that have swept over the country since 1865, have taken effect almost altogether at the South. All the woes and sorrows engendered thereby, all the wounds and bruises and putrefying sores, have been the portion of the Southern people. The war period and the period succeeding it were times of unexampled prosperity to the North, while of the South it can be truly said that nothing

but the indomitable pluck of her people, aided by her matchless climate and fertile soil, have enabled her to take the rank she has and command the respect of the world, and even draw capital from abroad which gladly seeks investment here.

And she has done it in the face of partisan lies innumerable, and frantic wailing of the incurminded underest, and persistent misrepresentation by this same complacent press of the North. The South owes the Northern Republican press nothing, nor does she ask anything of it now. She has shown her ability to rise in spite of all opposition of every possible sort that the most refined and Machiavellian ingenuity could devise to keep her down, and she objects to being patted on the back and commended by the Murat Halets and Whitelaw Reids whose malignant persecutions of her have been limited only and solely by their power to hurt and insult. She cares not for their commendations. She can get on without them still, as she has got on for the last trying quarter of a century.

It may not be always wise to talk out in meeting, but this is a time when somebody ought to warn our people not to truckle to the party in power, or to any party, but to stand together and demand justice not *be* for it as a favor. The Northern Democratic party has slaughtered us without hesitation whenever it has seen fit. We are indebted, therefore, to it for nothing of any consequence. If we are driven to do it, let us not hesitate to draw and stand on sectional lines, just as long as our Northern allies or enemies make it necessary for us to stand there. On the other hand let us express and show our readiness to rub the sectional line out, whenever they put themselves in such attitude towards us as shall make it safe and honorable for us to blot it out. The late presidential election has proven beyond a doubt that it is essential to our political integrity that the South should hold fast to its present position in the government of the several States. With that secure no great harm can come to us from outside. Then let us concentrate our energies on the development of our vast internal resources, and let outside politics alone for a while at least. With these developed, money will come. Money is power if knowledge directs its use. This accomplished, we will be in a position to view with equanimity any and all changes of Federal administration.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

We have risen from a perusal of the President's Message with fresh and increased admiration of his ability and patriotism. After reminding Congress that the country has passed the first century of its constitutional existence, the President points out the fact that of late years there has been a wide departure from the safeguards which the Constitution throws around the citizen, and shows that in so far as we depart from the provisions of that instrument, our republic, as such, is a failure. He urges that private interests should be subordinated to public interests, and Congress should legislate on patriotic rather than on selfish considerations. He gives examples of what he means when he cites the fact that the bill for the relief of the Supreme Court has failed to pass, while numerous acts of a private nature have been pushed through. He attacks boldly the system of taxation which extorts in a few years two hundred millions of dollars more than are needed to pay all expenses of the government, and shows how the same grasping spirit that fosters such an infamous system, is producing the immense monopolies which now threaten to oppress the people. He urges revision of this matter, shows the bearing of tariff reform on it, and also advises earnestly a revision of the existing wretched pension laws.

THE LEGISLATURE.

The following are some of the bills that have been introduced: By Senator Pope, to establish and maintain a home for disabled soldiers and seamen of the Confederate army and navy; to repeal the pension law of the last session. By Mr. McCrady, joint resolution providing for an analysis of the acts and joint resolutions of 1885, '86 and '87, so as to show how much of same was public and how much private legislation—the work to be done by the Solicitors. To prohibit the imposition by municipal corporations of licenses as tax on business. To protect primary elections and conventions of political parties, and to punish offenses committed thereat. By Senator Moore, to authorize the Manchester and Augusta Railway Company to build a branch of its road to the town of Sumter. By Senator Murray, to provide the mode of ascertaining the names of registered voters convicted of disqualifying crimes, and requiring their names to be erased by supervisors of registration from the registration books. By Senator Smythe to regulate the sale of real estate under powers contained in mortgages. This bill provides that power be conferred upon the mortgagees to make a sale of the mortgaged premises in default of the payment of the debt. Mr. Trantman of Kershaw made an unsuccessful effort to get a special reference on one bill, viz.: That in reference to refunding a tax levied on some township bonds in Kershaw County, which bonds had not yet been issued, and could not now be issued, as the Supreme Court had declared all such to be unconstitutional. He desired the matter referred to the Kershaw delegation, and was supported in his wishes by Mr. O'Brien, but Mr. Moore, General McCrady and one or two others interposed objections, and the bill in question will go before the ways and means committee.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

