

The Watchman and Southron.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, 1896.

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.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Mr. Hartwell M. Ayer, after two years retirement from the ranks of journalism, has resumed control of the Florence Times. He will be welcomed by his many friends throughout the State, who will unite in urging him to eschew farming from this time forth and stick to his natural calling, newspaper work, unremunerative and unhonored though it may be.

Mr. John P. Coffin, the founder of the Florence Daily Times, has severed his connection with that paper, but will not retire from actual connection with the newspaper world. He will continue the publication of the Southern Real Estate and Financial Journal. Mr. Coffin was the pioneer in the field of the afternoon daily in small towns, and his paper and the Daily Item are the only ones that have succeeded in surviving and becoming firmly established. Mr. Coffin is an energetic and hustling newspaper man and his retirement from the daily field is a decided loss.

The members of the City Council know fully as well as any one the record of the fire department, and being in the possession of this knowledge, know what the department merits at the hands of the city. They know the unpaid services the department has rendered, and they know that the department has not and will not ask for remuneration. All that is asked is sufficient money to provide a suitable equipment and to pay the necessary expenses of maintaining the department on the present efficient basis. This is all that is asked, and furthermore, it should be granted.

Senator Tillman and Senator Hill furnished amusement for the Senate and a large crowd of visitors last week. The press reports say that Senator Tillman made his usual speech, relieved only occasionally by personal flings at Senator Hill. There was nothing new in the speech, simply a repetition of the tirade against Cleveland, Carlisle and the financial policy of the administration. On the other hand Senator Hill kept himself well within the bounds of parliamentary usage, and nevertheless, succeeded in scoring a decided victory over his opponent, who was called to order and made to apologize for his violations of the ordinary rules of debate. Senator Tillman is never at his best when he has an opponent, and seldom succeeds in accomplishing his purpose. He must have the crowd in sympathy with him and have no one at hand to expose the weak points in his speeches. Senator Hill is an antagonist that any man might well hesitate before joining battle with, and that Senator Tillman was not driven from the field entirely worsted should be a source of satisfaction to his friends and supporters.

The County Conventions held throughout the State were fair indicators of the condition of public opinion on political issues now before the people. A review of the various conventions is therefore of interest to all who would keep abreast with the politics of the State. In Greenville county the extreme reformers controlled the convention, and a declaration in favor of free silver, Tillman and the State administration was placed on record. M. L. Donaldson and J. Walter Gray, moderate reformers were turned town. Donaldson has been member of the National Democratic Executive Committee and Gray, member of the State Executive Committee. Aiken endorsed Tillman and Evans and declared for free silver at all hazards. Beaufort divided the delegation between the conservatives and reformers. Edgefield sent a solid delegation to the State Convention with Tillman at the head. A resolution binding the delegate to abide by the action of the National Convention was voted down. Lancaster sent an extreme Tillman delegation to Columbia. The conservatives and moderate reformers took no part in the Convention. Tillman was endorsed for President. Newberry carried out a cut and dried programme arranged by a caucus of reformers beforehand. Free silver resolutions were adopted. Kershaw elected a

solid silver delegation to Columbia, each delegate declaring himself for silver first, last and all the time. Darlington elected a free silver delegation. The convention was composed entirely of extreme reformers, who ran affairs to suit themselves. Chester elected a reform delegation but left them un instructed. Hampton elected a solid silver delegation and adopted resolutions demanding free coinage at 16 to 1. Lexington did likewise. Oconee took the same action. Clarendon elected a solid reform delegation and endorsed McLaurin for Congress. Spartanburg elected a solid reform silver delegation but did not instruct the delegates. The Williamsburg convention favored free silver but sent an un instructed delegation of reformers. Richland elected a straightout delegation and adopted resolutions demanding that all delegates to the National Convention be instructed to stand by the action of that convention. Charleston sent a delegation divided between conservatives and reformers.

It will be seen that this State as a whole is strongly in favor of free silver, and that Tillman will, in all probability control the approaching State Convention. He will be able, we believe, to name the delegates to the national convention. Should he do so, he will select delegates that he can control, and he will be able to bolt the convention with a solid delegation at his back, if he desires to do so. This is the situation—one man power pure and simple.

