

The Watchman and Southron.

Published Every Wednesday,
—BY—
N. G. OSTEEN,
SUMTER, S. C.

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Aug 7.

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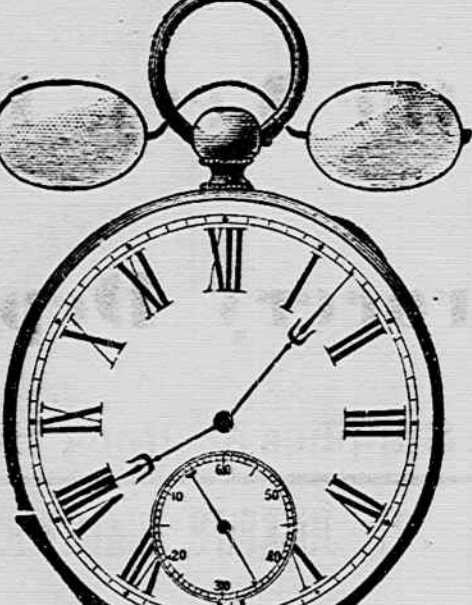
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Feb. 12

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LARGE PLANTATION of 1500 acres, with two-story dwelling house—2 1/2 miles North of Sumter, S. C., and known as the "Lee Plantation." All arable land now under lease to first-class tenants. If not sold by November 15th will be withdrawn in order to receive leases for ensuing year.

THE "HIGH PLANTATION" of 900 acres in Princeton Township. Comfortable dwelling house and about 200 acres arable land, now under lease; balance in choice pine timber. Will be sold at a low price and on long time.

THE MIDDLETON or Jaffray land of 1700 acres, on the Wateree River adjoining the Heitense place and others. Principally timbered land.

THE RAMSAY PLANTATION of 1700 acres in Manchester Township—partly cleared and under cultivation.

THE WELSH or J. K. McDevitt tract of 125 acres in Shiloh Township—partly cleared and under cultivation.

THE HAMP VAUGHN or Moran tract of 96 1/2 acres in Concord Township—partly cleared and under cultivation.

THE R. E. MILDROW tract of about 150 acres—adjoining lands of J. E. McCutchen and others—mostly cleared and under cultivation. Parties desiring to purchase may call on or address, John J. Mildrow, Reel, Wisacky, P. O.

FARM OF TWENTY ACRES, adjoining lands of Geo. F. Epperson, Estate of William Lewis and others, beyond Turkey Creek. Cleared and under cultivation.

400 ACRES in Providence Township, known as the "Coburn Place," about one-half in cultivation, balance in timber. If not sold by November 15th the same will be withdrawn and lease renewed for coming year. Apply to
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Aug. 2—3m.

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Subsiding in the Financial Field.

Joel Chandler Harris, special correspondent of the Atlanta Constitution, has written in his paper the following review of the financial situation as seen by him from the Congressional Gallery:

Washington, September 11.—About the time that voting day comes around, the sturdy farmer, and the worthy laboring man are very large and important factors in the financial situation. I do not know a bigger man than the farmer when his vote is wanted. He is "the bone and sinew of the country." And there is no more beautiful occupation than farming. Did you ever realize the full significance of that fact? As the farmer is the "bone and sinew" of things, as it were, so farming is "the basis of all other occupations." It is funny that this should be so, and the reason I know it is so because all the congressional "bimetallists" have come right out and said so. Being rampant and savage "bimetallists," they have not sought to cover up or conceal anything. They have come right out and made these remarks—they have said in so many words that the farmer is a big thing and that farming is the basis of all occupations—and they have allowed the Congressional Record to divulge the whole business. They have said that labor is the true measure of value, money being merely the expression of it; and they have rubbed their lily-white hands together and declared that if anybody on earth is entitled to the sympathy and respect of statesmen and the rest of the body politic, it is the farmer, "the bone and sinew," and so forth.

