

The *Watchman and Southeron* was founded in 1860 and the *True Southeron* in 1866. The *Watchman and Southeron* now has the combined circulation and influence of both of the old papers, and is manifestly the best advertising medium in Sumter.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

We welcome to our force a new correspondent in the person of the "Lamb" from Boykin's. We trust our friend will favor us with just such a new letter each week.

The question of next municipal campaign will be whether the business streets shall be paved, or not, and a united demand of the community for water-works. Next week the paving question, and the general question of street management will be taken up in earnest.

Complaint is again being made at the manner in which the streets are worked. One grievous fault is, that the drains across the streets are not sunk in the ground to a level with the surface. When a vehicle runs over a twelve inch drain elevated from three to five inches above the street the shaking up the occupants get is severe and the strain to the vehicle is damaging.

The *State* and the *Greenview News* have been recently devoting considerable editorial space to the discussion of one another's democracy. So far the *State* appears to have the better of the argument. We believe, with the *State* that adherence to pure principles is better than subservience to party majority, and that the misuse of unprincipled men within the party is more to be dreaded than prospective negro domination. Also that negro rule in South Carolina is a thing of the past, and that the days of good stealing are gone to return no more, unless the rascals are put into office by democrats, such as Bro. Williams of the *News*, who would vote for a thief or assassin, if nominated by the Democratic party.

The reply of Railroad Commissioner H. R. Thomas to the letter of Maj. Geo. W. Earle, which was given last week, is published to-day. Mr. Thomas has replied to Maj. Earle's letter in a temperate and straightforward manner. He takes the opportunity to set at rest inquiries concerning his personal history that have frequently been made and hinted at. He gives references for his standing as a civil engineer, and if anyone still has doubts the best way to settle the matter is to write to the parties named by Mr. Thomas. From a knowledge of Mr. Thomas we believe he will be ready, at any time, to make further explanation, if necessary. The affidavits relative to the condition of the C. S. & N. Railroad at the time of his inspection, fortifies and substantiates his report, and hence there seems to be no further grounds for dispute.

THE COMING SLAVERY.

The readers of our city papers have learned that one Henry Smoot, a negro of Privater township, recently procured Dr. R. B. Furman's services to remove two extra fingers from the hands of his three week's old infant; that Henry himself had or has two extra fingers, as did his mother, while his grandfather had twelve toes as well as twelve fingers.

Briefly stated, this forms a typical instance of the doctrine of heredity, as defined and taught by the scientists, and as now generally accepted, we believe, by the learned world. Such structural peculiarities descending from one generation to another, suggest certain political and governmental peculiarities of the present time which bear a decided family likeness to certain others of more ancient date, when closely considered.

Any one familiar with the history of legislation and political sentiment during the last quarter of a century cannot fail to be impressed by the fact that government is looked upon and treated as occupying a paternal relation to the people of our country. Ever more and more has government been called on and made to do things that liken it to what a father might be expected to do for his children. Now that constitutionally, the country has become a nation, instead of a federation of sovereign states, such a tendency is inevitable, but the fact suggests certain dangers which are worthy of consideration.

In the first place, it involves the idea that prevailed in ancient Greece, where "the accepted principle was that the citizen belonged neither to himself nor to his family, but belonged to his city, the city being with the Greek equivalent to the community" or state. This doctrine, says a distinguished scientist "proper to a state of constant warfare," is a doctrine which is now sought unawares to be re-introduced "into a state intended to be purely industrial." In other words we are in danger of going back into a social condition from which it was believed we had long ago emerged, because while the era of militarism belongs to the comparative infancy of social development, the era of diversified industrialism is, legitimately, its latest and ripest product. Are the men who are the prophets and apostles of the political scheme embodied in the Ocala demands, aware of this fact? Do they see where the political momentum they are generating is likely to carry them? Are they seeking themselves "What type of social structure am I tending to produce?"

