

The Watchman and Southron.

THE SUMTER WATCHMAN, Established April, 1850.

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

THE TRUE SOUTHRON, Established June, 1866

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The Cretan Situation.

Reaffirms His Position as to Crete and the Powers.

Athens, March 24.—The Empe-meris, which is regarded as reflecting the views of King George, in an article upon the Cretan difficulty emphatically reaffirms the position of the king. The article concludes as follows:

"The king will never join himself with the powers in pressing the Cretans to accept autonomy and the sovereignty of the sultan nor will he ever consent to such a solution of the difficulty. The Cretans reject autonomy which their king rejects also, and will accept only one solution, namely that upon which the will of the nation and the will of the Cretans shall agree. Every pressure exerted by the powers in Crete will have its counter-stroke on the frontier and beyond."

NO FOOD FOR MALAXA.

Canca, March 24.—An Austrian ironclad to-day prevented a Greek steamer and a sailing vessel from running the blockade. Another attempt was made by the Turks to-day to convey a supply of provisions to the fort at Malaxa, but the essay resulted in failure, the Turks being driven off by the Christians who surround Malaxa and pursued to the environs of Suda, where the fire from the Turkish warships compelled the Cretans to retreat. Another effort to supply the fort with provisions will be made to-night.

A strong force of Cretans, it is said, are preparing for an attack upon Kissamo, and the admirals commanding the foreign warships have issued a warning similar to that contained in Admiral Canevero's proclamation.

The townspeople of Canca have been greatly encouraged by the proclamation issued yesterday by admiral Canevero, the Italian officer who commands the combined fleets of the powers, enjoining the Cretans and Greek troops not to attack certain forts.

ENFORCING THE BLOCKADE.

Canca, March 24.—The foreign admirals have forbidden entrance of two British merchant vessels which started for Crete before the blockade was proclaimed for the purpose of taking on cargoes of oil. The captains of the two ships have protested against the action of the admirals. The proclamation announcing the blockade of the ports of Crete declared that any Greek vessel coming within the limits of the blockade will be fired on.

TURKISH SQUADRON MOVES.

Constantinople, March 24.—The Turkish squadron, consisting of three armored frigates of 6,000 tons and 10 guns each, one ironclad corvette of 2,000 tons and 5 guns, one river gunboat, one cruiser, three torpedo boats and two torpedo destroyers, which have been lying at Gallipoli for the past few days awaiting orders, have been ordered to proceed to Smyrna and Salonica. The sultan issued an irade this morning summoning into active service 44 battalions of the reserves of the second army corps and the whole of the contingent of 1897.

RUSHING THE TURKS.

The Cretans Gain Ground in Every Skirmish.

Canca March 25.—The fighting in the vicinity of Malaxa continued throughout the day. It was especially desperate at 3 o'clock this afternoon in the village of Tsicalarou, where the insurgents set fire to a number of Turkish houses. The insurgents are occupying Malaxa. The European warships shelled them this afternoon, the firing lasting 10 minutes. The insurgents, however, held their grounds close to the ruins of the block house and did not seem to greatly mind the bombardment.

When the Turkish troops evacuated the block house they set fire to it in order that it might not furnish a shelter to their enemies. It was, however, badly wrecked by the fire of the rebels. It is evident that the Turkish troops here are no match for the insurgents. A body of troops made an attempt to-day to gain the heights above Nerok Ourou, where the Keratidi blockhouse is situated. With this position and the one at Malaxa in their possession, the insurgents would be able to completely blockade Canca from the land side. The troops had gone only a little distance when they were attacked by insurgents, who drove them back. Later, another attempt was made to reach the heights, but this, too, proved unsuccessful. A body of insurgents made an attack upon the Turkish cordon at Halepa. The Turks had a number of mounted guns, and the fire from them prevented the insurgents from coming to close quarters. It was this alone which saved the Moslems from defeat.

Montevardia and Helapa are both within range of the guns of the insurgents who continue to shell both places.

