

The Watchman and Southron.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 27, 1897.

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.

The attempt to put a bill through the Legislature requiring all trains to stop at all stations will probably prove unsuccessful, since the hardship it would work to the railroads is apparent. The railroads are quasi public institutions and have received valuable franchises from the state, for which they should in return give the best accommodation possible to the public. It would be an injustice to require all through trains to stop at every station and the Legislature will not deliberately do an injustice.

Railroad Commissioner Thomas has submitted a minority report against the fertilizer rate, which we have given a cursory examination. We have never fully understood the case, although a great deal has been said on both sides. Mr. Thomas makes a good showing for his side of the contention and makes assertions that his colleagues must successfully refute before they can down the tenacious Thomas.

The Legislature is taking a hand in the fight against the nuisance of vagrant negroes loafing around depots. We wish the law makers success in the effort to frame a bill that will abate the nuisance, which is a growing one.

The State Senate is wrestling with the Cuban question. A number of the Senators desire the passage of a resolution favoring the recognition of Cuban independence, while others favor a resolution of sympathy. The action of the South Carolina Legislature will have no effect upon Congress, and it seems to be a mere waste of time to discuss the matter at such length. Of course nine-tenths of South Carolinians are in sympathy with the Cubans in their struggle for liberty, but until the United States government abandons its doing nothing policy and partiality to Spain, resolutions are sweetness wasted on the desert air.

The quarantine officers at New York have decided to give a bath to each person arriving from ports where there is danger of infection from the bubonic plague. It is an excellent idea, whether it will keep the plague out or not, as all immigrants are said to need laundrying.

The bill providing for the formation of Salem county will be taken up by the committee to which it was referred on Tuesday the 26th instant. Those who have anything to say for or against it will be given a hearing. As we have said from the time when the matter was first agitated, it is a matter that concerns only those who live or own property within the territory of the proposed new county. After a study of the receipts and disbursement of taxes raised for county purposes, we are of the opinion that the formation of the new county would be advantageous to the portion of Sumter county not included in Salem, as that county would have the burden of maintaining quite a number of the expensive bridges on Lynche's river, which have always been a heavy drain on the county treasury.

Farmers should make their calculations on a basis of five cent cotton. Reports from all sections of the cotton States indicate that an immense crop will be planted and only a wide spread disaster can prevent the production of a very large crop. A large crop means low prices and the careful and conservative cotton planters will calculate on the minimum price of cotton and make his expenses fall within the minimum income to be realized from his crop. A cheap cotton crop, coupled with the production of all supplies at home, is the only means whereby cotton planters can make ends meet.

The correspondent of the News and Courier is on the right line when he advises farmers to raise their own mules and horses. They can raise

first class animals for less money than plug stock from the west can be purchased. A South Carolina raised horse or mule is usually better than those brought here for sale.

Senator Tillman is quick to make the effort to have Congress enact a law that will patch up the rent made in the dispensary law by the recent decision of the Supreme Court. But can Congress pass an unconstitutional law that will hold? Of course Congress did so during reconstruction days, but that is no excuse for doing so now.

Vice President-elect Hobart, has declined an escort and will proceed quietly to Washington to be present at the inauguration. This is very democratic for the head of the coal combine.

Maj. McKinley should recognize the negro republicans, without whose votes he could not have been elected, and if he should happen to disregard precedent and display some gratitude to the negroes, how would George Washington Murray fill a position in the Cabinet? He is as good a Republican as any of them and believes in all the doctrines of the g. o. p. machine.

Ambassador Bayard is reported to be in disgrace with Cleveland and Olney and that they purposely ignored and slighted him in negotiating the arbitration treaty. Poor Bayard, he has served Cleveland all too faithfully.

John Gary Evans has left Columbia, and will take a vacation of a few weeks before returning to Aiken, where he will resume the practice of law. In the magistrate's court he will find his proper sphere.

The Ohio River & Charleston Railway is making plans to build a branch line from Blacksburg to Gaffney City. Perhaps, in time, the road from Camden to this place will be built, as the system will not be complete without a connection with the Atlantic Coast Line.

The Legislature should give serious consideration to the bill to establish a reformatory for youthful criminals. The penitentiary is no place for youthful convicts, for the association with hardened criminals tends to develop the evil instincts of the young, who, with proper environments, have some chance of reformation. A reformatory is sadly needed, and it can be provided by a small appropriation to supplement the work of convicts who can be detailed to erect the necessary buildings.

