

The Watchman and Southron.

THE SUMTER WATCHMAN, Established April, 1850.

"Be Just and Fear not—Let all the Ends thou Aimest at, be thy Country's, thy God's and Truth's."

THE TRUE SOUTHRON, Established June, 1866

Consolidated Aug. 2, 1881.

SUMTER, S. C., WEDNESDAY, JULY 8, 1896.

New Series—Vol. XV. No 49

The Watchman and Southron.

Published Every Wednesday,

N. G. Osteen,

SUMTER, S. C.

TERMS:
\$1.50 per annum—in advance.

ADVERTISEMENTS:

One Square first insertion.....\$1 00
Every subsequent insertion..... 50
Contracts for three months, or longer will be made at reduced rates.
All communications which subscribe private interests will be charged for as advertisements.
Obituaries and tributes of respect will be charged for.

A Disgraceful Meeting.

Colleton Mob Howls Down Solicitor Bellinger.

BEAUFORT, July 1.—There was one overshadowing feature at the Colleton campaign meeting in Walterboro to-day. A State officer, for fearless discharge of duty in the face of known popular opposition and veiled and open threats; for a courageous course in the interest of peace, order and the good name of his State; for devoting energy, talent and time to prosecuting a case that his obligations to himself and his State required, as well as the demands of civilization made imperative, was howled down in the most disgraceful manner. The only counterpart of this meeting to-day that I have ever witnessed was when General Earle spoke in Sumter in 1890, only in that case the Conservative candidate for governor had a strong following.

Mr. Duncan Bellinger, solicitor of the Second circuit, appeared as a candidate for re-election, and faced a crowd of 300 men, who at first blushed to him, but which contained perhaps 40 friends, some of whom were prepared for any emergency.

When the campaign party arrived at Walterboro at 11.30 o'clock, the newspaper men who were with the party and who had also been there to report the trial of the "Colleton lynchings" last February, were told that there would likely be trouble and that one of them had been promised a horse-riding on the streets of Walterboro because of reports of that trial sent to his paper. This was considered in the light of a bluff. It was such and the bluffers did not call. They would have found a full house.

The speaking took place in a pretty oak grove in the heart of the town. A colored string band furnished music when it was permitted but the time being limited, the fiddlers were not given opportunity to calm the savage breast.

The meeting was called to order at 12.20 o'clock by County Chairman Cooper, without the preliminary prayer.

Mr. Duncan, who after outlining his policy on national affairs, proceeded to give the facts and suspicious he had as to the bond deal. He was giving a quiet hearing.

Governor Evans said he did not believe the people of South Carolina would send Duncan to the senate if there was no one running against him. Mention of Tillman's name always elicited cheers, and Evans was cheered at the end of his speech.

"How about your wife, governor?" asked a faithful

Governor Evans—I've nearly got her, brother.

He was sent a bouquet.

In Mr. Duncan's reply he was asked if he believed John Gary Evans, Dr. Bates and Senator Tillman to be scoundrels.

"I do not," said Mr. Duncan. "The mistake is in putting Dr. Bates and Senator Tillman in the same boat with Governor Evans."

General Watts was the next speaker and was cheered.

General Richbourg was indisposed and did not speak.

When Mr. Carroll Simms of Barnwell, candidate for solicitor against Mr. Bellinger, was introduced, he was received with cheers. He asked for their suffrage, not on the weakness of any opponent, but on his own strength as a lawyer.

A Voice—Are you a Conservative or a Reformer?

Another Voice—That's all dead now.

Mr. Simms understood the Constitutional convention had settled that question and it was now wiped out. They were all Democrats. (Cheers.) If he had to go into politics to get office of solicitor, he would not have it.

A Voice—Do you believe no 12 men of Colleton county can give any man in South Carolina a fair trial?

Mr. Simms—I would not disgrace myself by asking the suffrage of Colleton if I thought so; but if there is a man in the crowd who expects to vote for me to get favors, I

advise him not to do so. I will administer the law strictly and fairly.

Mr. Carlos C Tracy of Walterboro was introduced and proceeded to say he had determined not to be a candidate for solicitor

The next speaker introduced was Solicitor Bellinger. Immediately there was confusion in the crowd; men moving to and fro and the murmuring of many voices

"Tell us something about Hannah Walker," called one man

"Tell us about Aiken, where you can find 12 honest men," was the taunt of another. This was followed by howls that drowned and other sounds.