This evening part of Malaxa was blown up with dynamite and the rest of the town is burning. The Turkish warships in Suda bay are bombarding the insurgents, but their fire appears to be wholly ineffective. Malaxa is one of the towns mentioned by the foreign admirals in their proclamation, issued on Tuesday, that must not be attacked by Greek troops or insurgents. The admirals declared that the fortifications which were needed to maintain security and quiet must not be fired upon; otherwise they would use force against the attackers. It was the disobedience of the insurgents to this proclamation that led the foreign warships to bombard them. These vessels fired 90 shells, three of which fell within the forts.

After the place had been evacuated by its Turkish garrison which numbered 64 men, the troops scattered in a direction that led to coast in order to escape from their pursuers. One of them reached Nerok Ourou and 18 managed to make their way to Suda. The others have not been heard from, and it is supposed that they were killed.

Ghastly Crime.

A Family of Five Murdered.

Nashville, March 24.—Particulars of what appears to have been a horrible and brutal murder were received here from Paradise Ridge early this morning. Jacob Ade, one of the oldest and best known farmers of the ridge settlement, his daughter and son, and a little daughter of Henry Moirer were probably murdered and their bodies cremated in Ade's house which was burned to the ground. The theory of murder is strengthened by the fact that all of the bodies were found in the same room, but scattered around over the space occupied by this room. It was thought that the old man was killed for his money, as he was known to be well-to-do and always kept a supply of money on hand, but whether this be true cannot be positively stated now, as the old man's money, or at least the ashes of what was once a big roll of money, has been discovered in the ruins of the house.

The dead are: Jacob Ade, Mrs. Jacob Ade, Lizzie Ade aged 20 years; Henry Ade, aged 13; Rosa Moirer, aged 20.

The Three Friends' Three Tows.

Jacksonville, March 24.—The famous steamer Three Friends arrived in port this evening with the equally famous Mexican Tug Asturias and two barges in tow. She crossed the bar early this morning, but her trip up the river was slow on account of her heavy tows.

It was rumored on the streets Tuesday that the Three Friends had turned her barges and the tug over to the captain of tug O. D. Williams from Miami and that she would proceed to Fernandina and ship arms and ammunition for Cuban soil. The theory of the tattlers is exploded, but the next thing in their minds will have to be something bearing on the new tug that has been brought up the river by the Three Friends. It has been suggested that the Asturias is about the right size for filibustering.

Hockheimer's Views.

Meyerhoeffer—Vat you dink of dem big drusts, Hockheimer?
Hockheimer—I don't like dem much, alretty once. Ven I sells for gash, I gets my bay soomdimes; but ven I drusts somebody, ach! den I gets me myself stuck!

Hero, Poet and Priest.

How Father Ryan Came to Write "The Conquered Banner"

Perhaps no poem ever touched and thrilled the heart of the people of the south as did "The Conquered Banner" by Father Ryan. It came from the hearts of the poet at the time when the southland stood in grief and untold sorrow. Though his face wore a serious and almost sad aspect he loved to gather children about him as he seldom spoke to older people. He always held that little children were angels that walked with God and it was a privilege for a priest to raise his hands and give spotless childhood a blessing, writes Aquila, in Colorado Catholic.

It was several years ago that Aquila met with a young lady from the south who related to him the following beautiful and touching incident in the poet's life. The little story is as follows:

"One Christmas (I was then a little girl," says the young lady, "I came to Father Ryan with a book-mark—a pretty little scroll of 'The Conquered Banner,' and begged him to accept it. 'I can never forget how his lips quivered as he placed his hand upon my head and said, (a little kindly remembrance touched him so)

"Call your little sisters and I will tell them a story about this picture."

"Do you know, my little children," he said as we gathered about his knee, "that people say that 'The Conquered Banner' is a great poem? I never thought so," he said, in that dreamy, far-off way so peculiarly his own. "But a poor woman who did not have much education, but whose heart was filled with love for the south, thought so, and if it had not been for her, this poem would have been swept out of the house and barred up, and I would never have had this pretty book-mark or this true story to tell you."

"Oh, you are going to tell us how you came to write 'The Conquered Banner,'" I cried, all interest and excitement.