The resolution adopted by the County Convention requesting the Democratic clubs to take steps at once for the registration of every democrat in the county was a very timely action. There are not less than 2,800 white men of voting age in this county—more than 2,700 votes have been polled in a primary election—but up to this date scarcely more than 900 have been registered. This small registration shows an indifference that is as unaccountable as it is criminal. We cannot conceive how white men and democrats can be so careless and neglectful of their rights. When the election day arrives and white men find themselves disfranchised they will have no one to blame save themselves. Each man should appoint himself a committee of one to see that one man, and that man himself, is registered without delay. The clubs should act on the suggestion of the county convention at once, appoint active committees on registration, and every democrat in the county should be registered without fail. Registration is a matter of the very first importance and should not be neglected.

LOWER TELEPHONE RATES.

The subjoined clipping from the Greenville Mountaineer contains information that will serve an excellent purpose if it will set the people of this city to thinking and give the Sumter Telephone Company the cue as to what it should do at this time.

There is, and has been for several years, a general complaint throughout the country against the excessive rents charged by the Bell Telephone monopoly, and failing in the effort to induce the Bell people to reduce the excessive charges to a reasonable basis, the people have formed independent companies and established telephone exchanges of their own. From the data obtainable it is evident that these independent telephone exchanges have been successful in every respect. Good service has been obtained, rents have been reduced from a third to one-half and still the stockholders have received handsome dividends on their investment. Where these independent telephone exchanges have been established and low tariff put into operation the telephone has become a popular necessity and the number of patrons of the exchange has exceeded anything ever known or anticipated under the regime of the Bell monopoly. Three people would rent telephones at \$15 per year where one would when the rent is \$30 for the same period, and there would be a constant increase in the patronage and a consequent increase in the profits to the stockholders.

Another thing that is needed is the extension of the telephone system to adjacent towns. Sumter should have telephonic connection with Bishopville, Wedgefield, Mayesville and Magnolia in this county and with Darlington, Florence, Timmesville, Camden and Manning. These connections would be a great advantage to the business men of each place mentioned, and there would be unquestionably sufficient patronage to pay a fair rate of interest on

the money invested in constructing the lines.

The prime necessity in connection with the Sumter Telephone exchange is a reduction of the rental charged subscribers to a level with the rental charged in other places, so that more people can afford to use the telephones. To reduce the rental will be good business policy, for it will result in a decided increase of the income of the exchange.

The article referred to is as follows: Greenville is about to make another forward movement which will redound to its credit and advantage. Another telephone exchange is almost in sight, and citizens will be able to secure an excellent service for one-half of the present charges in this city. For this beneficial change we will be primarily indebted to Mr. Geo. A. Browning, who is at work upon the preliminaries, and whose business energy is a guarantee of speedy success in the undertaking.

An independent telephone system means the end of a monopoly in this community, which has amassed an immense fortune in this country. It began with \$500,000, and is now capitalized at \$24,500,000, an enormous increase in a few years. The patents which gave a monopoly are fast expiring, and independent companies are now operating upon inflated stock. This feature brings the service within reasonable limits, and the proposed cost in Greenville will be \$20 a year for business houses and \$15 for private residences. It will also provide for long distance service to Abbeville, Anderson, Piedmont, Pelzer, Easley, Pickens, Greer's, Batesville, Pelham, Reedy River and Traveler's Rest, with which subscribers will be connected. Mr. Browning has secured one hundred names as patrons of the new line, and it is expected that the independent system will be in operation by the 1st of July.

Efforts are making to discredit this movement, and a representative of the Bell telephone company has in a newspaper interview sought to throw cold water upon any competition whatever with his gigantic monopoly. He gave as an instance that the opposition exchange had closed at Selma, Ala., but he neglected to mention the fact that Mobile has a successful exchange with 800 subscribers; that Knoxville has two systems with 600 subscribers to each; that Bristol has an independent company which is said to be giving better service than Bell; that Richmond is now building the largest independent system in the United States, with over 2,000 phones; that Charleston, Augusta and other large places are putting in an independent system.

In the smaller towns near by, the independent system has proven a success. Anderson, Abbeville, Laurens, Yorkville, Rock Hill, Blacksburg, Sumter, Manning and Georgetown have this system, while Camden and Newberry have just closed contracts. Laurens began with 35 phones and has increased to 80. Abbeville started with 36 and has gone to 46 within thirty days.

As an instance of what can be done by a local company, we need not go further than our sister city of Anderson. Capt. J. L. Mauldin organized a home company and put in one hundred phones. The Bell representatives did a thing to prevent a successful organization, and even offered to buy out Mr. Mauldin, but he was not to be hoodwinked in this manner. He carried out the enterprise in a business-like way, and in a year the exchange had made a net profit of 50 per cent., which was used to pay one-half the original cost of the plant. The charge for phones is \$20 a year, and the company is making money. Mr. Mauldin will doubtless give any citizen of Greenville the details of his venture upon application to him.

