

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 SOUTHERN, Established June, 1846

Consolidated Aug. 2, 1881.

SUMTER, S. C., WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1897.

New Series—Vol. XVII. No. 13

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.
Quintessence and tributes of respects will be
charged for.

THE DISPENSARY.

The Legislative Committee on the State dispensary completed the regular quarterly examination yesterday and submitted the following report to the governor:

COLUMBIA, S. C., Oct. 20, 1897.
To His Excellency W. H. Elerbe, Governor.

Sir:—The committee met on Monday, Oct. 18, and proceeded to examine the books and financial transactions of the State dispensary for the quarter ending Sept. 30, 1897.

The stock of liquors and supplies on hand was taken on Oct. 1 by Mr. J. B. Douthett, representing the board of control, and Mr. J. P. Thomas, Jr., representing this committee. The accounts of the various inventories taken upon the statement of the assets and liabilities hereto attached. All the stock and supplies were actually exhibited and counted and valued except certain goods in transit, invoices of which had been received by the bookkeeper and entered upon his books during the month of September. The original invoices of these goods, to wit: 300 barrels of whiskey and 50 cases of whiskey were exhibited, amounting to \$25,297.88. These goods were counted as on hand and included in the inventory.

The balance sheet of the State dispensary for the quarter ending Sept. 30, 1897, and the statement of assets and liabilities, and the statement of profits and losses were checked by the books. We append to this report copies of these statements and also copy of the cash statement for the quarter. There appears upon the statement of assets and liabilities under the head of "unearned profits" \$45,031.14. This item consists of the estimated profits on goods shipped to the county dispensers and unsold. It has been the habit for some time to estimate these unearned profits and make an entry of them. We recommend that the practice of estimating the unearned profits be abolished, for the reason that the same are uncertain and misleading.

We have examined the original invoices of all liquors and supplies purchased during the past quarter and also all vouchers for disbursements made. We find the books and entries therein correct, according to the record and data furnished us. The State treasurer's report shows on Sept. 30, 1897, balance of cash in State treasury amounting to \$78,530.61. According to the cash book of the State dispensary the balance of cash amounted on that day to \$69,873.24. There was, therefore, on that day \$8,657.37 more in the State treasury than was called for by the books of the State dispensary. The warrants drawn prior to Oct. 1 and unpaid amount to \$3,651.83, according to itemized list furnished us by the bookkeeper. This makes the difference between the State treasurer and the State dispensary \$6.04. At our last report this difference was \$15.04. This amount is now reduced to \$6.04 by the payment of warrant No. 38, drawn in April, 1896, which warrant has heretofore been accounted for.

We have examined the matter of insurance on local dispensaries and find that the amount of insurance runs from 10 to 25 per cent. of the stock on hand. If the policy of insuring local dispensaries is to be followed, then, in our opinion the insurance is inadequate and should be increased.

We find that the present law requires that all dispensers give a uniform bond of \$5,000. We find that some of these dispensers carry over \$7,000 in stock, and in many cases the bonds of \$3,000 is totally inadequate. We, therefore, recommend that the amount of the bond required be increased in these cases where large stocks are carried.

We find that the stock of merchandise at the State dispensary and in the hands of local dispensaries on Oct. 1 was over \$350,000. In our opinion the business of the dispensary could be as profitably and as economically conducted with a large decrease in the stock. If this policy were pursued the profits to the school fund would be realized much quicker.

Respectfully submitted,
Altamont Moses, Senator.
Jno P Thomas,
C R D Burns,
Members of House.

A PRESENT PHASE OF THE NEGRO PROBLEM.

The announcement that the Charleston Shoe Factory has found it necessary to throw its doors open to negro labor brings us face to face once more with a problem which is destined to tax to the utmost the best attention of the thinking people of the Southern States. It is not our purpose at this time to argue the merits of individual cases, but we deem it a duty to comment upon a trend of circumstances which has recently recently forced itself upon the consideration of this community.

A few months ago the Knitting Mill, bowing before the imperative demand for cheap labor, changed the complexion of its employees. More recently the Charleston Cotton Mill, reorganized after a protracted period of unprofitable operation, sought a similar road to prosperity. And now we are informed that the management of the Shoe Factory is looking to place their institution upon a basis of economic production, which will meet the trade to which it caters.