"Yes," he answered, "and I am going to tell you how a woman was the medium of its publication." Then a shadow passed over his face, a dreamy shadow that was always there when he spoke of the "Lost Cause," and he continued:

"I was in Knoxville when the news came that General Lee had surrendered at Appomattox court house. It was night and I was sitting in my room in a house where many of the regiment of which I was chaplain were quartered, when an old comrade came in and said to me: 'All is lost; General Lee has surrendered.'"

"I looked at him. I knew by his whitened face that the news was too true. I simply said: 'Leave me,' and he went out of the room. I bowed my head upon the table and wept long and bitterly. Then a thousand thoughts came rushing through my brain. I could not control them. That banner was conquered, its folds must be furled but its story had to be told. We were very poor, my dear little children, in the days of the war. I looked around for a piece of paper to give expression to the thoughts that cried out within me. All that I could find was a piece of brown wrapping paper that lay on the table about an old pair of shoes that a friend sent me. I seized this piece of paper and wrote 'The Conquered Banner.' Then I went to bed leaving the lines there upon the table. The next morning the regiment was ordered away and I thought no more of the lines written in such sorrow and desolation of the spirit on that fateful night. What was my astonishment a few weeks later to see them appear above my name in a Louisville paper. The poor woman who kept the house in Knoxville had gone as she afterwards told me into the room to throw the piece of paper in the fire when she saw something written upon it. She said she sat down and cried and copying them sent them to a newspaper in Louisville. And that was how 'The Conquered Banner' got into print. That is the story of this pretty little scroll you have painted for me."

"When I get to be a woman," said the young lady, "I am going to write that story."

"Are you?" he answered. "Ah, it is dangerous to be a writer, especially for a woman, but if you are determined, let me give you a name," and he wrote on a piece of paper "Zona." "It is an Indian name," he said in explanation, "and it means a snow bird. You will always remember, like a snow bird, to keep your white wings unsullied. A woman should always be pure, and every mother should teach her boys to look upon a woman as they would upon an altar."

Thus far the incident related to me by my southern friend.

Many and many a time in the hurry and bustle of the noisy world the words of the gentle poet-priest came back to me, and in writing this little sketch of how it was through a woman's thoughtfulness that the great southern epic

was given to the world I cannot refrain from repeating this little talk, which was the outgrowth of this story and which might prove a help and a benediction in many a woman's life.

No aspiring column marks the spot where the priest, patriot and poet is sleeping, but his words still live in the hearts of the people, and the regard, the respect, the high esteem he had for women bespeaks the purity of his soul.

Rest, there, saddest, tenderest, most spiritual poet, heart that has sought our hearts and breathed into it a music that the lapse of years cannot still; sleep and rest on. The visions that came to the mind of the priest as he "walked down the Valley of Silence down the dim, voiceless valley alone" are living on, for they are prayers.—Catholic Journal of the New South.

The Freshet in Georgia.

Savannah, March 25.—A special from Albany, Ga., to the Morning News says: With one exception, the bridge over the Flint river at this point, there is not a public bridge left in this county. The iron bridge across Kincheefonee creek recently built jointly by Doughty and Lee counties and costing \$3,000 was swept away last night without a vestige being left. The bridge of the Albany and Northern railroad across the same stream went about the same time, and this with the absence of a bridge over the Flint recently knocked down by a lumber raft, places that road in a bad fix. Traffic has been resumed on the Brunswick and Western and the Savannah Florida western roads. Trains on the Columbia road will hardly be running before Monday, as there are several bad washouts on that line, and the trestle across Notchaway creek is entirely submerged. Newton, the county site of Baker, is a regular Venice, the people there being compelled to go about in boats. The freshet has done thousands of dollars of damage, and it will be some time before its effects will be overcome.

Texas Bank Failure.