Mr. Cleveland's sturdy manhood and hatred of cant and hypocrisy stand out in fine relief in his message. No President has ever been manlier than he, and his successor will be compelled to act up to a high standard unless he desires to see himself in painful contrast with him when about to lay down his trust with the entire respect alike of political friends and foes.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

Mr. Cleveland's last annual message to Congress is all complete, and has been submitted to his cabinet at a meeting called for the purpose, but what its contents are, nobody outside knows, or is likely to know until the document is read at the Capitol Monday. The members of the cabinet will only say that it is a very strong and interesting document, and that it will be well worthy of a place along with the other state papers which Mr. Cleveland has written. Speaking of this message reminds me that Mr. Cleveland has been particularly fortunate in never having had any 'leaks' in his administration through which public documents, such as presidential messages, have reached the public prematurely. His is the first administration for many years entirely free of these 'leaks.'

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On the eve of the first Thanksgiving day after Secretary Whitney took charge of the Navy Department, he inaugurated the pretty custom of present-

ing each one of the four hundred employees of that department with a big fat turkey. The custom has been regularly kept up ever since, and last Wednesday the employees of that department received for the last time this practical evidence of the Secretary's interest in their welfare. This year Postmaster General Dickinson followed the good example set by Secretary Whitney, and presented each of the employees of his department with the finest turkey to be had. These turkeys were greatly enjoyed. It is extremely doubtful whether the new Secretary of the Navy and Postmaster General will follow the excellent example set them by the Democratic officials.

Believing in the old adage that 'the early bird catches the worm,' Representative Cannon, of Illinois, has opened headquarters here and begun an active canvass for the Speakership of the next House of Representatives. Messrs. Butterworth, McKinley, Burrows, Reed and company, will however make the fight interesting as soon as they get here. It is generally thought that either Reed or McKinley will be Speaker.

Democratic members of Congress are as a rule extremely reticent as to what line of policy they will adopt at the coming session of Congress; they nearly all express a desire to confer with their Democratic colleagues before committing themselves. An exception to this rule is Representative Springer, of Illinois. He insists that one of the first things the House will do will be to pass his Oklahoma bill, and that the next thing will be to pass a bill for the admittance of at least four Territories into the Union as States.

The clerks in the Government department in this city below the grade of chief are all in an essay state of mind just at present. They have become convinced that Harrison is a genuine civil service reformer, and that there will be no clean sweep when he comes in. The principal cause of this belief was an article in our local papers, taken from the editorial columns of the Indianapolis Journal, a paper which is thought to be Harrison's home organ, which warned the republicans not to expect a 'clean sweep.' There may not be a clean sweep, but in my opinion at the close of Harrison's term there will not be one democrat in office here for each ten republicans now drawing Uncle Sam's pay. In other words, I don't believe that Harrison will keep one tenth as many democrats in office as Mr. Cleveland has kept republicans.

Harrison's Southern policy continues to be a subject of general discussion here. The opinion is almost unanimous among the members of both parties, that Harrison's administration will be a very conservative one unless something now entirely unexpected should occur. I don't think the South has anything to fear at the hands of Harrison. If many things that now have a somewhat troublesome look are let severely alone, they will adjust themselves; chief among this class of things is the negro question. I am certain from information derived from republican sources, that Harrison will appoint no negro to any prominent federal office in the South. In fact there is an undoubted disposition among republicans to relegate the negro to back seats in future. He is no longer of any practical use to that party, therefore they will give him nothing.

When Congress opens Monday it is doubtful whether either House will have a quorum present, unless they come in much faster to-morrow and Sunday. There is a growing belief that Harrison will call an extra session of Congress soon after his inauguration.

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THE MARKETS.