Nevertheless, when we come down to business, the farmer is not in it. When the business senate (to go no further) is herded together and compelled to go right ahead with the great work of cultivating a crop of legislation, it is discovered that the banks and the people who have money are to reap the benefits of it. On paper, the farmer is a famous fellow. As a matter of fact it often happens that, in legislation he has no more show than a John Thomas cat in a hailstorm. It is curious how sensitive the senate is when the banks are touched on. I have been sitting around in the gallery watching that body with all the interest and curiosity that a provincial can muster up, and I have noticed that no matter how many seats are empty, or how many senators are asleep in the cloak rooms, the moment some untamed Jacksonian democrat yells out "banks," the senators rush in to find out what it is about—John Sherman with his bony hands clenching, old man Hoar with his face a-flare, and all the great band of "bimetallists," republicans and democrats, with alarm on their faces—everything suddenly becomes alive and alert.

"Banks, did you say?" one will cry. "I trust the gentleman will not push his remarks too far. The matter is a very delicate one. We are in the presence of a great North American crisis. I move that the whole matter be referred to the 'feenawce' committee."

There seems to be a sore place somewhere in the banks, and some of the senators seem to have set themselves up as wet nurses for them. Hit a bank and you hit all the "bimetallists" in the senate, and they make as much fuss about it as a little nigger who has been accidentally hit on the shin with a baseball bat. The poor, unfortunate banks! how could anybody be so cruel as to criticize them for their efforts to get more bonds and to make money? But if a dozen men were to stand up in the senate chamber and yell out "farmer!" till their eyes popped out, John Sherman would snore in the cloak room, and all the "bimetallists" who are trying to smash the party platform would make no response whatever.

The farmers can take care of themselves. When there is no campaign afoot and election day is not on hand, they are not in it. But the banks—well, the banks, with their more than \$800,000,000 of capital need watching and nursing. If they want an issue of gold bonds they ought to have it. If they want to knock down the price of farm products so that their European partners can get wheat and cotton more cheaply, they ought to be allowed to do it. If they want to make all debts payable in gold—every dollar of which is now worth a dollar and one-half in any kind of property—why should any crank stand in their way?

Senator Hill was lampooned and caricatured and editorially abused by the eastern papers when he supported the resolution offered by Peffer ten days ago, and Senator George may expect no better treatment. The whole effort seems to be to protect the banks in their violations of the law, if they have violated it, by staying the hand of investigation by covering up and concealing from the public the details of the bold and brilliant scheme by which the banks brought on the panic and the methods by which they carried it out.

What is behind it all? If the banks in a period of panic and monetary stringency have allowed their reserves to fall below the amount fixed by law, surely there is a simple and satisfactory explanation. Why, then, should John Sherman rush in out of the cloak room as if his coat-tails were afire when Senator Peffer proposes to introduce a resolution of investigation and have it acted on? Why does Senator McPherson rise in his seat, as mad as a wet hen and appeal to the senate to have the resolution referred to the "feenawce" committee, there to be buried? There is some explanation for all this excited opposition, and it is not to be found in the character of the resolution itself.

What is the trouble? Well, those who are not on the inside will have to exercise their reasoning faculties a little. They will have to put this and that together, and fit fact to inference so as to give birth to a logical conclusion. What is it the banks and their spokesmen here desired to have covered up? The fact that their reserves fell at one time below the legal limit? Nonsense! They admitted the fact, advertised it far and wide, tried to make

it contribute to the "lack of confidence," so-called, and urged it as another argument in favor of the repeal of the Sherman law. This being so, what threatening or dangerous element is to be found in the Peffer resolution? Everybody knows the law was violated, and everybody that takes a serious interest in our finances desires to know whether the violation was the result of the so-called panic, or whether it was the result of a desire on the part of the banks themselves to contribute to the scare. That is the pith and marrow of the whole business, and to this center the Peffer resolution adroitly tends. The banks and their friends here are opposed to the resolution because it means an investigation, and such an investigation might lead to disclosures that would give the public a too intimate idea of the methods of modern financiering.

