

GOING TO CHARLOTTE.

A Public Subscription Being Raised to Aid the Firemen.

Sumter will be well represented at the Firemen's Tournament in Charlotte during the Mecklenberg celebration, and this city will be well advertised as a progressive and up to date place. Monaghan Hose Company and Delgar Real Squad will go, carrying their hose wagons and horses and a strong equad. That they will present as fine an appearance in every respect as any company present there is no question. There are not finer horses anywhere, and the entire outfit is the best that could be procured.

A subscription is being raised by the business men of the city to assist the firemen in defraying the expenses of the trip, which is a public-spirited and commendable action on their part. The firemen deserve all and more than they have ever received, having given their time and spent their own money freely to organize, equip and maintain a volunteer department that renders as reliable and efficient service as a regular paid department could. Apart from the pleasure and benefit that the firemen will derive from attendance on the Charlotte Tournament, the advertisement that Sumter will receive by having them there must be considered. It will bring Sumter before the people of North Carolina, and the city will be judged by her representatives, and with such representatives Sumter cannot and will not be underestimated or illy judged.

We should all be glad that Monaghan and Delgar squads are going and should aid them as liberally and generously as possible. Such aid is not giving anything away in charity, it is simply paying a small portion of the debt due the firemen.

The railroads have offered to transport the wagons and horses free of charge, now let the citizens do themselves proud by raising a purse sufficient to defray the expenses of their representatives in Charlotte.

RAZORS IN THE AIR.

Two Negro Women Fight on the Court House Square.

The sacred precincts of Magistrate Wells' temple of Justice was profaned and violated Thursday afternoon by a rude and unseemly broil in which a razor figured conspicuously. Clara Anderson and Melinda Hopkins, colored, had a fight of small dimensions some time earlier in the day, and after declaring a temporary armistice repaired to Magistrate Wells' office seeking legal justice. Arriving at the office hostilities were renewed and everybody in the vicinity of the scene of strife was attracted by the uproar raised by the combatants. The skirmish was opened with a scattering volley of abuse, which was immediately followed up with a charge in which fists and finger nails were brought into energetic service. Honors were evenly divided for a few moments as the opposing forces were evenly matched. But this did not suit Melinda, and she quickly unlimbered and brought into action a smooth cutting razor which she had kept concealed from the enemy. Clara was dead game, however, and did not order a retreat in the face of the superior armament of her adversary, but kept up the fight all along the line. Melinda was making great inroads in the costume of Clara and would have inevitably driven her from the field or reduced her to mince meat had the onlookers not rushed in and put an end to the strife.

The warring women were pacified by superior forces and were then dragged off to the guard house by policemen. They were before the Mayor Friday morning and were found guilty of disturbing the peace of the city. The Mayor demanded an indemnity of \$2 each from the women which was collected by Clerk and Treasurer Hurst.

Strange to say, although Clara's clothing was washed all around her body and arms, her flesh was not cut in any place. She was probably saved by her corset from the deepest cut of all.

Weekly Report of Health Officer.

Deaths and births reported to Health Officer for week ending May 14th:

DEATHS

1 white female, aged 8 months, cause of death, Gastro Enteritis.

Colored Males—One 4 days old, cause of death, Lack of Vitality. One 29 years old, cause of death, Consumption. One 18 days old, cause of death, Convulsions. One 5 years old, cause of death, Pneumonia.

Colored Females—One 5 months old, cause of death, Dysentery and Feeding. One 75 years old, cause of death, Paralysis. One 85 years old, cause of death, Organic Disease of Heart. One 21 years old, cause of death, Consumption.

Total deaths—1 white, 8 colored.

Total births—3. 2 white males, 1 colored male.

Take JOHNSON'S

CHILL & FEVER

TONIC.

The Telephone Patents.