HOW TO ATTRACT ATTENTION.

Random Leaves From the Conduct Rule Book of a Frying Size Girl.

When a youth on the street corner smirks at you between puffs of cigarette smoke, smile your sweetest in return—an acquaintance is not at all necessary when you desire to encourage admiration in public places.

When five smirks and four sweet smiles have been exchanged it is quite proper to permit the youth to join you on the street and accompany you home—to the gate or next corner, anyway, if the foolish old folks object to such innocent amusement.

When lessons are difficult and just wont get learned, it is the correct thing in the afternoon to walk down and up the street seven times, bowing and smiling at all the boys you know, as well as those you don't, as you loiter gracefully and lingeringly along the way.

When you wish to appear particularly wise and desire to be the recipient of the greatest possible amount of attention there is nothing more fetching than to purchase a whole nickel's worth of chewing gum and chew it all at once. This must be done vigorously, however, to succeed. Only the vivacious type of girl should attempt it. In the languid girl gum chewing is too cowlike to be effective.

When the chewing gum scheme has become tiresome and fails of its purpose, the next best thing is to attire yourself in your most striking costume—be sure to have the contrast of colors as great as possible, and the greatest number of shades and colors you can work in, the greater the effect. Ribbons of various shades, having long flowing ends, have been found to work beautifully.

When a novel effect is sought, it is well to have a bosom friend of your own age, and having similar sentiments and inclinations, as a companion for your afternoon loitering on the public thoroughfares. If anything can attract more attention than one girl, properly

attired to focus the masculine gaze, it is two girls so attired.

When you have a bosom companion your conversational powers may be brought into service to excellent advantage. A sweet-toned, girlish voice, pitched at the proper key to penetrate the ear of a youth a half square distant, is more alluring than the dulcet strains of the fabled Sirene.

When conversing as you and your bosom companion trip gracefully down the street, with the elastic animation of girlhood apparent in every movement of your rounded form, a silvery laugh ever and anon has an irresistible charm. You must learn to laugh with that spontaneous abandon that marks real merriment and also causes the idle youth on the far corner to turn and gaze at you as you come down the street.

When a youth smirks in a manner especially taking as you pass, it is not at all improper, nor unmaidenly, nor immodest, nor bold to recollect that you wish to look at a piece of new ribbon in a store you have just passed and to return to do so. By this happy recollection you are the fortunate recipient of two more honey-dewed, ambrosial smirks from the delectable youth on the corner.

When you observe a respectable youth who, by reason of some misconception of the purpose of his creation, does not happen to smirk at you as you pass it is often necessary to remark to your bosom friend that he is the handsomest man you ever saw. This will draw the coveted attention to you and he will never fail to smirk as you pass, even though it be a square distant. Boys who think they are grown up are the vainest and most conceited things in the world and to call them handsome men is the royal road to their esteem and affection. They admire both your good judgment and good looks.

When you see a girl friend on the opposite side of the street it is your duty to speak to her cordially. The accepted form in the most elite circles is: "Hello Mame, how'd y'e do—and where you going?" And Mame, she says: "Oh! I'm up against it; just going up the street, wont you come along?" This is both lady-like and elegant and displays your genuine friendliness before all men in hearing distance. Of course it depends upon your strength of voice how many men are made aware of the display.

How to Treat a Wife.

(From Pacific Health Journal)

First, get a wife; second, be patient. You may have great trials and perplexities in your business, but do not therefore, carry to your home a cloudy or contracted brow. Your wife may have trials, which, though of less magnitude, may be hard for her to bear. A kind word, a tender look, will do wonders in chasing from her brow all clouds of gloom. To this we would add always keep a bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy in the house. It is the best and is sure to be needed sooner or later. Your wife will then know that you really care for her and wish to protect her health. For sale by Dr. A. J. China.

For every quarter in a man's pocket there are a dozen uses; and to use each one in such a way as to derive the greatest benefit is a question every one must solve for himself. We believe, however, that no better use could be made of one of these quarters than to exchange it for a bottle of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy, a medicine that every family should be provided with. For sale by Dr. A. J. China.

Sewing Machines and Organs cleaned and repaired at the Sumter Music House.

CANDIDATES CARDS.

FOR CLERK OF COURT.