III
Jeffersonian democracy was strengthened and supplemented by the Jacksonian type—the type that depends as much on backbone as on diplomacy. Andrew Jackson, I have heard, was one of the politest gentlemen the country has produced, but he did not depend on politeness any further than he thought it would stretch. He and his party did not put on kid gloves when they got after the first great national bank this country had. There was only one bank then, and its power and influence is no more to be compared to the 3,000 banks that now have control of the country than a cricket is to be compared to a cornorant. The issue that was fought out in Andrew Jackson's day will have to be fought out again, and it will be by far the most memorable campaign the country has ever witnessed. If the old United States bank had too much power in Andrew Jackson's day, what is to be said of the associated United States banks of New York, Boston and Philadelphia? The banks of these three cities control the finances of the country, control legislation, and can exercise more control than any party that the people can bring into the field. And yet, if the republic is to be perpetuated in good shape, privileges must be possessed by the people as well as by the associated banks, and the practically exclusive control of the people's money must be taken out of their hands.

You may expect to see the Peffer resolution disappear in the "feenawce" committee, where the undertaker is ready to dispose of it. Any sort of an investigation would unearth facts in regard to recent events that must be kept covered up at all hazards. Keep your eyes open, and you will see that any legislation in favor of the banks has the right of way. This is truer now than ever, since republicans and democrats have become converted to the grand doctrine of goldbug "bimetallism" and all are under the lead of that glorious patriot and man of the people, John Sherman.

Your readers must not suppose that I am including southern banks in the national bank syndicate that has charge of the machinery here. If it were necessary to include them I would do so unhesitatingly. They are too far away from the power house. The current that reaches them is too feeble to do any harm. In point of fact, a gentleman who was pointed out to me as a New York banker, made some remarks in my hearing that gave the southern banks a very clean bill of health indeed. He said, in substance, that the southern banks had no more idea of the situation than a Kentucky mule. "The damned little corncrib affairs," he said, scornfully, "have actually been using clearing house certificates as a circulating medium." I gathered from his remarks that the "corncrib" affair, without knowing what they were about, had simply flung the fat in the fire. His tone was not only contemptuous, but very angry, and I judged that the employment of clearing house certificates, as a currency for the public by the southern banks, had hurt his feelings.

IV.
Now, this is a pretty come off, isn't it? What if it should happen that the southern banks, taking the situation seriously and providing a prompt and an efficacious remedy, have been the means of bringing to a sudden and an unexpected end the great scheme of providing a financial stringency as an excuse for repealing the Sherman law and forcing an issue of bonds? Turn the matter over in your minds a moment. Look at it carefully. Just as soon as the bank syndicate found that the southern banks were issuing clearing house certificates to the public, thus putting an end to the financial stringency, by providing a currency just as good as bank or treasury notes, there was a sudden collapse of the "panic" in the east. Southern banks were promptly notified that they could get all the currency they wanted. There was a complete reaction. It is a great victory for the "corncrib" banks of the south, though, possibly, it is an unintentional one.

But observe what follows! The machinery of the internal revenue is at once put in motion to suppress these clearing house currency notes, by levying the 10 per cent. tax on them. They have been found too useful. Can it be feared that their employment, even in an emergency, will give the people a taste for state banks of issue, and the clearing house currency is to be promptly suppressed? The bank syndicate is wide awake. Please don't forget that. The probability is that the "corncrib" banks of the south will not soon have another opportunity to break up a bond-forging scheme by issuing a local currency.

JOEL CHANDLER HARRIS
A Model Newspaper Man.
Writing of Mr. E. B. Hook of the Augusta Chronicle, the Evening Herald, of that city, says: "The News and Courier recently made the comment that Mr. E. B. Hook was a judge of whisky, and had frowned at the staff sold by Carolina dispensaries. Mr. Hook never tasted an intoxicant of any kind in his life, never smoked a cigar, never had tobacco in his mouth, never played a card, never played pool or billiard, never bet on a horse race and he's know a chicken gam from the triangle of a French pool table."