The demand for regulative legislation grows stronger yearly. The question daily asked is "We have already done this; why should we not do that?" "Every addition to and extension of the regulative policy involves an addition to the regulative agents—a further growth of officialism and an increasing power of the organization formed of officials," says the same great philosopher. A familiar illustration of this is the power of perpetuating party which the great army of government officials, postmasters, internal revenue agents, postal route agents and other employees have. "An organization of officials, once passing a certain stage of growth, becomes less and less resistible," says the same authority, and he adds "The multiplication of careers opened by a developing bureaucracy, tempts members of the classes regulated by it to favor its extension, as adding to the chances of safe and respectable places for their relatives." The people at large, led to look on benefits received through public agencies as gratis benefits, have their hopes continually excited by the prospects of more. A spreading education, furthering the diffusion of pleasing errors rather than of stern truths, renders such hopes both stronger and more general. Worse still, such hopes are ministered to by candidates for public office, to augment their chances of success, and leading statesmen, in pursuit of party ends, bid for popular favor by countenancing them. Getting repeated justifications from new laws harmonizing with their doctrines, political enthusiasts and unwise philanthropists push their agitations with growing confidence and success. Journalism, ever responsive to popular opinion, daily strengthens it by giving it voice; while counter opinion, more and more discouraged, finds little utterance."

Now, let us apply what is said here to the sub-treasury scheme, for example. The demand of the advocates of that scheme are that government shall become a money-lender in the first place, thereby coming into triumphant competition with banks and bankers and other individual money-lenders, who cannot afford to lend money at so low a rate of interest. How immensely conspicuous is the paternal idea of government here! Strange that those who declaim and reason powerfully against paternalism as involved in McKuleyism for example, do not lift up their eloquent voice against it as displayed in sub-treasuryism! They are birds of a feather, and should, therefore, flock together.

In the second place, the sub-treasury scheme contemplates a tremendous increase of officialism—Government agents in every county, with a central bureau in Washington. Thousands upon thousands of eager, hungry office-seekers to be provided for, and who will work with might and main to perpetuate their tenure of office. Who is to pay for it all? Farmers should wish to know that. Do they expect the government to create these thousands of offices without compensation? They may be told so, but it is not true—they will have their full share of it to pay in increased taxes of an indirect sort, but it means money out of their pockets all the same. Let them clearly realize that!

The philosopher from whom we have been quoting, says that the final result of such movements would be a revival of despotism. "A disciplined army of civil officials, like an army of military officials, gives supreme power to its head—a power which has often led to usurpation. It would need but a war with an adjacent society, or some internal discontent demanding forcible suppression, to at once transform a socialistic administration into a grinding tyranny, like that of ancient Peru; under which the mass of the people, controlled by grades of officials, labored for the support of the organization which regulated them, and were left with but a bare subsistence for themselves." No wonder he calls it "The Coming Slavery."

EARLY CLOSING.

In advising the clerks to form a union as a step towards obtaining from their employers, the merchants, concerted action on the question of early closing, it was not part of the advice to follow the practices of the Knights of Labor, or similar organizations, in the manner of their procedure. A strike, if their request was not granted, was not presupposed by us. We merely advised the formation of a union for the purpose of securing harmonious and united action on the part of the clerks, so that the result obtained would be concerted action on the merchants' part.

The transformation of this union into a Library Association or Y. M. C. A. would be easy and a natural result. Hence the formation of a union is strongly and earnestly advised.

That staunch business horse of F. E. Rembert & Co., who as they say "never follow" except our suggestions, have taken the initiative steps in doing justice to their fellow men, and are thereby doing a great and good work for the future of our young people. For we believe that the pressure will become so great that the other merchants will be bound also to follow our suggestion.

This is a grave question, and as much depends upon this as upon any question that has agitated our people for years. Our efforts in this line are not simply to give to the young men rest physically, but that they may have sufficient time to cultivate their minds socially, intellectually and morally. If they are kept in stores until a late hour, they look forward to the Sabbath not as a day to give to their Maker, but as a day of rest and social enjoyment, and therefore the day of all days loves its sanctity in their eyes, and as this is done, so are their consciences blunted to their moral obligations and duties.