The telegraphic reports Wednesday morning conveyed an erroneous impression as to the effect of the decision of the United States Supreme Court in the suit against the Bell Telephone Company for the annulment of the Enlie Berliner patents. The question at issue was not one involving the validity of the patent but whether the said patent was or was not secured by means of fraud. The patent has been in force all the time the suit has been in progress, and the decision will not alter the status of the independent companies that have been manufacturing telephones for several years. The Bell Telephone Company could have entered suit against them at any time if these companies had been infringing on the patent in question, but this has not been done because the independent companies have carefully avoided infringement. They will continue making telephones as usual and apprehend no interference from the Bell people.

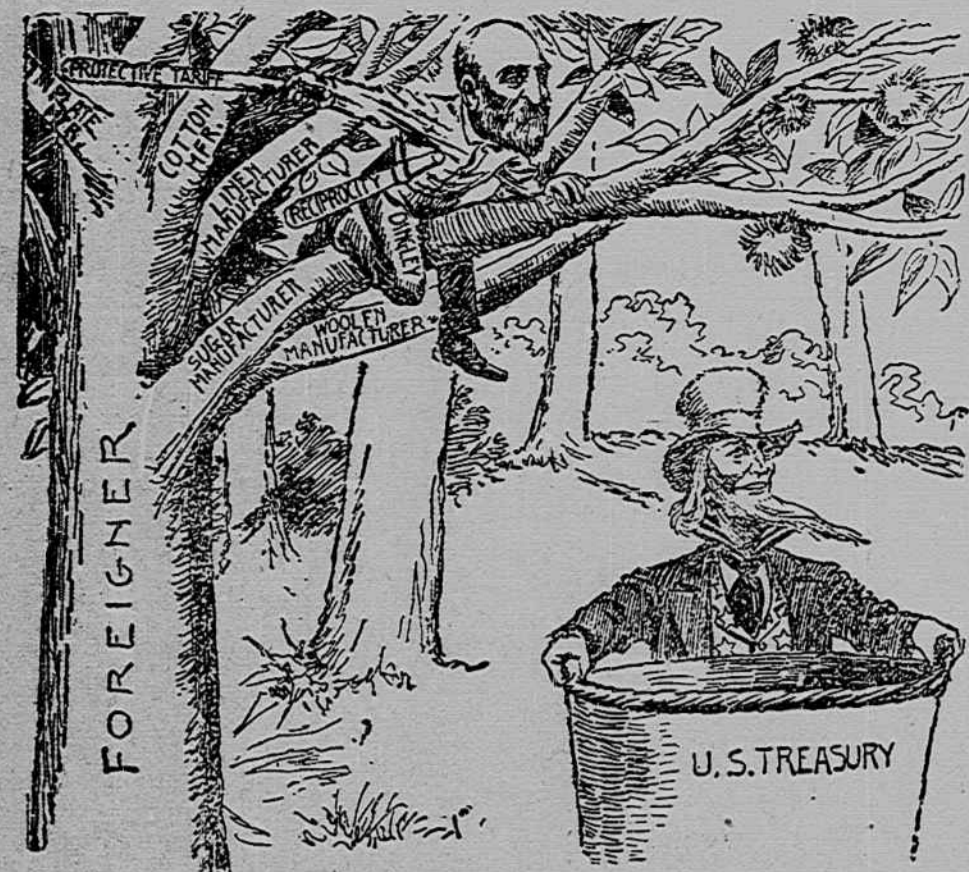
The Mason Electrical Works will go ahead filling all orders for telephones as they have in the past. At present this company has orders ahead for the entire output of the factory and the telephones made in Sumter are growing in popularity as they become better known.

Something to Know

It may be worth something to know that the very best medicine for restoring the tired out nervous system to a healthy vigor is Electric Bitters. This medicine is purely vegetable, acts by giving tone to the nerve centres in the stomach, gently stimulates the Liver and Kidneys, and aids these organs in throwing off impurities in the blood. Electric Bitters improves the appetite, aids digestion, and is pronounced by those who have tried it as the very best blood purifier and nerve tonic. Try it. Sold for 50c or \$1.00 per bottle at Dr. J. F. W. DeLorme's Drug Store.

SAME OLD CHESTNUTS.

By making the foreigners contribute from \$150,000,000 to \$200,000,000 annually to get into our market we enable our own people to run their business at a profit.—American Economist, Organ of Protective Tariff League, March 26, 1897.