No Prohibition in This.

COLUMBIA, September 12.—Governor Tillman has come out in a letter to Senator Fuller, of Laurens, in which he gives an outline of one of the dispensary amendments he proposes to offer to the Legislature. He evidently wants to make a good financial showing and is unwilling to have those counties that have dispensaries and make a dollar or two contribute it to the support of a constabulary in alleged prohibition counties. He wants dispensaries established for a dual purpose—to make money by which taxes may be reduced and to keep down the terrible "blind tigers."

Governor Tillman has "sat down" most beautifully on the county board in Laurens, and the opening of the dispensary there upon a questionable basis has been postponed for a few days at least.

SENATOR FULLER'S PROTEST.

Senator Fuller had the boldness to bring the irregularities to the Governor's attention. Here is the letter he wrote:

LAURENS, S. C., September 5, 1893.
Governor B. R. Tillman, Chairman Board of Control of State Dispensary—Dear Sir: I write to inform you from the standpoint of those who, in exercising their right of local opinion under the dispensary act, prefer prohibition to the dispensary, of certain events transpiring here which should sincerely concern yourself and other members of the board, as being chiefly responsible under the law for the fair and faithful administration of the Dispensary Act. I myself am afraid of the Dispensary Act as a whole, but more of its local operation, and only ask that our right of local option under the law shall be respected, and a fair, impartial and non-partisan enforcement of the Act be had. Nobody here has asked or expressed anything else than that the question shall be decided by ascertaining on which side stood the majority of bona fide freehold voters.

The county board met on the 21st of August last, and the petition of Langston for the office of county dispenser was presented and contained fifty-five names, twenty one whites and thirty-four colored, the list of non-signers contained seventy-four whites and two colored. The board refused to appoint Langston on account of not having a majority of freehold voters as signers, and it was so recorded by their secretary in their minutes.

Last Friday, September 1, inst., the enclosed printed card, written by the county chairman, H. F. Gary, appeared in the Laurens Herald for the board to meet on the 4th inst., which, for rank partisanship and wanton flings at Prohibitionists and church members, is hard to surpass.

Well, the board met and the fact was ascertained that the old petition was renewed and was circulated after the case was adjudicated on the 21st, and when it was known that parties who signed wanted their names off, and thirty-four negroes and nineteen whites were added—fifty-three in all. One of these, J. L. M. Fry, declared in my presence and that of several others: "That his name had been used without his authority, and that he didn't want to be mixed up with it." Well, here were fifty-three names added to the petition which were never on file in the clerk's office a single day as the law required. Where did all these new freehold voters come from? H. E. Gary, chairman, sounded the keynote when he said in his call: "Every citizen of this incorporation should be enfranchised on a question where he is so much interested."

And the business of enfranchising landless citizens began in order to evade and defeat the law and the will of the people. Since the board met on the 21st ultimo fifty-three new names had been enfranchised and added to the petition, besides six other names who had previously signed, but had no land, making fifty-nine new freehold voters in all. A. R. Sullivan, candidate for dispensary book-keeper, and brother-in-law to H. E. Gary, chairman, decided to these fifty-nine citizens one-eighth acre, more or less, of worthless land, each share 1 1/2 part of one acre, and the job was done, the necessary majority of freehold voters was secured, and the board of control, without requiring the names of these new freehold voters to be filed at all, as the law directs, granted the petition of Langston and established the dispensary. (The deeds of conveyance of this one-eighth acre of land to these fifty-nine citizens are on record in the clerk's office.)

But it is proper to add, that you may understand the whole truth, that A. R. Sullivan executed two deeds of conveyance of identically the same one-eighth acre of land first to nineteen whites on August 31, 1893, and the second on September 2 to forty negroes, every boundary precisely the same. These nineteen whites were enfranchised only four days before the final meeting of the board on September 4 and the forty negroes but two days before, and all were counted by the board as bona fide freehold voters. If any of these alleged facts are denied they will be substantiated if allowed an opportunity.