Chairman Cooper appealed in a mild way to the gentlemen of Colleton to listen to what their solicitor had to say.

"Men, will you refuse to hear me?" asked Mr. Bellinger. "I am a South Carolinian, a white man's man."

A Voice—"What, you?"

Bellinger—Yes. (Hoots and howls.)

Bellinger—came here to speak, and so help me God, I will stand here until my time is exhausted whether you hear me or not. If he was listened to in his own behalf he would show them that he was an enthusiast on the subject of law and order, and who believed the power to make and execute human laws the highest attributes of man. Interruptions, which had been constant, here broke out afresh. Some one shouted that the man who said Colleton people were not honest was a liar. Such declarations as "We do not want to hear you. God knows we don't."

"We don't care a d—n what you have to say"; "You are a d—n scoundrel" were frequent.

About this time Chairman Cooper appealed to the meeting to be quiet. If they felt that Mr. Bellinger had treated them badly they should listen to what he had to say, and then vote for the man they wanted.

Mr. Bellinger said if they would listen he would tell them something that would make them mad sure enough. (Confusion continued.) "The man who accepts office," said the solicitor, "and fails to carry out the law is a moral coward and poltroon."

A voice—Why did you say our county could not get a jury of twelve men to give a fair trial?

Mr. Bellinger—What I said was that I did not believe the State could get a fair trial in Colleton. Are you going to vote against me because of the Broxton bridge prosecution?

A voice—Persecution, you mean Mr. Bellinger—All who are going to vote against me on account of the Broxton bridge prosecution hold up their hands.

Confusion and voices—No that's not it; don't try Ben Tillman's plan.

Mr. Bellinger—You know that a citizen of your county wrote to a candidate for solicitor in another county, saying the Broxton bridge case would get him 2,000 votes here?

Voice—No; he'll get 'em all J. H. Dodd, a cousin of W. B. Ackerman—You are a nigger's man.

Mr. Bellinger—You oppose me because I am a nigger's man, do you?

Dodd—Yes.

Here the chairman called time. Mr. Bellinger—I want to answer that man

Dodd—You can answer me out in the crowd or anywhere else. (Here Dodd made a demonstration and was held by two men, Mr. Bellinger standing fast unflinchingly)

Dodd—"Pitch him out here to me."

The crowd seemed to be closing in on the stand, and the prospect was decidedly squally.

Dodd—You have been paid by northern Republicans to prosecute this case.

Bellinger—Put it in writing or print, and so help me God, I will put you in the penitentiary for perjury and libel. (Shouts of "Write it," "write it!")

Bellinger declared that he would be re-elected despite all the howling. He said the lawyers for the defense owed it to themselves and the State to come before the people and explain why they had a delay in the trial. It was because they appealed.

The crowd howled and yelled, some one crying, "Pull him off the stand." A movement was made with seeming such intention, but it did not materialize.

Then Chairman Cooper stated to Mr. Bellinger that the people of Colleton refused to hear him speak.

Mr. Bellinger then, with the declaration that they had stolen his time but could not run him off the platform, stepped from the front.

A messenger presented him with a bouquet bearing the cards of several of Colleton's fairest daughters. He remarked that he would thank the

donors in public if it were not that the flowers, by his doing so, might be considerably bruised.

There were a number of ladies in the outskirts of the crowd to-day. The other speakers were giving attention, the crowd being amused by the gubernatorial candidates as well as those for superintendent of education

At 2:30 the campaign party left for Beaufort.

Candidates for congress spoke in Walterboro to-night.—W. E. Gonzales, in The State.

J. Skelton Williams.

What he Says About the Bond Transaction.

Special to The State.

RICHMOND, June 30.—Several times since the bond scandal has become so prominent the name of Mr. John Skelton Williams, the energetic and prosperous young banker of this city, has been mentioned in connection with the question, "Who got those commissions?" This afternoon I called on Mr. Williams and had a talk with him in regard to the matter.