It is neither strange nor unreasonable that these changes have called forth from the white men and women formerly employed in these factories protests vigorous and bitter. In their own eyes they have doubtless appeared to be the victims of that corporate greed against which it has grown popular in recent times to hurl maledictions deep and loud. Nor is it altogether unexpected that certain people and papers in the State have seized with avidity what they conceive to be a golden opportunity for fanning into flame once more the heated animosity which certain politicians have so assiduously cultivated to the detriment of Charleston. The operatives may be readily forgiven a bitterness to which emphasis is lent by personal privation, and Charleston has unfortunately had to grow accustomed to misrepresentation in quarters of the state from which she and her people should have been privileged to seek for comfort and find sympathy in their hours of tribulation.

But these things will pass away. Individual hardships, wrongs if you will, however acute, are but of transient consideration, and partisan animosities seldom, if ever, survive the evils which give them birth. But the problems of a nation endure, and the recent changes in these factories in Charleston constitute a phase of the greatest problem which confronts our people.

The Proclamation of Emancipation made the black man a freeman; the Constitution of the United States declares him to be a voter; but time alone shall declare what place in the citizenship of the nation he is capable of occupying. It is mere folly to assert that we have reached a solution of the question thrust upon the Southern people at the point of the bayonet. Thirty odd years of suffering, have dulled the edge of the sharp anger with which they picked up their burden. As time has gone on the sturdy manhood of the South has ceased reining. Our people have reached the point at which the past is subordinated to the present. They are seeking a solution of their problem with an earnestness as deep and sincere as that with which they opposed the propounding of it. It is this fact which brings us to so careful a consideration of the significance of the changes which have recently been made in the factories.

What centuries may bring forth no one may predict. The negro has to work out his own destiny. The eminent talents possessed by individual members of his race, hold before his hope the image of higher things, mentally, morally, even socially, than it is now possible for him to attain. The adversity against which he has had to struggle in these first days of his citizenship is beginning to bring him wisdom. The light is still a flickering one, but it burns, and there is fruitful promise in the circumstance. It is to his and to our interest that he should seek work where it is most available. In times gone he was veritably our brewer of wood and drawer of water. Since he is here and must remain here, is it not the part of wisdom to make the best of him we can?

It is preposterous to talk of retaining among us a pauper class, 8,000,000 strong. The fields no longer afford occupation sufficient to occupy that number of persons. The natural increase in race has far outrun the demands of household employment in the cities. A few aspiring men have reached out for higher culture and the honored professions, but the great masses of the people, the black people, remain to day unprofitable servants to the State. These ever increasing hordes are a menace to society and a burden to the nation. There is but one way out of this multiplicity of difficulties. The negro must find work, and the white people must aid him in finding it. The only sure way to make him a good citizen is to make him an industrious one.

One thing seems to be clear; social equality, or anything approximating it, is simply out of the question.

The white man will revolt the instant that subject is mooted; and rightly deeming that association on equal terms at the bench, the loom, the forge, is the first step in that direction, he will combat to the last gasp any proposition which contemplates indiscriminate employment of whites and blacks under the same roof. The manufacturer must choose between the races; he cannot mix them.

This then is the issue: Shall we give the negro work, and if so, what work? The duty which we should pay to him, we owe to ourselves. Until he can help himself, he must hinder us. He will remain ignorant, vicious, idle, until we assist him to work.

Charleston is proving herself a pioneer in an important, maybe a dangerous, experiment; but the reward would be so great should success follow that the hazard she takes is justified. Negro labor is the cheapest labor this country has ever known. Commercial progress and prosperity in these days demand cheaper labor. Should Charleston discover that she can set a million spindles to humming in her midst by putting her colored population to work, she will not only rid herself of an incubus, which has handicapped her hopelessly in the race for prosperity, but she will have blazed a way which her sister cities will not be slow to follow.

For the rest, it should be said that it will not take white labor long to adjust itself to the change, should the change come. Skilled, honest, intelligent toil has never gone begging for long. Individuals will suffer. Every revolution must have its martyrs. But the increased prosperity that would come to the South could her hordes of idle negroes be put at work, would make places on a higher plane of employment for millions of white men.—News and Courier.