Having thus submitted so much of our case as we deem of special importance, we respectfully ask the ruling of the State board on the questions—

First—Will the State board recognize the legality of the action of the county board in establishing a dispensary acted on and refused, to which petition a considerable number of new signers were added and not put on file the ten days required by law?

Second—Does the State board of control recognize those fifty-nine newly enfranchised citizens, who own the 1 1/2 part of an acre of land each, as bona fide freehold voters of Laurens, according to the intent and spirit of the Dispensary Act?

Third. If so, will any fractional part of an acre of land legally conveyed to a person constitute him a freeholder for the purposes of this Act or whatever rights and privileges by law inure to freeholders?

In conclusion I respectfully ask, in behalf of the Prohibitionists of the city and county of Laurens, the white voters of which cast a heavy majority in the general primary of 1892 for prohibition, full and careful consideration of the facts and questions presented and our rights under the Dispensary Act.

Very respectfully,
A. C. FULLER.

THE GOVERNOR'S ANSWER.

Governor Tillman sent the following reply to Senator Fuller:

Hon. A. C. Fuller, Laurens, S. C.—Dear Sir: In reply to your letter of September 5 I beg to say the State board of control is endeavoring to comply strictly with the dispensary law and have all others do so. If your statements are true, which I do not doubt, the county board of Laurens has transcended their authority, and we will not recognize their action as legal.

Your questions in regard to the legal status of the newly enfranchised citizens is one for the Courts to pass on. The irregularity of the action of the county board arose from not having the petition on file ten days required by law. We will not lend ourselves to anything that is unlawful in establishing a dispensary in Laurens, though we know that a dispensary is the safest and cheapest remedy against blind tigers, and that the State constables cannot be paid except from the revenue derived from dispensaries.

I will only endeavor to enforce the dispensary law where dispensaries do not exist until the Legislature meets, and then ask that the prohibition counties which object to dispensaries shall support the constables by taxation.

If you are a friend to the dispensary law you will not lend your influence to our enemies and the enemies of prohibition to prevent the establishment of at least one dispensary for each county. I hope you understand by this time that the struggle is not one between prohibition and the dispensary, but a struggle between the dispensary and the license system which we have just overthrown. I shall write the chairman of the county board that his board must comply with the terms of the dispensary law before a dispensary can be established in Laurens.

Yours respectfully,
B. R. TILLMAN, Governor.

The Governor also wrote to chairman Gary that the action of the board had been irregular if the ten days notice had not been given and that such must be done.

Mr. Gary wrote in reply that the list had been kept open from time to time; that more than ten days had elapsed since the original list had been filed, and that the new names were regarded as a part of the first list filed.

Governor Tillman wrote that ten days would have to elapse after the complete list had been filed before it could be considered. It is said that a great many of the names filed were of freeholders made on the day the list was considered.

Governor Tillman seems to be very well satisfied with the way the dispensaries are springing up on all sides, and expects to have the Legislature put one in every county in the State.—News and Courier.

Diabolical Scheme of a Pension Attorney

A despatch from Pittsburg, Pa., says:—One of the most despicable schemes of which man can be guilty was laid bare in the local pension office in the Federal building yesterday.

A pension attorney has been urging old soldiers to organize and to assassinate President Grover Cleveland and Secretary Hoke Smith of the Department of the Interior.

This pension attorney, a man reputed to be of sound mind, but in the light of his infamous scheme his reputation on that point will likely need investigation—has been engaged at Secretary Smith's endeavor to make the pension lists rolls of honor. He says it is an attempt to starve old soldiers, and that the only way to stop it is to assassinate the President and the Secretary.

The pension attorney is not a Pittsburger, it is said, although his identity is kept secret for the present.