Again the future prosperity of our country depends upon the young receiving a proper mental culture, and unless time is granted for pursuits of this kind their winds will be

dwarfed and a class of citizens will be cast upon the country, who are ignorant even of the organic principals of our government. We heartily commend the firm of Rembert & Co. for this effort in behalf of the young and feel that their act in this line will receive ample reward.

Darlington Fair.

The subject letter has been received from Gen. W. E. James, Secretary of the Darlington Fair Association. Sumter should send a large delegation of visitors to the fair, and thus help to make it a success.

PALMETTO, S. C., Oct. 14, 1891.

DEAR SIR: The fair at Darlington will be held on Oct. 29th, and 30th. There will be no special train on either road, but they will both sell reduced rate tickets from Sumter. The train on the C. S. & N. road reaches Darlington at 11 a.m., and returning leave at 7.05, which is a very good schedule and with a regular train running so near the right time, I could not ask for a special train on exhibition will be charged one fare, but on the return of the articles or animals the money will be refunded on the certificate of the Secretary. This applies to the A. C. L. for the present, but I have no doubt but that others will adopt the same or a similar one.

We hope to make our fair more attractive than ever before. Our exhibition of stock and fancy poultry will be finer than ever before. You will very greatly oblige me by giving this publicity through your paper.

Very truly yours,

W. E. JAMES, Secretary.

Round trip tickets will be on sale Oct. 29th and 30th, and return until the 31st, inclusive, at the following rates: Sumter, 90c; Oawgee, 80c; St. Charles, 75c; Elliotts, 65c.

Early Closing—A Suggestion.

To the Editor of the *Watchman and Southeron*: Now that the matters discussed in your issue of 14th instant, have been pondered by those concerned, I would suggest a practical method whereby it may be determined whether or no the merchants are ready for the question.

Let some influential clerk quietly interview the younger brethren in his own place of business first, getting their consent to attend a meeting of clerks at Army Hall on a night to be agreed upon. There let the question be discussed, and if practical unanimity as to the desired end is accomplished, and the ways and means therefor, be found to prevail, let a petition addressed to the merchants, be prepared and signed, requesting them to agree to close at 7.30 every night except Saturday, on which night 10 o'clock shall be the hour for closing. Then let a committee be appointed to circulate the petition and secure signatures, to report to an adjourned meeting, say, a week later.

I would further suggest that the young men can fortify their case considerably by first procuring the professional men, lawyers, doctors and ministers, to sign a paper earnestly recommending the granting of the petition, before they present the same to the merchants. I am sure that if the ladies were consulted, they would also unanimously recommend the granting of the petition.

If the boys are afraid of "getting into hot water" by taking part in this proposed action, let them come out and say so and I will do it for them. But they need not have any apprehensions, if only they will act together. Let them, however, understand this: that if the early closing is a success, they ought to consider themselves as in honor bound to do what they can to spend their evenings profitably, and not as late as former years. Let them ponder the deep truth contained in Proverbs 2:16-18; 5:21-23, and the whole of chapter 7. They should also study some of the walking parables of the righteous and of the wicked that are to be found in this city, and be warned in time. Dishonor and death walk hand in hand with dissipation.

Let the boys speak up. If they desire early closing, let them say so. If they do not desire it well, they are those who are most concerned. Providence helps those who help themselves. CHAS. GARLAND.

Railroad Commissioner Thomas Replies to Mr. Earle.

COLUMBIA, October 21.—Special: Railroad Commissioner Thomas sends to The News and Courier for publication the following reply to an attack made on him personally and officially in one of the Columbia morning papers: To the Editor of The News and Courier: I have read the abusive communication of Mr. George W. Earle on a report made by me in line of my duty as railroad commissioner, after inspecting the Charleston, Sumter and Northern Railroad. I beg to reply, but I do not propose to dishonor myself by slinging mud with Mr. Earle. In the first place I desire to say that I meant no reflection on Mr. Earle's engineering ability and did not intend to injure his business, for when I made the report I could not have told who did the engineering. I conceived it to be my duty to the State to make a truthful report. This I did.

