

The Watchman and Southron.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 5, 1898.

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.

MURDER IN THE SOUTH.

Commenting on the remarkable record of homicides in South Carolina in the past twelve months, the *Sumter News* points out that the great majority of these crimes are committed by negroes. "The white people," it says, "are denounced just as if they committed the crimes recorded against the South and as if they enjoyed and gloried in the prevalence of criminality that it is their misfortune to be surrounded with. We do not assert that the white people of South Carolina are blameless, for they kill too readily and hold human life far too cheaply, but we protest against the sweeping and unjust censure that they receive for the crimes of the ignorant and vicious among the negroes." This is, of course, an important consideration, and the South Carolina papers should present complete statistics to show what proportion of the homicides in their State are committed by whites and what proportion by blacks. Has the abolition of slavery resulted in a vast increase in the number of killings at the South? That would seem to be the fact, if the negroes commit most of the crimes, for now that they are free their facilities for securing and carrying dangerous weapons have vastly increased. But statistics show that these homicides were frequent before the war. We quote from the sermon of Rev. John Kershaw, preached at St. Michael's Church, Charleston, December 19. He said that "this state of affairs did not originate in and with the war; that it had been going on for seventy years and more; that as a rule whites kill whites and blacks kill blacks; that the types of difficulties were the same in 1840 as in 1880 or 1890." The *Sumter News* intimates that the outside press is prejudiced and "inspired by malice" in its comments on this matter, but we are sure that it is not so. It is naturally ill-informed as to local conditions, but it has no wish to misrepresent the facts in the case. Providence, R. I., Journal.

The above, from a Northern paper emphasizes the contention that we made in commenting on the failure of the *News and Courier* to make a complete showing as to the relative percentage of crimes committed in this State by negroes and whites. There are many papers in the North, such as the *Providence Journal*, that are not prejudiced against the white people of the South and that do not desire to misrepresent us nor to criticize us unjustly. The papers of the South owe it as much to such papers as to their constituency to compile full and accurate statistics when a showing is made. The Northern people are very ignorant concerning the true condition of affairs in the South, and even those who have no malice toward us and would willingly give all credit to which we are entitled, are not in a position to do so for the want of information. They should know the facts, since they desire the truth and would with full knowledge, judge us fairly.

That there are papers in the North that take a malicious delight in misrepresenting the white people of the South and permit no opportunity to pass for criticizing them harshly, no one will deny. To these papers the murder statistics of the *News and Courier* were most welcome, inasmuch as they furnished groundwork for the severest censure of the people whose character they have persistently defamed for thirty odd years. The *News and Courier's* statistics were not definite and gave full scope to the imaginations of the editorial writers of the North who see in every negro broil over a game of craps, evidence of the blood-thirsty lawlessness of the Southern whites. By the publication of the complete statistics, charging the crimes of the whites against the negroes, the desire of our unprejudiced critics for the truth would be satisfied and the malice of the South-haters would be defeated.

The types of difficulties between the whites may be the same now as forty years ago, but that there has been an increase of crime among the whites we deny, and the records to which we have access bear us out in this denial. There has been an increase in crime in the State in recent years, but not among the whites; to the contrary we are satisfied that there have been fewer homicides committed by white people, in proportion to the population, than in former years, and that the only increased lawlessness chargeable to the whites is the proclivity to take the law into their own hands and lynch negroes whose guilt of certain crimes seems assured.

THE SAVING FUND.

The two saving funds in which a large number of the young men of this city are interested, will be wound up by limitation to-morrow, and the money which has been accumulated during the year will be distributed to the shareholders within a few days. These saving funds are local institutions, operated on an original plan and so far as the writer knows, there are none others similar to them in the country. An article in reference to these funds that was prepared by the writer last year was reproduced in a number of papers in this State and elsewhere, and the comments were generally favorable. Soon after the publication of the article inquiries began to come in from various towns in this State and from widely separated points in other States, which was an evidence that the bare outline of the plan and the results of its operation in this city was of interest to many who wished to save money, but could do so in small sums only. The interest evinced in the saving fund plan encourages us to give a fuller outline of the plan than has yet been made public.