He gives an interesting chapter to the bond business as a member of the syndicate. He says that he took the matter up after Mr. Lancaster's failure and the agreement to pay Mr. Rhind a commission, which has been mentioned, was stated to them by Mr. Rhind. The people composing the syndicate then thought the investment a good one with the commission allowed, and took the bonds. He confirms to the letter Col. Haskell's statement, recently published, and says Mr. Rhind stated that he could not give them (the amount they expected as commissions, because "A large portion of it had to be paid to parties whose services and influences were necessary in the general assembly. He says he did not know to whom Mr. Rhind referred. They had no right to ask him, yet they had no idea that it would be used for any improper purpose." Mr. Rhind gave them to understand all the way that this commission was to be so disposed of. So far as he knows the drafts were divided in order that the amount should be given to "his associates."

He never heard anything said connecting any State officers with the transaction. In reply to a question he said: "No I have never heard one word to connect any State officer with the matter, beyond Mr. Rhind's statement, which any one can construe. Mr. Rhind or Mr. Lancaster can tell you about the whole matter, though I suppose."

He said he knew that Mr. Evans was Rhind's attorney in the matter. Mr. Lancaster is at present at his summer home in this State and could not be seen to-day. E. J. Watson.

A Big Insurance Company.

It Will Begin Business With \$200,000 Capital.

The secretary of state granted a charter yesterday to the Citizens' Fire Insurance company of Columbia, of which Messrs. M. N. Johnson of Marion, and E. L. Winant of Brooklyn, N. Y., are the incorporators. The capital stock is \$200,000, divided into 2,000 shares at \$100 per share.

Already \$60,000 of this has been paid in, and the other will be in a short time.

Both Mr. Johnson and Mr. Winant were in the city yesterday looking after the interests of their company.

Mr. Winant was called on by a reporter at the hotel Jerome and asked about the company which he proposed to establish.

"Yes," he said, "we intend to establish a first-class fire insurance company in this city that will carry on business in all parts of the State. The charter has already been granted and arrangements are being made with Dr. Kendall to get an office in his building. Already \$60,000 of the capital stock has been paid and is invested in gilt edge railroad bonds. In about a week's time, or perhaps a little longer, we hope to be settled in our office and at work."

Mr. Winant said that he would return to Brooklyn, and after winding up his affairs there, would come to Columbia, which he intended to make his future home.

Mr. Johnson will be president of the company and Mr. Winant, Secretary and treasurer.—The State.

Gen. Sorano arrived at Tampa, Fla., yesterday from Cuba and narrowly escaped arrest at the instance of the Spanish Consul. A mistake was made and the wrong man was arrested, which gave Gen. Sorano an opportunity of escaping.

U. C. V. Reunion.

South Carolina's Place in the Reunion Picture.

RICHMOND, Va.—South Carolina still plays an important part in the picture here, the delegates occupy seats in the convention hall at the front, on the right of the presiding officer. Tomorrow she will have 1,500 men in line, and the Palmetto "boys" have been given the second place in the parade. General Hampton will be mounted, as will also General Walker and staff. Robert E. Lee, son of the lamented chieftain, will ride with General Hampton. All the veterans in the South Carolina divisions will bear branches of native palmetto, and the mounted officers will wear sashes made of palmetto. General Hampton was not at the convention to-day; his leg has been worrying him, and he kept to his room most of the day gathering his strength for to-morrow. The South Carolina delegation's choice for the next place of meeting was Nashville, but the thing was made unanimous before they could cast their ballots.

Next to Virginia, South Carolina has the handsomest room in the museum, in Mrs. Davis' old bedroom.

Camp Hampton leaves for home Friday morning at 9 o'clock. The South Carolina veterans were among the most demonstrative in the hall to-day when Mrs. Davis was presented by General Gordon and when he kissed her brow in the name of the Confederacy.

To-night Miss Capers, our fair sponsor, was at her prettiest in the grand tableau of the auditorium. She was clad in spotless white and wore the Confederate colors, holding aloft in a queenly manner the palmetto flag. Her maids-of-honor, as were all the others, were seated in the rostrum gallery just above. To-morrow evening Miss Capers will assist, with one of her maids-of-honor, in the reception at the executive mansion.

To-night Mrs. Harby, of New York, a native of the Palmetto State, tendered General Walker and staff a reception at the Jefferson.