Mr. Earle says "his profile and grade lines were twice during construction examined by two distinguished civil engineers representing interested Northern capitalists and met their approval." Now, these engineers come here in the interest of the Northern capitalists, and it was to their interest to lay the ties and rails as cheaply as possible and go to operating and get some returns for the capital invested, so they laid the grade line to conform as nearly as possible to the surface of the ground.

I said in my report: "The surface of the ground above Sumter is generally low and flat; the grade line should be raised two or three feet." When I first inspected this road I found fault with the track being laid on the surface through a long strip of level flat pine woods. One of the Northern capitalists pointed out the grade stakes, and said the material track would raise the road bed one to two feet up to the grade of the stake.

Nor Mr. George W. Earle has a reputation somewhat different from what he desires to give me. They say he is a high-toned, honorable gentleman, and I ask him if a great deal of the country above Sumter is not a low flat plain, very wet and sobby in rainy weather, and is not yet properly drained? I ask him if the road bed was up to the grade line approved by Northern capitalists between Mandeville and Mount Clare on September 23d, when I made my report? I ask him if during the wet spell in September, just before my inspection, there were not two to five washouts between Mandeville and Mount Clare? I ask him if the road bed across the Pec-Dee bottoms was up to grade on September 23d? I ask him if it is not

true that a good many cars have been ditched since our inspection on the part of the road I pronounced unsafe? I ask him if trains were not stopped at Sumter at night previous to my report and not allowed to run on over the portion of the road I pronounced unsafe?

I beg Mr. Earle, who, they say, is an honorable gentleman, to hold up his hand and answer these questions in justice to a man who has unintentionally stirred up his anger.

Yes, I am a Tillmanite. The Governor appointed me to the office of railroad commissioner hoping I would do my duty, and, God helping me, I will try to do it. As to my record, I am proud of it. I deny that I was ever a fugitive from justice. After the war I was accused of killing some negro soldiers who were terrorizing the women and children and old men about my old home at Summerton, Clarendon County. If there is any dishonor in the part I really did take just after the war in protecting the women and children of Confederate soldiers, then I am dishonored, for on that account alone I was a fugitive, with many of the best men of the country, from Radical persecution. I changed my name and sought the protection of the British flag sooner than be tried for my life before Radical Judges and negro juries. While away I was on an engineering corps in Prospect Park, Brooklyn. I went to Cooper Institute at night and took a course in civil engineering and topographical drawing. I was for about five years prior assistant engineer of the Poughkeepsie and Eastern Railway, under Mr. P. P. Dickinson, chief engineer. Mr. Dickinson is now in New York. I believe Mr. Earle knows him, and can find out from him whether or not I left the Poughkeepsie and Eastern Railroad with honor. I was then assistant engineer on the works of the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company, one of the richest railroad companies in America. I was stationed for years at Plattsburg, N. Y., building the New York and Canada Railroad at Plattsburg. I was made chief engineer of the Plattsburg and Malone Railroad, The Hon. Smith M. Welch, of Plattsburg, who was Ex-President Cleveland's friend and legal adviser, would tell Mr. Earle I left Plattsburg with honor. The nephew of Col. J. B. Palmer, of Columbia, worked with me. No doubt but Col. Palmer could tell Mr. Earle something of me. I then lived in London, Canada. My friends and associates were Dr. John R. Bruton, of Yorkville, (a fugitive like myself), Mr. Jas. Barnwell, a brother-in-law of Mr. Jos. W. Barnwell, now living in Beaufort; Mr. Edward Manigault and Alexander Mazzyk, of London, Canada. All these gentlemen knew me away from home. I am known at home by Ex-Gov. Richardson and a member of his staff, Dr. B. M. Badger, Jos. S. Caney, and in fact everybody around Summerton.

Now, Mr. George W. Earle, the insinuations you make against me are false. If they are not, you owe a duty to South Carolina, and that duty is to expose me, and I challenge you to do it. H. R. THOMAS.