SUMTER, S. C., Dec. 5, 1888. COTTON.—Receipts 650 bales. The market dull. We quote: Good middling 9; Middling 8 1/2. CHARLESTON, S. C., Dec. 4, 1888. Cotton—Sales, none. Quotations: middling, 9 1/2. WILMINGTON, N. C., Dec. 4, 1888. SPINNING COPPER.—Sales at quotation. Market opened firm at 43 1/2 cents per gallon. ROSIN—firm at 80c for Strained and 82 1/2 for Good Strained. CARBON TURPENTINE.—Yellow Dip, \$2.25; Virgin \$2.25, Hard \$1.35. COTTON.—Sales, none. Market firm. Quotations are: Middling 9 1/2.

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FOR RENT.

FARM ONE MILE FROM COURT HOUSE on West boundary, containing 65 acres, with a room dwelling and necessary outbuildings. For terms apply to W. E. DICK, at Ducker & Bultman's, Sumter, S. C. Dec. 5.

MUSIC HALL,

MONDAY, DECEMBER 10. The original and only version, approved by the author, Geo. W. Peck, and played only by Atkinson's Comedy Company. PECK'S BAD BOY. New Scenery, New Melodys, Songs and Dances, New and Unique Specialties. Our own Orchestra and Zouave Brass Band. Reserved Seats, 75 cents; Admission, 50 and 50 cents. Seats secured at Schwert's Book Store without extra charge. Dec. 5.

LOST.

IN THE CITY OF SUMTER OR ON ROAD from city to Spring Hill, on Thursday, Nov. 29th, Secretary (\$70) dollars in bills. The finder will be liberally rewarded if returned to O. H. WHITE, Smithville, S. C. Dec. 5.

FOR SALE.

ONE FINE YOUNG SADDLE AND BUGGY HORSE, sire Black Hawk, formerly owned by W. B. Beeson, six years old. Perfectly sound. Address Dec. 5—3 R. care W. and S.

ASSIGNEE'S SALE.

I WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION at the store next door to R. P. Monaghan's, beginning Dec. 10th, 1888, from 10 A. M. to 1 P. M. and from 7 P. M. to 10 P. M., the remnant of stock of DRY GOODS, GROCERIES, TIN WARE, HATS, CAPS, SHOES, &c., &c., belonging to the assigned estate of E. C. Green & Son. Terms of sale, Cash. Sale will be continued from day to day at above house, as may be necessary. Dec. 5 Assignee E. C. Green & Son.

ASSIGNEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE.

BY VIRTUE OF AUTHORITY AS THE Assignee of E. C. Green & Son and E. C. Green individually, the undersigned will sell to the highest bidder at public auction in and about the City of Sumter, S. C., on Saturday Jan. 7th, 1889, subject to all liens thereon, 1 lot and buildings thereon, N. E. corner of Main and Canal Streets, and 1 lot and buildings thereon, N. E. corner of Canal and Hartin Streets, City of Sumter, as the property of E. C. Green. Terms of sale, Cash. Purchasers to pay for papers. Dec. 5 D. J. AULD, Assignee of E. C. Green & Son, and E. C. Green. Dec. 5—4

GO TO RECKLIN'S

For the Latest Style PHOTOGRAPHS. COLUMBIA, S. C., Opposite Grand Central Hotel. Dec. 5 3

FIRST CLASS JOB WORK

AT BOTTOM PRICES. WATCHMAN AND SOUTHRON JOB OFFICE

NOTICE.

We are now ready to furnish our friends and customers with the following named specialties: Atmore's Mince Meat, Fruit Butter, Preserves, Jellies, and all kinds of sweetmeats.

Also just received a lot of

New Raisins in all kinds of packages.

Also a fine lot of polished

Table Nuts and Soft Shell Almonds.

Our stock of Fancy Candies,

Groceries and Fancy Crackers of all kinds is now complete and we hope to receive your orders early and often; which will receive our prompt attention.

Respectfully,

DUCKER & BULTMAN.

Dec. 5.

Grand Opening.

Fall and Winter Goods. Dress Goods, in Great Variety, in Latest Styles, Large Assortment. Dress Trimmings in Latest Styles, Full Stock. LADIES', MISSES' AND CHILDREN'S GLOVES AND HOSE. All kinds, at Lowest Prices.

NOTIONS, IN GREAT VARIETY.

CALICOES AND GINGHAMS IN BEAUTIFUL PATTERNS AND COLORS. WOOL AND CANTON FLANNELS, FINE ASSORTMENT. Ladies' and Misses' Undervests, in Great Variety.