The entire matter has been reported to Washington and will be investigated by the authorities. The foolish attorney has made himself liable to charges inciting to treason.

The Iron Bridge Damaged.

The high water caused a land slide on the Western bank of the Wateree river last Thursday night, and this caused the two piers of the Wateree Iron Bridge on that side of the river to sink in about 2 1/2 feet. An expert engineer has examined the bridge, and says there is no danger in crossing upon it in its present condition. It has been temporarily fixed.—Wateree Messenger.

The board of control has declined to grant permission to allow the Charleston dispensaries to keep open until 9 p. m.

A Father Recovers his Daughter.

An abduction case came to light in Columbia on September 11th. After three years of search, D. A. Culey of Salisbury, N. C., found his thirteen-year-old daughter, Jane, there. She was living, apparently against her will, with her step-father, B. H. Wood, an ex-deacon of the church. He is fifty years old. Between sons the child told her father that a year ago Wood forced her to live with him as man and wife.

Miss Culey has a sweet and pretty face, framed by beautiful golden hair. She is rather tall and slender, and while bright, is modest and retiring.

She said that three years ago Wood came by the house when her father was away and forced her against her wishes to go with him. He took her to Lancaster and then to Jacksonville, Fla., where they stayed some time. He then carried her to Balloch county, Georgia where they remained about one year. Wood made a crop there. Then they went to Augusta, and after that to Barnwell, S. C.

They arrived in Columbia last December. After working on a farm there a while Wood went to work in the State dispensary and has been there ever since. Miss Culey said that he treated her badly at times. She ran away once but he caught her after she had gotten six miles. He tried to whip her once. She was afraid that if Wood was released he would kill her.

Culey said that for three years he had been tracking Wood. Friday before the storm, a railroad man from his section was in Columbia and recognized Wood there and also found out that he was living with Miss Culey. This was communicated to the father, who after getting the necessary papers, went there. Wood is a tall, homely man. He said that about eight years ago his name was mixed up in such a way with a woman that he left home and "came within an ace of committing suicide." He was once a deacon in the church. He declared that the girl wanted to come with him and denied that he had been living with her as his wife. He said that he had always treated her well, having sent her to school in Barnwell.

"I came here because she and a boy in Barnwell were trying to run off and get married. The reason I did not communicate with anybody at home, was because I could not write. I sent her to school so she could learn to write. I tried to get her to write, but she would not. She and her brother once undertook to run away by themselves. I didn't persuade her to come with me. I think the child is scared."

Culey and his daughter left for home and Wood will be taken back for trial by an officer.

Beaufort Negroes in the Mode.

A special to the News and Courier from Beaufort says: With regard to the condition of the storm sufferers, I am rejoiced to say that as far as can be learned everything is getting along very nicely. The immediate suffering is being relieved. No serious sickness has been reported. The work of distribution seems to be well organized. The people are getting into their normal good and happy spirits and all Beaufort is getting along very well. The worst is perhaps over. With the work of charity well systematized and a generous response from the people of the United States there is no ground for apprehension but there must be a supply of food. The Beaufort committee, I am informed, has received \$2,664.30. In addition to this supplies of food and clothing have been received from every part of the country.

The committee holds nightly meetings and a system of distribution has been adopted. The Douglas fund is being turned over to the general fund.

Col. J. G. White is chairman of the citizens relief committee through which the New York Evening Post fund is being carefully distributed among the needy. The matter was brought to the special attention of the Post through Mrs. G. F. Lawrence. In addition to the fund of \$1,396.50 through the Post there have come immense packages of clothing, evidently from the very best class of New Yorkers.

Although fifty packages of good clothing have been distributed to whites and colored, I found a quantity of really fine clothing on hand, so good that the committee think it best to sell the articles and use the money for food. There are almost new plush dolmans from Emil Pasquier, Paris and Moscowitz, Fifth avenue, New York; brocade silk wrappers, tailor made business suits, French shoes, etc. There will be Parisian styles among the negroes of the sea islands for once.

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