South Carolina's member of the board of trustees on the Battle Abbey matter is Dr. B. H. Teague. Mr. Carville and Mr. Teague are both candidates for brigadier general in the South Carolina division to fill the vacancy occasioned by General McKisick's death.

South Carolina's sponsor and maids are in charge of a special detail, consisting of Major Carville, Capt. R. S. DesPortes and Gen. W. E. James, until the festivities are over.

Special to The State.

RICHMOND, July 2.—This has been the greatest day the south has ever known. The patriotic scenes presented here to-day are the greatest in her history, and beggar description. The Lee celebration six years ago has been far outdone.

In the grand parade there were veterans from all the southern states, and even from far away California. South Carolina's palmetto boughs were the feature of the parade.

Before the procession, which took five hours to pass a given point, had gone far, nearly all the veterans, the generals and everybody else, wore a sprig of the historic tree.

At the head of the procession were little girls carrying banners of the various States. South Carolina's little representative was at the head of them all. Although there were so many States fully represented, and old Virginia was at her best, South Carolina made a splendid show. The palmetto boys were there 1,500 strong, and Col. Tom Woodward created great merriment by breaking out of ranks and kissing a beautiful young Virginian of 22 summers, when she dared "that pretty, jovial old vet" to "dare to do," and her father approved. He was a vet, too.

General Hampton was once more given a royal reception. He sat splendidly in a charger like a youth, standing where the procession entered Franklin street, and was cheered to the echo time and time again. It was a continuous and stirring ovation to the grand old hero. General Hampton later rode at the head of the cavalry vets, and all along the line he was loudly cheered. Dr. Taylor and Col. Thomas Taylor rode by his side. General Butler ran down from Washington and was in the procession.

Carolina's sponsor and her maids, with the Louisiana sponsor, occupied the first three of the sponsors carriages. Our three girls were cheered dramatically by the old vets as they passed. Many South Carolinians were in the Washington, D. C., delegation.

This evening after the laying of the corner stone the Charleston camps left for home in their private cars. Camp Hampton and others leave to-morrow morning. The South Carolinians have certainly enjoyed themselves, and the reception accorded them by the people of Richmond.

The flags borne in the parade to-day

by the South Carolina troops were among the most valuable and attractive carried in the procession.

This evening South Carolina's sponsor and maids will assist at the executive mansion at the governor's reception. Generals Hampton and Butler leave here this evening for Washington.

E. J. Watson.

PLAIN QUESTIONS.

The Editor of the News would like to ask Judge Earle a few questions. Why did you, Joseph H. Earle, withdraw from the democratic Legislative ticket in Sumter, in 1876 at the darkest hour of the Hampton campaign?

Did you not, in the gallery of the House of Representatives, when the Sumter Earle delegation was turned out of the convention, advocate, in a speech to those around, you a bolt and a ticket in opposition to Tillman?

Did you believe then as now in what you call the rule of the majority?

Why did you consent to run against Richardson in 1888 as Tillman's man, after you had denounced Tillman in Sumter for false charges against the Richardson administration of which you were a part?

Why did you not in 1890 after the 21 conference had brought out Bratton as a candidate against Tillman?

Will you be kind enough to tell the people how Gen. Bratton was treated in your own county. Sumter, when he was running with you making common cause against Tillman, and your committee was in charge of all arrangements for the campaign meeting?

Are you willing to say now, as you so often said in 1890 on the stump, that the Shell Manifesto, which Tillman himself wrote, begins and ends with a lie and is a lie from beginning to end? If you have changed your mind about this manifesto will you kindly tell the people upon what ground and what newly discovered facts have brought such a wonderful change of view in so short a time.

The columns of The News are at your service, and, by answering these simple questions, you will confer a great favor upon a much perplexed public. *Darlington News*

Railroad Assessments.

A Very Slight Change in the Total of Last Year.

The comptroller general has been at work getting out his report of the assessed value of the railroad property in the different counties in the State. A comparison of the assessment of 1895 with that of 1896 shows the total has not been materially changed. The assessment on some of the roads has been increased and on others decreased. It will be seen that the railroads own about one-eighth of the assessed taxable property in the State.