Cloaks and Wraps, of Various Kinds, in Latest Styles.

TABLE DAMASK, LINEN TOWELS, AND TOWELING, ALL KINDS White and Brown Cotton Shirtings and Sheetings, full Stock.

BED BLANKETS,

In Fine and Medium Quality, at very Low Prices.

CARPETINGS,

In Brussels and Three-ply Wool, and large assortment in lower grades of good quality, and beautiful patterns. Also, a fine assortment in Rugs and Straw Mattings.

SHOES.

This department is well supplied with Gent's, Ladies' and Children's, in all styles and qualities, fine goods and Low Prices.

CLOTHING DEPARTMENT.

Gent's, Boys' and Children's Clothing in variety, at very low prices. Gent's and Boys' Linen Bosom Shirts and Collars of best make, Wool Undervests, Neckties, &c. HATS and CAPS, large assortment for Men and Boys.

HARDWARE, FULL STOCK.

Wooden Ware, Pot Ware, and Tin Ware, Full Assortment. HARNESS AND SADDLERY. DOUBLE AND SINGLE HARNESS, Saddles, Bridles, &c., at all prices.

CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE IN GREAT VARIETY.

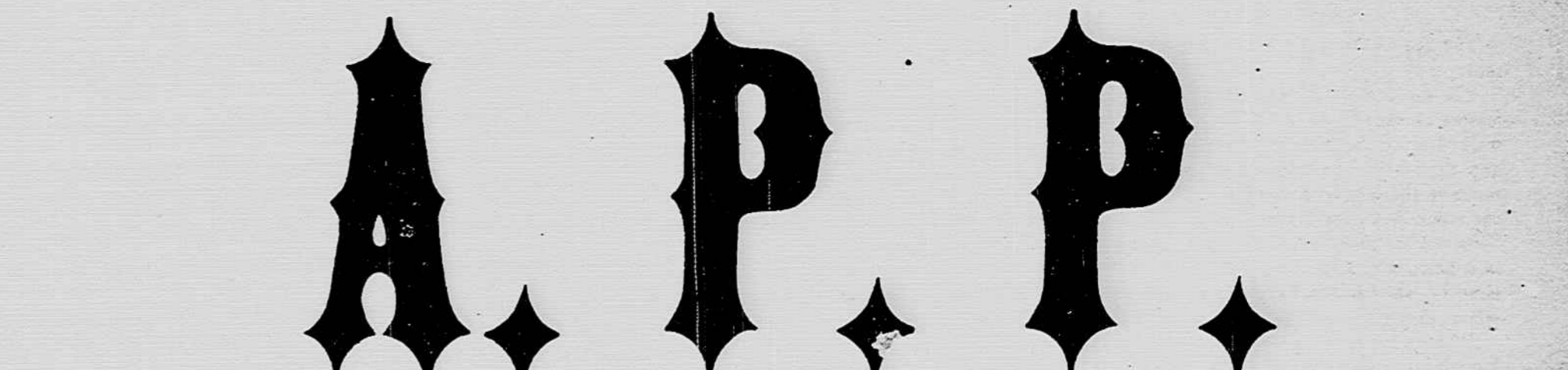
GROCERIES.

Heavy and Fancy Groceries of best quality, in large assortment, at lowest prices. My Stock has been bought with great care, with an experience of forty years as to the wants of the people, and consisting of everything useful, fashionable, and good, and prices are guaranteed against any house in this or other markets.

Thanking my friends for their liberal patronage for many years, I solicit a continuance, and invite an examination of all buyers.

A. A. SOLOMONS.

Sept. 26, 1888.



A Perfect Picnic for Bargain Seeker

SWEEPING REDUCTIONS

In Prices of All Our Goods.

We have determined to close out our entire stock of Men's, Youths' and Children's Clothing regardless of cost,

Our large stock of Ladies', Misses' and Children's Newmarkets, Modjeskas and Walking Jackets.

We also make great reductions in all other winter goods.

We mean business and it will be to the interest of all purchasers to come and see our goods and prices ere they buy and we guarantee that they will save money.

J. Ryttenberg & Sons.

SUMTER, S. C.