Paris, Tex., March 23.—At 10 o'clock this morning the Farmers and Merchants' bank, one of the oldest and thought to be the strongest financial institution in North Texas, with a paid up capital of \$200,000 and a surplus of \$60,000, made an assignment to Judge D. H. Scott. This action was precipitated by the failure of the cotton firm of Martin, Wise & Fitzhugh yesterday. It was known that the firm owed the bank money, and depositors became alarmed and a run began. All checks presented yesterday were promptly cashed. The bank officials foresaw that if the run was kept up it would be forced to the wall. An appeal to the other local banks for assistance was made. When the doors opened this morning the run was renewed and continued until the bank was forced to close. This set people wild and a rush was made for the City National, which was also a large creditor of Martin, Wise & Fitzhugh. A great crowd gathered in front of the building and it became necessary for the police to clear the sidewalks. At 11 o'clock Col. George F. Hicks, vice president of the First National bank, walked in and laid \$100,000 on the City National's counter and told the people to come forward and get their money. This was followed by the announcement that the bank would remain open until 6 o'clock to pay depositors. This allayed the fears of some, but many continued to withdraw their money. Apprehensions are felt for banks in neighboring towns, which are involved in the failure of Martin, Wise & Fitzhugh.

Here is what the Greenville grand jury has to say about the dispensary cases in that country: "In this connection we beg to call the attention of the court to the fact that, in some of the cases brought before us for violation of the dispensary law, the trend and character of the proposed evidence was of the most indefinite and unreliable character. Much of it might have been better used to the advantage of the accused, rather than in behalf of the state. The sending up of cases by magistrates with a string of witnesses involves heavy expense to the county, and we would earnestly urge that in future rigid and extra precautions should be exercised as to the weight and character of the proposed evidence before the cases are sent up to court. In other words, the magistrate should be satisfied of the reasonable sufficiency of the testimony which was to go before the grand jury. In one of the cases brought before us, in which liquor was seized from L. B. Rains, it appeared that the officers also seized and converted to the state's use a barrel of coffee in which the liquor was secreted. The state may have the technical right to do this; but if this is true it appears to be a harsh and unreasonable enforcement of the law, and we recommend that the coffee be seized, or its value, be restored to the owner."

The Frierson Case.

What Secret Service Detective Ryan Says of the Matter.

The following statement of the Frierson case, heretofore mentioned in The State, was obtained from a passenger arriving in the city yesterday afternoon from Laurens, who has been watching the case with much interest:

"Secret Service Detective G. W. Ryan arrived in Laurens to-day with requisition papers from Governor Bushnell of Ohio, which had been honored by Governor Ellerbe, for E. O. Frierson of that city, wanted in Cincinnati for embezzlement. Frierson's attorneys have instituted proceedings of habeas corpus, and will argue the case before Judge Watts in chambers at Spartanburg Saturday evening at 8 o'clock.

"Frierson's friends are hard at work trying to compromise the case, and the wifes have been kept hot for the last 24 hours with messages to the officials in Ohio. Detective Ryan says he is powerless to make any agreement at all; that the young man will have to be taken back to Cincinnati before anything can be done in the matter. Mr. Frierson is highly connected in Laurens, and has many friends and acquaintances in the city and county. He claims that he had authority from his insurance company to take notes from parties who were not able to put up the cash when the policies were issued, and that when these notes came due, payment was refused by some of the makers, and that the insurance people are now trying to get the money out of him. Detective Ryan's story is that the insurance companies do not hold any notes, and that the only way they found out about the alleged stealage was that one of the policy holders died and they were forced to pay the amount of insurance, which was \$3,700 00. The policy was in proper shape and the receipt signed by Frierson.

"They examined the books, but could find no returns from him on this policy. They immediately began an investigation, which resulted in their finding that policies to the amount of about \$50,000 00 had been issued by Frierson, for which they had no returns. A warrant was sworn out, and on a telegram from the prosecuting attorney of Hamilton county, Ohio, to the sheriff of Laurens county, young Frierson was arrested last Saturday. He was bailed out at once, but was rearrested yesterday on the requisition papers granted by Governor Ellerbe.

"It is said there that some years ago another case, in which Frierson's name figured was compromised. "Frierson is very cool and quiet, and does not have anything much to say about the matter, except that he is innocent of any criminal intent. "Detective Ryan says the facts and proofs are against him, and that while he would be glad to see the young men out of the scrape, he is afraid that no sort of compromise can be effected."