Uncle Sam: "Say, Dingley, you might as well come down. You're not getting any chestnuts, and you're not fooling voters. McKinley had some experience up that tree—it's a horse chestnut—in 1890. He pretended that he was making the foreigner pay the tax, but he soon found out what the people thought of him and his bill. The bulk of Americans are both honest and intelligent. The intelligent voter knows that you can't make the foreigner pay his taxes, and the honest voter prefers to pay his own taxes. You can never make your bill popular by such tomfoolery."

Blaine Opposed a Duty on Hides.

The following letter from Secretary of State James G. Blaine in 1890 is supposed to have had great weight with the ways and means committee:

WASHINGTON, April 10, 1890.

DEAR MR. MCKINLEY—It is a great mistake to take hides from the free list, where they have been for so many years. It is a slap in the face to the South Americans, with whom we are trying to enlarge our trade. It will benefit the farmer by adding 5 to 8 per cent to the price of his children's shoes. It will yield a profit to the butcher only, the last man that needs it. The movement is injudicious from beginning to end, in every form and phase. Pray stop it before it sees light. Such movements as this for protection will protect the Republican party into a speedy retirement. Yours hastily,

JAMES G. BLAINE.

Hon. William McKinley, Chairman Ways and Means.

Where is the Blaine this year who can head off the westerners who want their share of protection and foolishly imagine that they can get it by a duty on hides? It is perfectly consistent with the protection system to tax hides, especially as the bulk of the tax would probably go to a few monopoly butchers and ranchmen. But observe some of the effects upon our industries:

The importations of untaxed hides and skins last year were valued at \$20,216,523. The goatskins were valued at \$10,303,359. The former were mostly converted into sole leather, beltings and such like heavy material, for which our native hides are not thick enough. The goatskins are not produced in this country.

From this raw material we not only manufacture boots, shoes and leather goods for our own people cheaper and better than they are made elsewhere in the world, but we exported finished products of the value of \$20,242,756. Without free and cheap raw material this export trade would have been impossible, and our own people, as Mr. Blaine pointed out, would be compelled to pay more for their footwear. The wages paid to our workers in leather last year amounted to \$25,542,166.

Protecting the Few Woolgrowers.

Suppose the Dingley duties on wool would give the woolgrowers all the protection claimed and that the price of wool would actually go up the full amount of the duty, which, of course, is absurd. What would be the effect upon the country at large?

Mr. Edward Atkinson, statistician, estimates the annual wool product at \$55,000,000 out of a total of \$13,200,000,000 produced by all the workers of the country and the persons dependent on the wool industry at 300,000 out of a total population of 73,000,000. The wool duty then means that out of every 240 persons 239 are to be "held up" for the benefit of the other one. This is a sample of what protection does. Of course more than 300,000 persons may sometimes raise a few sheep, but the interests of these others are more those of the consumer than of the sheep raiser, and they would lose more because of increased cost of wools than they would gain by the increased price of wool.

The protective tariff system is a farce when considered in connection with the farmer or the workingman. Will they ever fully appreciate it?

An Odious Tax.

The tin plate makers wish to boom their business by increasing the duty on imported tin plate, to the injury of the canning industry and other industries that flourish by reason of cheap tin plate. Another blow is struck at business by abolishing the rebate on exported tin cans. Now canned goods exported in cans made of imported tin are allowed a drawback of the duty paid, and thus an export business has been built up in canned fruits, oysters, vegetables, petroleum, etc. Over 4,000,000 tin cans are sent abroad annually, containing oil which competes with that of Russia. When Russia can buy tin plate at \$2.70 a box, while we have to pay \$3.50 for it, it is evident that our competition will be rendered difficult. Mr. Dingley robs Peter to pay Paul.—Baltimore Sun.

Why We Shiver.

It is true that woolen clothing, underwear and blankets will be out of the reach of people of moderate means when Dingley has his way, but just think how sweet it is to suffer for one's country and to shiver in order that the robber barons may continue to wax fat and contribute to the "legitimate" expenses of the g. o. p.—Louisville Post.