He also submits the following affidavits and a postscript explanatory: SUMTER, October 21, 1891. State of South Carolina, Sumter County: Personally appeared before me James E. Jervey and made oath that during the wet season in September Mr. H. R. Thomas, railroad commissioner, was at my hotel when the bus came up with some women and children from the Charleston, Sumter and Northern Railroad, who wanted to go on above Sumter. The train had been running a regular schedule, but for some reason was stopped at Sumter. My hotel was full and I could not entertain the people. J. E. JERVEY.

Sworn to before me this 21st day of October, 1891. MARION MOISE, Notary Public. State of South Carolina, Sumter County: Personally appeared before me F. M. Beckham, Jr., who, being duly sworn, said that on October 12 he passed over the Charleston, Sumter and Northern Railroad in company with Mr. W. G. Stubbs and Drummer Brumson. On the Pec-Dee bottoms we were delayed two hours and a half by a wreck on the road, and again saw a freight train run off at Mandeville. We noticed the road to be in a wet and oozy condition. F. M. BECKHAM, Jr.

Sworn to before me this 21st day of October, 1891. J. N. CORBETT, Notary Public. P. S.—The lady and children left over in Sumter, as I understood it, had bought a ticket from Charleston to Bennettsville. The train was stopped in Sumter and not allowed to go on. The lady could not get in at the hotel and went off in the bus hunting a place to stay at 9 o'clock at night. Mr. Bellinger, a drummer for Wagener & Co., was at the hotel waiting to go on towards Darlington, and was very judgment because he was delayed in Sumter, without the stop in Sumter being advertised in the papers. My duty to the public was plain, and I beg to say that the railroad commissioners have not in any way condemned my report, but I believe they endorse it in toto, and by the train stopping in Sumter the general manager also endorsed my report. H. R. THOMAS.

It is quite the fashion "now to take De Witt's Little Early Risers for liver, stomach and bowel disorders. They are small pills, but mighty good ones W. H. Gilliland & Co. sells them.

FOR SALE.

A TWO-HORSE FAMILY CARRIAGE for sale cheap. Is in first-class condition. Apply to C. T. MASON, Jr., Oct. 28—31.

FOR SALE.

LOT WITH STORE HOUSE AND OTHER buildings, lately occupied by R. P. MAYER, as a General Merchandise store, May-ville, S. C. Best terms. Apply to JOS. B. MAYES, Atlantic Coast Line Depot, Sumter, Oct. 27—1f.

FOR SALE.

FINE COTTON PLANTATION, containing nearly 1,500 acres, situated about seven miles north of Sumter, C. H. It has on it a two-story dwelling house on brick basement, and numerous tenant houses and yields a handsome annual income in rents. Apply to T. W. LEE or R. W. LEE, Executors. Oct. 27—4f.

The greatest Musical show in the world will be here next Tuesday night Nov. 3d. Cleveland is the King of Minstrelsy.

Just opening a new line of Silverware cheapest in the city. T. G. SCOFF.

The public is invited to see my full stock before purchasing elsewhere T. G. SCOFF.

I am daily getting crockery and glassware, china tea and dinner sets. Call and see at T. G. SCOFF'S.

Dr. T. J. Williamson, Rustic, Fla., says: The bottle of Bradyrotine you sent me was given three ladies who were suffering from headache. They said the effect was instantaneous and very satisfactory.

The health and beauty of children can be restored by giving them Shiner's Indian Vermifuge to kill the worms that darken their complexion.

THE MARKETS.

SUMTER, S. C., Oct. 28, 1891. COTTON—Receipts for week ending October 28, about 1,600 bales. Following are the quotations: Low Middling 7 1/4; Middling 7 3/4. Market steady.