There is another good bill in reference to convicts before the Legislature that merits consideration. We refer to the bill prohibiting the employment of any save convict labor on the several State farms. The abuses growing out of the employment of free labor on the State farms in this county are two well known to require an explanation, and the farmers living in the vicinity of the State farms demand the abatement of the nuisance. Their demand should be heeded by the Legislature and the law enacted for their protection.

Ben's Bright Bill

Effort to Nullify Supreme Court's Decision.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—Senator Tillman of South Carolina has introduced in the senate a bill to meet the defect in the South Carolina dispensary law pointed out by the United States supreme court. The bill provides: "That all fermented, distilled or other intoxicating liquids transported into any State or territory or remaining therein for use, consumption, sale or storage therein, shall, upon arrival within the limits of said State or territory be subject to the operation and effect of the laws of such State or territory enacted for the control and policing of the liquor traffic, absolutely, to the same extent and in the same manner as though such liquors or liquids had been produced in such State or territory, and shall not be excepted therefrom by reason of being introduced therein in original packages for private use or otherwise, and such States shall have absolute control of such liquors or liquids within their borders, by whomsoever produced and for whatever use imported; provided, that nothing herein contained shall be construed as affecting the internal revenue laws.

Seventy-four American citizens have been arrested in Cuba since the beginning of the war. Of this number seven were newspaper correspondents, who were banished.

What Farmers of the State pay for Foreign Live Stock.

To the Editor of The News and Courier: Everybody who is at all posted is ready to admit that the farmers of South Carolina have made several very advantageous business reforms during the past five years, and as a result are in better condition to-day than at any time since the war.

I refer to the fact that for twenty five years previous to 1892 it was the almost universal custom of the farmers to buy everything used on the farm from an axe-handle to a mule, and to pay "time prices" for the same. Since that year they have been raising all the corn required for home consumption, and also their pork, and have been exercising greater economy in regard to the management of their business than ever before.

There is no doubt that the buying of hog and hominy from the West were heavy drains, and the farmer is to be congratulated on his being able to stop the leak.

It strikes me that there are still several very expensive leaks that could be stopped as effectually and with as beneficial results as the others, if those who are especially interested will only use the means at hand. I will only mention two at this time.

The first to which I desire to refer is the wholesale purchase of farm stock every year. I am informed that not less than 600 mules are sold to the farmers of York County annually, and that the average price paid is not less than \$100 per head. Thus it will be seen that \$60,000 are paid each year by this one county for stock with which to raise cotton, corn, etc. Some one may claim that the estimate is too large, and in order to be entirely safe I will cut it in half, and say that 300 are bought, and I am confident that that many are sold in Yorkville alone, which would cut the purchase price down to \$30,000. Now suppose all the other counties in the State average as many, and I believe they will, not less than \$2,000,000 are paid by the farmers of the State annually for mules and horses!

Some one inquires, "What are you going to do about it?" I reply that instead of buying mules the proper thing to do is for each farmer to raise them. While I have no practical experience, I believe that a mule can be raised on a South Carolina farm from the time it is weaned by its dam to the age of 2 1/2 years, when it should be ready to go to work, at an expense of less than \$30. A farmer told me a few days ago that it did not cost any more to raise a mule than a cow, and I heard of another saying that he could and had raised good, serviceable mules to the work age at a total expense of \$25. It seems to me that the matter is worthy of careful investigation. I believe South Carolina can raise as fine and as good mules as Kentucky, Tennessee, Indiana or Missouri and at as small expense as they can be reared in those States, and if she can it is good business sense for her to continue to pay those States for doing the work? I hope, Mr. Editor, you will take this matter up, and push it with your accustomed zeal, energy and intelligence, and I believe that if you do in less than five years the amount of money to go out of the State annually for farm animals will not exceed one-half of the present sum.

The second heavy drain to which I desire to call attention is the amount that is paid out annually by the farmers for flour. I have no data at hand on which to make even an approximate estimate, but I am sure that the amount paid for flour by the farmers of the State cannot be less than \$5,000,000. Of course I know the opinion is abroad in the land that wheat cannot be raised as successfully in South Carolina as in the Dakotas, and the opinion is in a measure correct, but notwithstanding this the farmers in Oconee, Pickens, Greenville, Spartanburg, Union, York, Lancaster, Chesterfield, Marlboro, Chester, Laurens, Anderson, Newberry, Saluda and Edgefield, and possibly others, can, if they will only try, raise a great deal more than they have been doing, and at present prices they will keep \$5 in the State for every four bushels that the raise, which will in the course of a few years make a wonderful difference in the financial condition of the counties named. There are scores of farmers in York County who have not bought a barrel of flour in ten years. They raise wheat. Why could others not do likewise?