England Declines.

London, Oct. 20.—Lord Salisbury to-night sent to Ambassador Hay the reply of the British government to the proposals of the American bimetallic special commission headed by Senator Wolcott. It is a diplomatically worded note.

His lordship says that the government of Great Britain is not able to reopen the India mints at present. He regrets the inability to accede to the proposals of the American commissioners, Great Britain having as great an interest as the United States and France in securing a stable par exchange for gold and silver and an enlarged use of silver.

In these circumstances, continues Lord Salisbury, the British government does not see the desirability of an international monetary conference, but will be pleased to consider any other practical suggestions from the United States.

Lord Salisbury encloses with the note a copy of the statement of Sir J. Westland, head of the financial department of India, which was under discussion at the meeting of the cabinet council last Saturday, and which takes strong grounds against the reopening of the India mints.

Senator Wolcott is not in London this evening.

Ambassador Andrew White came from Berlin last Saturday. He has avoided publicity, but has had several conferences with Senator Wolcott. In the course of an interview with the correspondent of the Associated Press Mr. White said that Germany's action as to bimetalism will depend upon England's.

THE DISPENSARY SAT ON BY SIMONTON.

Charleston, October, 19.—Judge Simonton hit the dispensary another hard blow this afternoon when he filed his decision in the case of Ferst & Sons & Co. vs. J. G. Stroble, a State constable.

G. C. Varn, Byrd and F. M. Felder were agents for Ferst at Bamberg. Stroble seized their stock of liquors on the ground that they sold to Charles McCoy, a drunkard, and that some of the jugs or packages were not labelled.

Judge Simonton, in his decision, held that it was not necessary for the packages to have been labelled. The goods were carried under contract in original packages and delivered to consignees.

On the issue of selling to a drunkard, he held that there was much conflicting evidence. Some of the witnesses swore he was not drunk. Others said he was not drunk at the time he made the purchase, but was soon after.

"The party making the sale must either know or have substantial reason to believe the man was drunk. Varn and Byrd swore they did not know he was drunk, and other eye witnesses swear that they are of the same opinion. The rule is made absolute. Let the injunction stand."

ARMS AND AMUNITION.

St. Louis, Oct. 19.—Three Cuban patriots, direct from the scene of the terrible struggle on the island, have been in St. Louis the last fourteen days, procuring and shipping ammunition for their work is at last completed and they leave to-day for Cuba. One of them is authority for the statement that during their stay they have purchased and forwarded to a Texas port \$225,000 worth of cartridges, dynamite, rifles, pistols and saddlery intended for the insurgent army. Two expeditions conveying these supplies will sail to-night from a Texas port between the city of Bagdad and Port Galveston, and in the Caribbean Sea will meet two other expeditions that Sunday night sets sail from New York.

The Cuban agents are Col. George Johnston, of the staff of General Carlos Roloff, Col. Edward Betancourt and Captain H. A. Smith. Col. Johnston, who was interviewed by a reporter, said:

"Our mission has been to buy supplies for the department of the east. Owing to quarantine, we could do nothing at Key West, and came to St. Louis. We have accomplished our mission here by the purchase of \$225,000 worth of ammunition and the like."

Col. Johnston continued on the subject of Cuba:

"Autonomy, no. Nothing but absolute freedom. We have 60,000 men under arms in Cuba. Virtually the whole island, except Havana, Matanzas and Cienfuegos, is in our hands. We could take Havana by means of dynamite, but we would have to notify the foreign consuls, who of course would notify the enemy, else we should blow up our friends.

"At a meeting of representatives of the whole army of the east and of the west as late as October 4, at Holquin, at which I was present, and which has not yet been mentioned in the papers, it was reiterated that Cuba would accept nothing but absolute freedom. It is a waste of time for the United States to deal with Spain relative to granting autonomy or anything else short of absolute freedom. What we want of the United States is the granting of belligerent rights. With that, in less than seventy-two hours we would have out of the various ports of the United States forty-two vessels flying the Cuban flag.