Mr. Editor: Having been solicited by friends, I respectfully announce myself as a candidate for Clerk of Court for Sumter County, subject to the action of the Democratic party. Having considerable experience in the office under the late Col. Graham and others, I flatter myself that I can give general satisfaction, and solicit an earnest support from the party. Very respectfully, S. F. LENOIR.

FOR COUNTY SUPERVISOR.

The friends of JOHN J. SHAW, of Mt. Cleo, announce him as a candidate for County Supervisor, subject to the action of the Democratic party. VOTERS.

FOR SHERIFF.

Please announce Capt. E. Scott Carson as a candidate for Sheriff at the ensuing election. Having served faithfully in that capacity, we believe if elected he will fill the office with ability and fairness and will give general satisfaction. DEMOCRATS.

ENOUGH IS SAID

In our new price list to give you a pretty good idea of the range of our products—such as Doors, Sash, Blinds, Side Lights, Transoms, Mouldings, Stair Work, Lumber, Shingles, &c., and we want to send you a copy of this price list. It is got up in the form of a folder and is very convenient for mailing. We send it free at request. AUGUSTA LUMBER CO., AUGUSTA, GA. "Buy of the Maker" and "Buy Nothing Brand."

CHANGE OF BUSINESS.

WE HAVE THIS DAY COMMENCED business at the old stand of W. J. Andrews under the firm name of W. T. Andrews & Co. We will continue to fill carefully and promptly all orders for ice, cream, poultry, fish, groceries, confectioneries and general merchandise. Ice cream 10 cents per quart; larger quantities and orders for picnic parties, churches and schools at reduced rates. Ice and cream delivered daily from wagon. W. T. ANDREWS, W. J. ANDREWS, AGR. Sumter, S. C., May 6—5t

BULL'S Cough Syrup

The People's Friend. In use for fifty years. Cures Cough, Cold, Croup, Whooping-Cough, Grippe, Bronchitis, Asthma and Lung Affections. DR. BULL'S COUGH SYRUP is sold everywhere for only 25 cents. Refuse cheap substitutes.

NEW LARGE'S PLUGS, The Great Tobacco Antidote, 10c. Dealers or mail, A.C. Meyer & Co., Baltimore, Md.

Spring Millinery.

The Spring Opening at Miss McDonald's gave hundreds an opportunity of examining the exquisite styles for the Spring and Summer.

The assortment is large, and in every style there is a variety to please the individual taste. Former patrons and the public generally are cordially invited to call and inspect the Pattern Hats and Bonnets, and they will be suited in anything they may want.

Miss McDonald, Main Street, Sumter, S. C.

Do You Want to Make Money?

Then go to Crosswell & Co's and buy your

Groceries

We are headquarters for everything in the grocery line. Dealing direct from the Manufacturers and Packers, buying and selling for cash, we are at all times in position to offer the lowest possible prices for which money can buy. We are wholesale as well as retail dealers and invite Special Attention to those who buy in unbroken quantities.

In buying we are always on the alert to pick up bargains and will

At all times have some special advantages to offer the trade.

It shall be our constant aim to give our customers the most and best goods for their money

Crosswell & Co.



Grace & Beauty Combined
When clothed in perfect fitting
Royal Worcester Corsets

We are Sole Agents.

We are also showing a Special Drive in Black Corsets at 50c., compare them with any dollar corset in the market. Do not fail to see them.

New Hosiery and Underwear.

Time now to think of changing from the heavy to the lighter Spring weights. We've anticipated your thoughts here. You all know our reputation in these matters; we're prepared to supply you with Spring and Summer Hosiery in a most satisfactory manner. See our Ribbed Vest at 5c., would be a bargain at 10 cents. " " " " " 10c., " " " " " at 20 cents. " " " " " 25c., " " " " " at 50 cents.

Dress Goods Harvest.

For the next 60 days, and we're reaping the honest results of months of careful thought and labor. We've labored for results and we're getting them. Your gown is here, let us help you select it.

Strong Linen Logic

In the shape of towels and table damasks. You've always room for them when (as in this instance) the quality is away up and the prices away down.

Coolness and Economy

In a laundered waist. Couldn't get them fast enough last season; got them now, though, hundreds of them, all the newest and best ideas, and we're selling them at a great rate; true, we sell them at a moderate profit, but it pays.

Shimmering Waist Silks.

Just the items this time. No argument half so strong, and besides they must be seen to be appreciated. See our line of

J. Ryttenberg & Sons, Sumter, S. C.