Several years ago the farmers in this section gave as an excuse for not raising wheat that it was impossible to get it ground in a satisfactory manner, as there were no mills here that could turn out a product that even compared to the lowest grades of flour made by the Western mills. This prop has been knocked from under them. There are three patent process roller mills in successful operation in York County to-day, and they manufacture flour that is the equal of the Western product in every respect. There are also several mills in Spartanburg and Greenville counties. The farmers can rest assured that if they will create a demand for up to date mills by raising wheat the want will be supplied.

Yorkville, January 20, 1897.

40,000 ARE FREEZING.

And Starving in the City of Chicago.

The Mayor calls for \$100,000 to Save the Destitute. Generous Response.

CHICAGO, Jan. 25.—The people of Chicago in bodies and as individuals were aroused to-day to take prompt and generous action for the relief of the two score thousand destitute inhabitants, who are suffering for want of fuel, food and clothing has reached an extreme stage as a result of the terrible cold wave which came upon the city Saturday, increasing in intensity until to-day when it reached the lowest point recorded in nearly a quarter of a century.

Between 5 and 7 o'clock this morning the weather bureau in the Auditorium tower, where it is warmer than on the street, recorded 20 degrees below zero. Only once in the history of the bureau—December 24, 1872, 24 below—has the temperature fallen lower. From 9 a. m. to 2 p. m. there was a gradual rise, the range being 18 to 22 degrees, but the relief was hardly felt when accompanied with a cutting wind from the northwest. The highest temperature for the day was 10 below zero and to-night the mercury is moving down again, with no hope of material relief held out for to-morrow.

Mayor Swift issued a proclamation this afternoon appealing in urgent language to all citizens who have the means to spare to contribute at once money and supplies to prevent the starvation and freezing of unfortunate thousands. He urged that a subscription of \$100,000 would be none too much to afford the help needed.

The funds of the charity organizations have become depleted owing to the extra demands made upon them even during the mild winter which has prevailed here until a few days ago. The Chicago aid and relief society was compelled to make a special appeal for money last week to carry on its work because of the unusually large number of heads and supporters of families who are unemployed.

Before the mayor's proclamation was issued contributions to the special fund came pouring into his office in currency and checks, while various offers of provisions, clothing, coal and wood were received on a liberal scale. The board of trade and other organizations started to raise relief funds and the churches and Salvation Armies began making systematic and extensive arrangements to help in the charitable work along their special lines. Soup houses and shelters will be established and maintained as long as necessary. A plan which the mayor and chief of police agreed upon at a conference to-day was immediately put into effect. The city will buy with the special fund, food and fuel and distribute them on demand through the agency of the police department. This relief is to be afforded without the usual investigation until the regular charitable organizations are able to take up the work. All police stations have been thrown open to the homeless, and to-night every one was crowded with refugees from the freezing air.

The mayor's proclamation is the first of the kind to be issued in 25 years. The worst and most numerous cases of suffering were reported from South Chicago and Kensington, where thousands of men have laid off at the steel mills and other establishments. Much damage was done in the suburbs by telegraph and telephone wires by the cold. Traffic with Cisero was suspended until late to-day by the collapse of cable poles. The work of affording instant temporary relief during the inclement weather was pushed by the police agents using patrol wagons and ambulances in such a systematic manner that no case of destitution reported remained unattended to night.

Read Ayer's Almanac, which your druggist will gladly hand you, and note the wonderful cures of rheumatism, catarrh, scrofula, dyspepsia, eczema, debility, humors, and sores, by the use of Ayer's Sarsaparilla, admitted at the World's Fair.

Tutt's Pills Cure All Liver Ills.

A Strong Fortification. Fortify the body against disease by Tutt's Liver Pills, an absolute cure for sick headache, dyspepsia, sour stomach, malaria, constipation, jaundice, biliousness and all kindred troubles. "The Fly-Wheel of Life" Dr. Tutt; Your Liver Pills are the fly-wheel of life. I shall ever be grateful for the accident that brought them to my notice. I feel as if I had a new lease of life. J. Fairleigh, Platte Cannon, Col. Tutt's Liver Pills

THE Fertilizer Season of 1897,

Is now at hand and we are better prepared to supply the wants of our friends than ever before.