The following shows the changes in the assessments:

Counties	1895	1896
Abbeville	1,393,970	1,393,970
Aiken	1,043,760	1,022,760
Anderson	559,289	532,550
Barrow	1,300,995	1,300,995
Beaufort	447,350	447,350
Berkeley	1,301,480	1,173,930
Charleston	558,730	678,130
Chester	678,090	659,000
Cherokee	44,625	53,725
Clarendon	379,050	336,000
Colleton	1,124,770	1,141,215
Darlington	237,707	241,667
Edgefield	645,400	630,250
Fairfield	690,475	710,155
Florence	664,445	664,445
Georgetown	45,450	45,450
Greenville	572,475	573,250
Hampton	689,550	693,550
Horry	155,530	155,530
Kershaw	255,650	255,650
Lancaster	242,775	237,975
Laurens	740,075	746,175
Lexington	759,235	759,235
Marion	662,600	676,910
Marlboro	244,210	267,930
Newberry	643,530	605,330
Cooney	511,120	486,520
Orangeburg	1,310,487	1,461,785
Pickens	435,080	435,080
Richland	1,292,147	1,291,147
Spartanburg	1,115,725	1,125,725
Sumter	1,071,680	1,188,335
Union	358,590	392,918
Williamsburg	726,310	726,310
York	896,310	889,497
Totals	\$23,797,652.	\$23,797,512

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report

Repudiate McKinley.

Minnesota Silver Republicans Will not Support him.

St. Paul, Minn., July 2.—The most sensational manifesto in Minnesota's history was that issued this afternoon by the Silver Republicans, who refuse to support McKinley for President, Clough for governor, or any of the Republican candidates for congress. The prominence of the manifesto attracts to it widespread attention. Among the number are Lieutenant Governor Frank A. Day, Congressman Charles A. Towne, ex-Congressman John Lind and several State senators. The address is issued to the Republicans of Minnesota and says:

"The greatest issue which has arisen in this country since the abolition of African slavery now confronts the American people. The common people have viewed with increasing alarm the attempts of a foreign money aristocracy to fasten upon this nation the single gold standard of value. In the past they turned with the inspiration of faith to the Republican party for protection against that power which seeks to strike down one-half the redemption power of the world that the other half may purchase double the amount of the products of toil. They had a right to expect such protection. The Republican party was born of the common people. Its mission has been to dignify labor, to secure to him who toils in the field or mine the just fruits of honest labor. From the day of the party's birth until the present time no article of Republican faith has been more pronounced than the belief in bimetallism. It has been written in its platforms and taught by all its great leaders. In its national convention in 1888 it condemned "the policy of the Democratic administration in its efforts to demonetize silver."

"In 1892, in its platform adopted in Minneapolis, it declared in favor of gold and silver as standard money. In 1894 the Republican party of Minnesota reaffirmed its belief in bimetallism, and that the restoration of silver as ultimate money to the currency of the world is absolutely necessary for the prosperity, proper rate of wages and the welfare of the people."

"Nearly every Republican State convention in 1894 condemned, either in express terms or by implication, the single gold standard. James G. Blaine will express the belief of the Republican party when he declared: 'I believe the struggle now going on in this country and in other countries for a single gold standard would, if successful, produce widespread disaster in and throughout the commercial world.'

"The action of the national Republican convention at St. Louis has repudiated this fundamental doctrine of our party. The single gold standard has been endorsed. The Republican party no longer stands for both gold and silver as primary money, but for gold only. We can not accept the new faith, and we will hold steadfastly to the old. The policy of gold monometallism means prolonged and intensified depression; an endless and popelous era of falling prices for our farmers and other producers; continued uncertainty of employment for our workmen, with lessening wages following the fall in prices of the products of labor; discouragement of all enterprises, and in the end universal bankruptcy and gravitation of all money into the hands of money brokers. It means the obliteration of the great middle class, the yeomanry of the nation, the division of the people into the very rich and the very poor. These Republicans who believe in the use of both gold and silver as the money of ultimate payment and their free coinage in our mints must either submit in silence or speak out boldly in condemnation of this policy so disastrous to the people. On matters of vital principle no man can be asked to submit to party dictation. Every man who places country above party, and whose sympathies are with the producers as against the money brokers and bondholders, owes a duty to his conscience and to his country which can only be discharged by putting forth every effort in his power that the blight of the single gold standard may not be fastened upon this people."

Royal Baking Powder

ABSOLUTELY PURE