The idea of a saving fund originated about four years ago with the employes of J. Ryttenberg & Sons, and the first year was confined to them. There were but a few shareholders—fifteen or twenty—but the plan operated so successfully and satisfactorily that the next year quite a number of others, were admitted to membership. The results were still more satisfactory and at the beginning of 1896 the membership was again increased and another fund was organized with a larger number of shareholders than the original fund. The original fund was known as the *R. E. Fund* and the other as the *Young Men's Saving Fund*.

The plan of operation is identical, and what is said of one applies to the other as well. The plan is as follows: The "funds" or associations have no officers, no constitution and, in fact, no legal existence, but there are a few rules, well understood by each and every shareholder, which govern the operation of the funds. The number of shares is not limited and a shareholder may subscribe for as many shares as he desires to carry; it is provided, however, that no shareholder shall take less than ten shares. There are no officers and every shareholder is on the same footing. There is no expense, and all moneys paid in and all profits arising from interest and fines are returned to the shareholders at the end of the year.

The shares are paid in installments of ten cents per week, and when not paid on the day due, a penalty of five cents per share is added for each week the installments are left unpaid. By an arrangement with the Bank of Sumter the teller receives the installments and each shareholder is provided with a pass book on which his payments are credited. The total of the weekly installments and fines is deposited in the Saving Department of the bank, and interest is allowed at the rate of four per cent per annum. There is comparatively little book keeping required, as the teller keeps only a petty cash book for entering the weekly payments of shareholders, and the only account on the books of the bank is that of the fund.

The life of the fund is limited to one year, and as soon as the fifty-second installment has been paid in the fund is divided out to the shareholders and they receive checks from the Teller for their portion. The funds are not money making schemes in any sense of the word, and the idea that they are should not be formed. They are primarily and distinctively what the name indicates: Saving funds. Whatever of profits arise from interest, fines and lapses are merely incidental and are so in considerable when compared with the other benefits derived that this feature is not taken into consideration.

The results of the operation of the saving fund plan is best shown by a simple statement.

R. E. Fund 1895.	
Shareholders 6.	
Paid in.	\$644 16
Par Value,	52 00
Paid on holding of 10 shares.	\$53 68
R. E. Fund, 1896	
Number of shares 560.	
Shareholders 28	
Paid in,	\$2,912 00
Interest,	57 61
Fines,	15 75
Total,	\$2,985 36
Par value,	\$52 00
Paid each holder, 10 shares,	\$53 31

Young Men's Saving Fund, 1896.

In operation 40 weeks.
Number of shares, 9,150.

Shareholders, 51.	
Paid in,	\$3,660 00
Interest,	56 25
Fines,	37 25
Total,	\$3,654 50
Par value,	\$40 00
Paid each holder, 10 shares,	41 00

R. E. Fund, 1897.

Number shares, 455.
Shareholders, 21

Paid in,	\$2,366 00
Interest,	46 60
Fines,	8 00
Total,	\$2,420 60
Par value,	\$52 00
Paid each holder, 10 shares,	53 20

Young Men's Saving Fund 1897.

Number Shares, 1,040.
Shareholders, 48.

Paid in,	\$5,408 00
Interest,	105 02
Fines,	35 50
Total,	\$5,548 52
Par Value,	\$52 00
Paid each holder, 10 shares,	\$53 38

The showing speaks for itself and tells in cold figures what the systematic saving of small sums will accomplish. The sum of \$7,969 12 will be distributed to 69 persons who have accumulated it during the space of twelve months. It is safe to say that many who will receive checks for their portion of the fund would not have had a dollar otherwise.

The fund will be re-organized for 1898, and a list is now at the Bank of Sumter where it may be signed by those who desire to become members of the funds and share in the benefits.

Take JOHNSON'S CHILL & FEVER TONIC.

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A Clerical Error.