We have been handling fertilizers very largely for 14 years, and we believe we know how to buy and where to buy. We will handle nothing but

Standard Brands,

Unless forced to do so by illegitimate competition.

Our leading brands for which we are

SOLE AGENTS

Wagener's High Grade. High Grade Blood and Bone and Navassa. In addition to these we handle. Atlantic and Chicora, Cotton Seed Meal, Genuine German Kainit and Acid Phosphate.

As cash is quite an item to us in our business, any person who is fortunate enough to be able to pay cash for his fertilizer, will find it to his interest to see us before buying. To those who are not so fortunate we will figure as close as the character of security they have to offer will admit. We would advise our friends in making their calculations for the purchase of fertilizers and other things, not to exceed five cents as a basis for the price of their cotton as all indications point that way.

OUR STOCK OF

Staple Groceries and Farming Utensils

For the Spring trade is very complete. We buy our

Meat direct from Western Packers

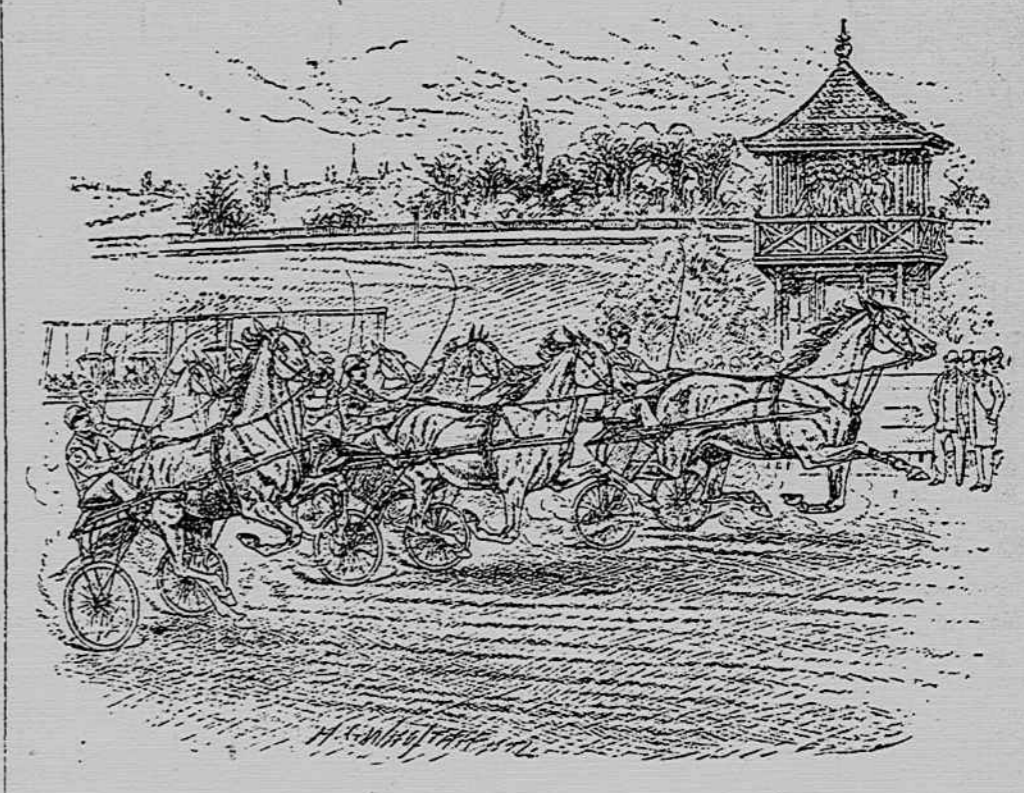
In car load lots. And our

Flour direct from the Mills,

And all brokerage and commissions that is paid by a great many of our competitors we give the benefit of to our customers.

With best wishes for a prosperous new year and hoping we may be favored with a liberal share of your business. Very respectfully,

O'DONNELL & CO.



FOR THE JANUARY TRADE.

I Will be Well Prepared to Meet the Demands of the January Trade.

Just Received.

One car load of fine Mules. One car load of 1-horse Wagons.

To Arrive This Week.

Two car loads extra choice work horses.

H. Harby.

Sumter, S. C. \$96.