GRAIN—The following wholesale quotations were furnished by one of the largest establishments in this city, and which does a large wholesale business. Bacon—D. S. C. R. Sides 7 1/2@7 3/4; C. R. 6 1/2@7; Smoked Shoulders 8 1/2@9; Hams No. 2 7 1/2@8; " 1 13@15c. Sugar—Out load 9 1/2c; " Standard Granulated 4 1/2c; Coffee 18@20c; Tea 30@60c; Flour according to grade \$5@5.50.

CHARLESTON, S. C., Oct. 27, 1891. COTTON.—Market quiet. Low Middling 7 1/4; Middling 7 3/4; Good Middling 8 1/4.

WANTS.

ADVERTISEMENTS of five lines or less will be inserted under this head for 25 cents for each insertion. Additional lines 5 cents per line.

FOR SALE—A good able-bodied horse, perfectly gentle and suitable for the buggy or any kind of work. Apply to JOHN R. HAYNSWORTH.

OCT. 28—2f. FOR SALE—A large, stylish horse, suitable for single draft. Can be seen at Harby's stables. R. D. LEE.

DRESSMAKING—We are prepared to make dresses at our home on Republican street in the latest styles and at reasonable prices. Give us a call. Mrs. M. J. Brunson and Daughters. Oct. 21—2f.

FOR SALE—Planting lands in all sections of Sumter and Clarendon counties. Small farms and large plantations, city lots in all parts of the city. W. H. INGRAM, Broker. October 14.

FOR SALE—A very desirable lot for sale on Calhoun Street, in the city of Sumter. Apply to A. B. STUCKEY. Sept. 30—4f.

WANTED—TO SELL HOUSE AND LOT on Republican Street. Apply at his office.

WANTED—Any young person desiring to attend a first-class business, shorthand or Telegraph College can get valuable information by seeing the Editor of this paper in person.

WANTED—Active men to canvass for the sale of the Improved Singer Sewing Machine, the fastest seller on the market. None but active men need apply. Address, L. W. Hydrick, District Agent, Sumter S. C. Aug. 26—2f.

Co-Partnership Notice.

SUMTER, S. C., Oct. 16, 1891. WE HAVE THIS DAY FORMED A CO-PARTNERSHIP for the purpose of doing a general banking, insurance and commission business, under the firm style of Pringle & Rivers, Agents.

PRINGLE & RIVERS, AGENTS, — SUMTER, S. C. — American Fire Insurance Co., New York. — New York Bowery Fire Insurance Co., — Knoxville, Tenn. — Standard Oil Company, Kentucky. — Equitable Building and Loan Association, Augusta, Ga.

W. ALSTON PRINGLE, JR. J. CHARLTON RIVERS. NICKEL SAVING BANK, — CHARLESTON, S. C. — Deposits of 5c and upwards received. Interest allowed at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum. Payable quarterly on first days of January, April, July and October. Careful Attention Given to Collections. — PRINGLE & RIVERS, — AGENTS. — Oct. 28

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E. E. REMBERT & CO.

In consideration of the interest manifested in our business by our salesmen and the hours of labor performed by them, we have concluded that we are due them some consideration, and in behalf of humanity we have concluded to release them from their labors at 7.30 on every evening except Saturday. Therefore, we wish to announce to our customers that hereafter our store will close promptly at 7.30. We beg of our customers to bear this in mind and come in for purchases before that hour.

Remember that in this as in everything else we lead and never follow.

Edward E. Rembert & Co.,

Wholesale and Retail Grocers and General Merchants.

SIGN OF THE BIG HAND. Corner Main and Republican Sts. SUMTER, S. C.

SHOES! SHOES!

DREW, SILBY & CO'S Ladies' and Misses' Fine Shoes, equal to any fine goods made.

Splendid line Childrens' and Infants' fine shoes.

Ladies Rubber Shoes, 25c, 40c, 50c and 75c.

Complete stock Gents' and Boys' shoes and rubbers.

Ladies' Plaid and Stripe Gossamers, \$2.00 to \$3.50.

Gents' Rubber Coats in many styles and various prices.

Ladies' Kid Gloves, (Alexander's and Foster's), dressed and undressed, new lot just received, all sizes.