Champ Clark's Wit.

Champ Clark of Missouri is not only one of the wittiest men in the house of representatives, but he is one of the best posted on the tariff question.

In ridiculing some of the rates of the Dingley bill that to him seemed subject to criticism, he recited how a man of the name of Goodyear went before the ways and means committee and secured the tariff he wanted by some skillful palaver about the great statesmen that Maine had produced. Then he said:

"Mr. Chairman, that piece of 'soft soap' made it harder for every poor man in the United States to build a house. Governor Dingley swallowed the bait as quick as a trout would swallow a fly [laughter], and next summer some poor devil out west, living in a dugout 100 miles from a railroad station, who voted for McKinley under the deluded idea that prosperity would come under his administration and who has not heard of this tariff bill, ciphers it out that he can build him a two room cottage with lumber and other building materials at the old rate. He goes to the station to get the lumber and finds that the price has gone sky high, and he goes back to his home and says to his wife: 'My dear, I am sorry that we must stay in the dugout. We cannot build our little house. A great man by the name of Governor Dingley has put the price of lumber and other things so high that we cannot do it, but, thank God, he has left dragon's blood free.' [Laughter.] Next year, when my handsome friend from Iowa (Mr. Dolliver) returns to that fine agricultural district which he represents, some man who has not been able to buy a coat because of the high price of woolen cloth will say to his neighbor, 'There comes Dolliver, who put up the price of woolen goods.' But the successful candidate for the post-office in that district says, 'Oh, but Dolliver put divi-divi on the free list!' And in chorus they sing, 'Dolliver and divi-divi forever.' [Laughter. Applause on the Democratic side.]

Why Increase the Coal Duty?

Under the existing tariff bituminous coal pays 40 cents a ton. The Dingley bill proposes to make this 75 cents. In 1895-6 the imports of bituminous coal into the United States were 1,243,835 tons. The exports were 2,246,284. The figures for Canada were: Imported from Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, etc., 123,404 tons; from Quebec, Ontario, etc., 39,987; from British Columbia, 627,257; exports to these three divisions respectively, 413 tons, 1,671,303 and 3,094. Canada now proposes in case the Dingley rate is imposed to retaliate by a high duty on our coal, which will certainly not stimulate exports. Here is an export business worth twice as much as the corresponding import business, and it is proposed to run the risk of ruining the former for the sake of screwing \$350,000 taxes out of the latter, and this on the plea of reviving American industry. Can any sane man fail to see that, even assuming that imports do not fall off, it is hardly worth while for the sake of a paltry \$350,000 to tempt Canada into ruining an established business nearly twice as large as that which is to yield the tax? Yet this is the way in which "the old thing works."

The Protection Umbrella.



Punctures the Theory.

The opposition of the protected interests of Massachusetts to a duty on hides looks like an abandonment of the favorite protectionist theory that "the foreigner pays the tax."

"Dip"
"Dip"
"Dip"

Dip no more—when you begin let your pen slide 'till you're done—you can't do it without a Waterman Ideal Fountain Pen.

WE SELL THEM.

H. G. OSTEN & CO.,
LIBERTY ST.

To You
Who Use
PENS, INK,
Paper, Blank Books:

AT H. G. OSTEN & CO'S

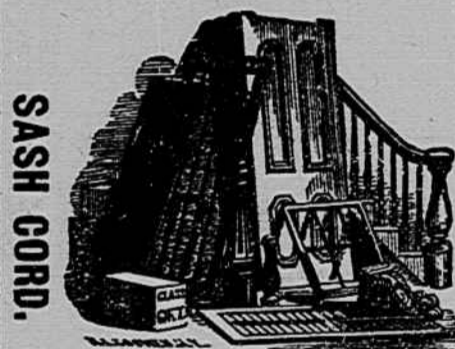
You can get everything that you want at the lowest prices. We are so situated that we can afford to make prices closer than any one else.

All Goods are new and of the best quality. No shop-worn goods.

We make a specialty of School Supplies and also keep a full line of Stationery, Blanks Books, Etc. Come and inspect our goods.