"Before the American congress meets again there will be events which we hope will compel congress to recognize us. We have been on the defensive heretofore. Now we are on the offensive. We begin to retaliate. The armies of the east and west are about to consolidate. They will shortly attack Matanzas. Possibly Havana will be assailed. We are about to show congress that we mean business, if we have not shown it heretofore.

"With belligerent rights, the island will be free before December 31 of this year. Without recognition, we shall be free before March of next year."

Short Potato Crop.

A Heavy Falling Off in Tonnage.

New York, Oct. 20.—Not since 1892 has the potato crop of the United States proved so nearly a failure, says the American Agriculturist in its final report of the yield of 1897. Compared with the liberal crop of last year, there is an apparent falling off of nearly 30 per cent. in tonnage, and the quality of the whole is greatly deficient. County and township returns from all the leading potato-growing states to this weekly newspaper show the yield of potatoes to be 174,000,000 bushels, against 245,000,000 in 1896, 286,000,000 in 1895, 185,000,000 in 1894 and only 155,000,000 in the short crop of 1892. The average rate of yield per acre is placed at 64 bushels, taking the country at large, against 86 bushels in 1896, 89 in 1895 and 62 in 1892.

The reasons for the disaster to the potato crop of 1897 are about as varied as a multiplicity of causes could make them. Standing out with more prominence than any other two factors are blight and rot, as a result of extremes of weather conditions. Excessive rainfall here and there, failure of germination, later serious drought, rust, scab, insects, etc., have all been prominently in evidence, although complaints of this character are less general than of the two first named. While the yield in bushels is small, the quality is almost deficient.

This is true of most, but not all states. The crop is best in the northwest. Such portions of Canada as make a specialty of potatoes, notably Ontario and the maritime provinces, show a general but not serious shortage.

We have bright, honorable merchants in this town, and they give the public what it demands. They never offer as a substitute something "just as good."

To Die With Honor.

LA LUCHA SAYS SHE HAS NOTHING TO LOSE WHILE UNITED STATES HAS EVERYTHING.

Habana, Oct. 20.—La Lucha in an energetic leading editorial entitled "War is Convenient for Spain, says: "The sensational American press is renewing the campaign in favor of American intervention, which, it says will meet the approval of congress. Rather than that we should continue enduring this sort of thing, it is preferable that our American friends should decide to interfere. Spain has nothing to lose. Her case is the same as that of a poor man suing a rich one. The rich man is always the loser. Moreover, if Spain were to go to war with the American Union it would be proof positive that in our national character still exists the traditional Spanish honor, which we would defend even more carefully than our lives."

At a largely attended meeting of delegates of the trade associations and of the United Merchants league, together with others officially described as particular admirers of Lieutenant General Weyler, held in the Spanish casino to-day, it was decided to organize a great farewell nonpolitical demonstration "in honor of Gen. Weyler on the day he sails from Habana."

NO DEMONSTRATION.

Habana, via Key West, Fla., Oct. 20.—A special dispatch from Madrid to El Dirario de la Marina says that the government has cabled to the Lieut. Gen Weyler strictly prohibiting any demonstration the day of his departure for Spain, and intimating that if these instructions are not complied with by him he will be held strictly accountable.

Many army officers who consider that Sagasta's policy of autonomy for Cuba is dangerous to Spanish sovereignty, have applied for leave to return to Spain. Lieut. Gen Weyler has invariably refused these applications.

The word "treason" has been heard of late in several quarters where it is believed that the government intends to deliver the public offices into the hands of the insurgents, which, in the opinion of critics of such a course, would be equivalent to granting independence.

Gen. Weyler has cabled the government that although he has fixed upon the 30th as the day of leaving, he may embark a day or two earlier or later.

A Preacher's Case.

In a Georgia city lives a popular divine who is liked by all classes. He is very fond of fishing and hunting, and does not object to telling a side splitting anecdote occasionally. Here is one:

Once a party went fishing. There was some snake medicine along, and one or more of the party took too much aboard. In the evening a terrific storm came up. As it was nearing the party, one, more pious than the result, knelt down at the root of a tree and began to pray for protection. About the same time one of those who had tapped the jug too often shouted:

"Come ahead, you blasted old cyclone! Tear us all to pieces! Blow us to Halifax! Hurrah for the United States and Kinchofonnee!"