"The outlook is not cheerful for Frierson."

Earthquake in New York.

Malone, N. Y., March 23.—At about 6.05 this evening there was a heavy earthquake shook here, starting with a sudden boom like an explosion, and reverberating with a grinding motion for some seconds. It seemed to travel from southeast to northwest. People were alarmed for a moment but no damage was done.

Montreal, March 23.—A heavy shock of earthquake shook the center of this city this evening and caused great consternation. Large buildings shook like reeds and there was a general rush of the inmates for the doors. So far no damage has been reported. Dispatches from various points in this province and from eastern Ontario report similar shocks, but without any damage of consequence.

The farmers Agricultural Hall case, involving the validity of the Blue Ridge scrip, is to be heard by the United States supreme court to-day. This case originated in 1892 when the State sold the Agricultural Hall property at auction. The property was bid off by Edward B. Wesley, who tendered Blue Ridge scrip in payment. The State refused the scrip on the ground that the supreme court had already decided the stuff to be worthless, and the matter has been, in the courts ever since.

San Francisco, March 23.—James J. Corbett this afternoon secured his much wanted interview with Fitzsimmons. The men met in the lobby of the hotel and greeted each other with the utmost cordiality. Corbett entreated Fitzsimmons to give him another chance to retrieve his reputation. Fitzsimmons reiterated his determination never to fight again, but finally promised if he ever entered the ring Corbett should have the first choice.

Monumental Humbug.

The Civil Service Law Under Heavy Fire in Senate.

Washington, March 23.—The senate indulged to-day in an almost one-sided denunciation of the civil service law and its administration. The matter came up in the shape of a resolution offered by Mr. Allen directing the committee on civil service to inquire into the dismissal of some half dozen employes (microscopists) of the bureau of animal industry in South Omaha, Neb. His assertion was that the dismissals were for political reasons. Mr. Gallinger (Rep.) of New Hampshire did not favor the proposed investigation because it would bring out so many hundred other like grievances, and Mr. Hoar objected to it on the same grounds, saying that such a herculean task should not be thrown on any committee at this special session.

The civil service law, as administered, was characterized by Mr. Gallinger as a "monumental humbug." He favored blotting out the law and returning to a condition of things that would "give to every man and woman an equal right to hold office with every other man and woman." This declaration of principle was applauded by the galleries, and the galleries, were appropriately lectured by the Vice President on that breach of propriety.

Various instances of absurdities in civil service examinations were furnished by senators, Mr. Gallinger mentioning the requirement of would-be compositors in the government printing office that they should hop 12 times on one foot; Mr. Wilson saying that civil service examinations had been ordered in his State for a cook in the penitentiary and a Sawyer on an Indian reservation, and even Mr. Hawley, who had been a member of the house committee which reported the law originally, admitting that the law had fallen into a state of "conspicuous incompetency," and giving as an illustration the fact that when an army engineer in charge of a public work on Long Island sound has elected a competent inspector in the prison of a steamboat captain who knew every rock and sandbar in the neighborhood, the commission sent to him "a school master from Rhode Island." The only senator who defended the law and its administration was Mr. Lodge. The upshot of it all was that Mr. Allen's motion was agreed to without a division, but amended so as to instruct the committee on civil service and retrouchnent to inquire and report whether the civil service law should be continued, amended or repealed.

Queen Anoa, of Holland, has insured her life in trust for her daughter for a sum equivalent to £500,000 or two and a half million of dollars.

Stand at the Head.

Aug. J. Bogel, the leading druggist of Shreveport, La., says: "Dr. Wm. King's New Discovery is the only thing that cures my cough, and it is the best seller I have." J. F. Campbell, of Sanford, Ariz., writes: "Dr. King's New Discovery is all that is claimed for it: it never fails, and is a sure cure for Consumption, Coughs and Colds. I cannot say enough for its merits." Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Coughs and Colds is not an experiment. It has been tried for a quarter of a century, and to-day stands at the head. It never disappoints. Free trial bottles at Dr. J. F. W. DeLorme's Drug Store.

The March numbers of the Fashion Magazines at H. G. Osteen & Co's.

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