H. G. OSTEN & CO.,
LIBERTY STREET,
SUMTER, S. C.

The Largest and Most Complete
Establishment South
Geo. S. Haeker & Son,



SASH CORDS.

MANUFACTURERS OF—

DOORS, SASH, BLINDS,
Moulding & Building
Material.

Office and Warerooms, King, opposite Cannon Street.

CHARLESTON, S. C.

Purchase our make, which we guarantee superior to any sold South, and thereby save money.

Window and Fancy Glass a Specialty
October 16—o

W. L. DOUGLAS
\$3.00 SHOE

The Style, Fit and Wear could not be improved for Double the Price.

W. L. Douglas \$3.50, \$4.00 and \$5.00 Shoes are the productions of skilled workmen, from the best material possible to put into shoes sold at these prices. We make also \$2.50 and \$2.25 shoes for men, and \$2.50, \$2.00 and \$1.75 for boys, and the W. L. Douglas \$3.50 Police shoe, very suitable for letter-carriers, policemen and others having much walking to do.

We are constantly adding new styles to our already large variety, and there is no reason why you cannot be suited, so insist on having W. L. Douglas Shoes from your dealer.

We use only the best Calf, Russia Calf (all colors), French Patent Calf, French Enamel, Vici Kid, etc., graded to correspond with prices of the shoes.

If dealer cannot supply you, write W. L. DOUGLAS, Brockton, Mass. CATALOGUE FREE.

For sale by

J. RYTTEBERG & SONS.

The Gunning! Gunning! Gunning!

STRICTLY HIGH GRADE.

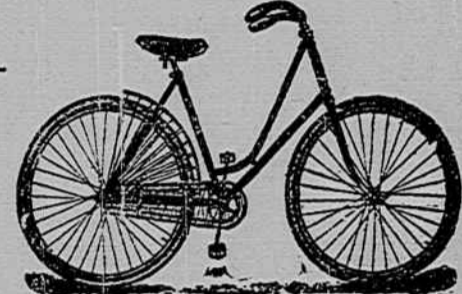
The Best is the Cheapest.

There is none better than the



GUNNING

Finest in Finish.
Best in quality of material and workmanship.
Style unequalled.
Tool Steel Bearings.
Seamless Steel Tubing.
Perfect in every detail.



We are "GUNNING" for you.

Send for Catalogue.

Elgin Sewing Machine & Bicycle Co.
ELGIN, ILLINOIS.

25 HEAD
Horses and Mules
Just Arrived at

W. M. GRAHAM'S

Feed and Sale Stables, Sumter, S. C.

Also on hand Buggies,
ALL FOR SALE LOW FOR CASH.

Jan 27

THE COLUMBIAN CYCLOPEDIA.
35 Volumes 7,500 Illustrations 28,600 Pages,

Complete and Up to Date.

The largest American Cyclopaedia. Pronounces all Titles. Volumes of Handy Size. Furnishes the Largest and Latest Maps. Includes an Unabridged Dictionary. Information Right Down to Date. You can keep Up to the Times by adding an Annual each year.

No other Cyclopaedia even pretends to claim these features, but don't you think they are pretty important? Send your name and let us show you in detail the various points of superiority possessed by THE COLUMBIAN. It covers the whole range of knowledge; is prepared by the most able and experienced editors and cyclopaedia writers, and is commended by the best judges throughout the country.

The Best Family Library.

Because it is clear and simple in language, free from technicalities, non-partisan and non-sectarian, and above all Neither "British" nor Sectional but