When he closed, the humble supplicant at the root of the tree raised his horrified face to heaven and cried:

"Oh, Lord, don't mind what that confounded crazy fool is saying. He is blind drunk, as you can see for yourself, and he don't belong to the church, noway."—Atlanta Constitution.

Halifax, N. S., Oct. 20.—The United States ship Yantic is undergoing repairs, to her machinery. She was out in the gales of Saturday and Sunday, which tossed the ship about pretty roughly. The pumping machinery began to work badly but the ship was proceeding on her way and had passed Halifax harbor when another accident to the machinery caused the commander to put about and make for this port as he was afraid to go further without repairs.

The Rev. Washbourne West, who died recently in London at the age of 86 years, has the distinction of being able, through a judicious distribution of his property, to cast twenty-three votes to each Parliamentary election. As he was interested in politics, he has kept busy rushing from one polling place to another on election day. At the 1892 election he managed to vote the conservative ticket seventeen times.

The Wicked Circus.

It has now been two years since we have had a circus, and our people may be hungry for a show. This show is said to be a good one, and we have no reason to doubt the promise of the show people to entertain us.

For various reasons the Press and Banner is glad that the show is coming. We love to see a great mass of assembled humanity. We love to see our merchants worked to death, selling their goods. We love to see the street parade. We love to see the show itself. A little relaxation from the daily grind, with an opportunity to have a hearty laugh, does our people good. A majority of our people have worked hard all the year, and now when they are selling their crop they can well afford to spend fifty cents for a day off.

Another good thing connected with the coming of the show is the fact that it generally gives our beloved preachers and much respected spiritual advisers an opportunity to tell us of the viciousness of the circus, and then it furnishes a few laymen a fine opportunity to stay away from the circus; and thus prove to the world that they are not as other men are.

And so it may be seen that the circus serves a good purpose in more ways than that of its performance.

The demand of Christian people that we should have clean shows has done much to remove the objectionable features which characterized their exhibitions in former years. Nice people may now attend, but some people stay away so religiously that they have not leaped of the improvement on the circus of former days.

Get your preacher in the pulpit to describe and advertise the coming show, and then go out to see if it comes up to his description. By doing this you may form your own conclusions as to the value of his suggestions in reference to shows and other subjects.

Very pious people may shut their eyes as the procession goes by. If they do not they may see a lion eat a little negro or witness the elephant in his favorite act of throwing a little white boy over the fence into somebody's back yard.

We are unable to make any suggestion to pious people which would prevent the music of the band from falling on their eardrums. We doubt if out too in the ears would have the desired effect, so they may have to use their fingers.—Abbeville Press and Banner.

A very neat swindle on the post office has just been discovered in Belgium. It consisted in pasting a piece of thin, transparent paper on top of postage stamps after these had been affixed to letters. In this way the transparent paper caught the postmark. When the letter reached its destination, the transparent paper was removed, and there was the stamp unused and ready to be used again.

The sleepy merchant goes to the wall. His wideawake neighbor thrives by keeping goods that are in demand, and by never offering customers what he knows they do not want.

Old People.

Old people who require medicine to regulate the bowels and kidneys will find the true remedy in Electric Bitters. This medicine does not stimulate and contains no whiskey or other intoxicant, but acts as a tonic and alterative. It acts mildly on the stomach and bowels, adding strength and giving tone to the organs, thereby aiding nature in the performance of the functions. Electric Bitters is an excellent appetizer and aids digestion. Old People find it exactly what they need. Price fifty cents and \$1 per bottle at Dr. J. F. W. DeLorme's Drug Store.

BUCKLEN'S ARNICA SALVE.

The best Salve in the world for Cuts Bruises, Sores, Ulcers, Salt Rheum, Fever Sore, Tetter, Chapped Hands, Chilblains, Corns and all Skin Eruptions, and positively cure Piles or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction, or money refunded price 25 cents per box. For sale by Dr. J. F. W. DeLorme.

Royal makes the food pure, wholesome and delicious.



ROYAL BAKING POWDER Absolutely Pure

ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., NEW YORK.