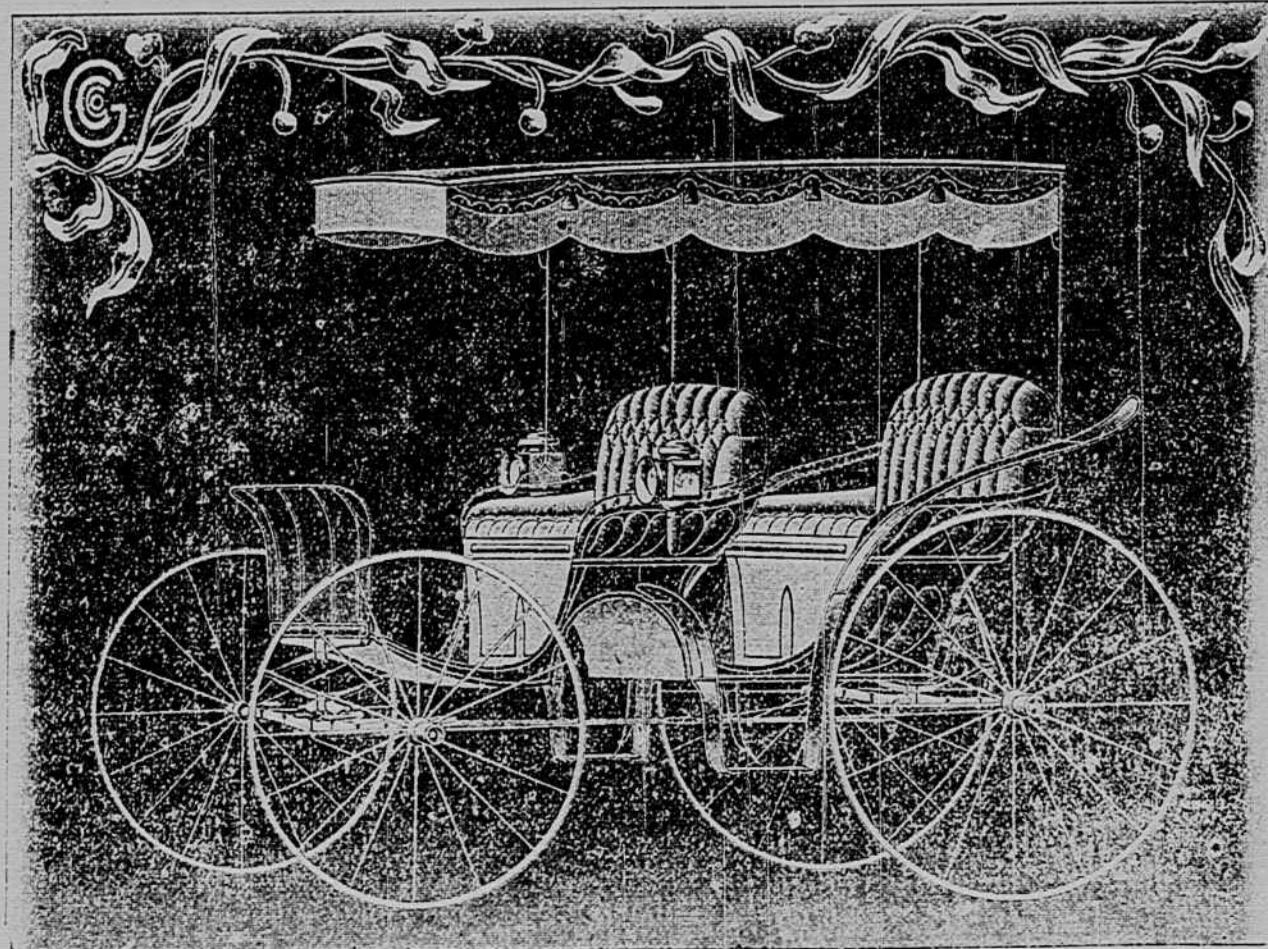
Thoroughly American.

A work of reference which is foreign or narrowly sectional has no place in an American Home. Sold on easy terms of payment.

Garretson, Cox & Co., Publishers.

BUFFALO, N. Y.

For full descriptive circulars and terms send to our Southern agents } The Columbian Book Co., { 81 Whitehall St. Atlanta Ga.



Fine Buggies, Surreys and Carriages.

Do you want a nice Vehicle to ride in this Spring. If you do, call on me and examine my stock, I have a large and well selected Stock of Buggies, Surreys, Carriages, etc., and my prices are as low as the lowest.

Geo. F. EPPERSON.

Office at Epperson's Stables.