Bishop Potter, who is always entertaining when he talks about public affairs, has seldom been more so than he was in his address at the monthly meeting of the Church Club last evening. His remarks upon the "Civic Duties of the Churchmen" were full of truth and wise counsel, and it was only when he wandered from the text to discuss impersonal questions of politics, government and material progress that he lost the convincing force which usually attaches to his utterances. Speaking, for instance, with reference to general business conditions, he said:

"This country has seen its greatest period of prosperity. In other words the twenty years between 1873 and 1893 were the most prosperous ever known in America. It can be shown by a long series of deductions that such a period will never return." It is just at this point that Bishop Potter ceases to be the guide, philosopher and friend, and becomes the disconsolate pessimist. He innocently misinterprets natural conditions and tendencies. He mistakes effects for causes and measures the aggregate of our National growth in the last thirty years by a standard which is largely artificial and wholly misleading.

The period extending from 1873 to 1893, which the Bishop designates as the interval of our greatest prosperity—with a panic at each end of it—was in reality a stormy period of liquidation, fictitious values, overtaxed energies, exorbitant cost of living, unsound credits, reckless enterprise and demoralizing speculation. All of the actual prosperity which it involved was purely incidental, and came as an aftermath of the colossal debt paying which the exigencies of war forced upon the people. The country came out of that trying period with its credit impaired, its resources in a marvellous state of development, and its wealth producing power wonderfully increased. It has larger resources, a broader system of industrial energy and tenfold more available capital today than ever before in its history. Its markets are wider, its products greater in volume and variety and its business facilities more extensive than at any time during the interval of inflated values which Bishop Potter describes as marking high tide in American prosperity. Why, then, shall he or any other man despair and say that our halcyon days are gone never to return again? Speaking in all friendliness, we say to the good Bishop that he is talking nonsense. The golden age of American enter-

prise is only dawning. The markets of the earth are seeking our products. The genius of invention and industry is making the United States the workshop and storehouse of the world. Peace, intelligence, wealth, energy and the noble ambition to excel in the arts which supply the needs of mankind are the mighty forces which are gradually and irresistibly preparing the way for an era of American prosperity so vast in its range and so magnificent in its achievements that the pessimists of today will stand confounded and dazzled by their splendor.—N. Y. Mail and Express.

Take JOHNSON'S CHILL & FEVER TONIC.

Miss Crane Had no Invitation to The Christmas Hop.

Special to The State. Citadel, Charleston, Jan. 2.—Concerning the retirement of Miss Charlotte Crane from the hop of the Citadel cadets, the following authoritative statement has been given to the press by the cadet chairman of the dance: "The cadets of the South Carolina Military Academy had wished to refrain from any discussion upon the withdrawal of Miss Crane from their 'Christmas hop,' but as various misstatements have been made about the affair, I feel it necessary that I should make this statement in order to correct them: "Miss Crane did not receive an invitation to this hop. "Cadet Peterson of the ship 'Chase' was sent a card which read thus, 'Admit Mr.—and Ladies,' but it is not customary, when invitations are issued, for ladies to attend who have not received any invitation."

"The statement that Cadet Peterson consulted the committee, or any member of it, about bringing Miss Crane is a mistake, as none of the committee knew of her coming. "Miss Crane's presence, under the circumstances, was objected to by the chaperones, and it was through the insistence of one of them that Cadet Peterson was requested to take her home. This was managed with so much tact and regard for her feelings that as she herself stated, she knew nothing of the objection to her presence until a friend showed her a newspaper account of it the next morning. "The statement that the cadets are much offended by the conduct of the chaperones is untrue, and the further statement that they will present Miss Crane with a token of regard and esteem is entirely without foundation, as no such action is being thought of.

"The cadets all deeply deplore the affair and look upon it as most unfortunate. "C. S. Steele, "Chairman of Christmas Hop."

JOHNSON'S CHILL AND FEVER TONIC Cures Fever In One Day.

The Kentucky Lottery which has been in operation 22 years and has been fighting in the courts for existence all of that time was closed on Saturday, as the Supreme court decided against it. Dr. J. J. Kinyann, of the marine hospital has gone to Clemson College, at the request of Senators Tillman and McLaurin to make a thorough sanitary inspection. Mark Hanna is said to lack four votes necessary to his election to the senate.

Cotton, like every other crop, needs nourishment. A fertilizer containing nitrogen, phosphoric acid, and not less than 3% of actual **Potash,** will increase the crop and improve the land. Our books tell all about the subject. They are free to any farmer. GERMAN KALI WORKS, 93 Nassau St., New York.

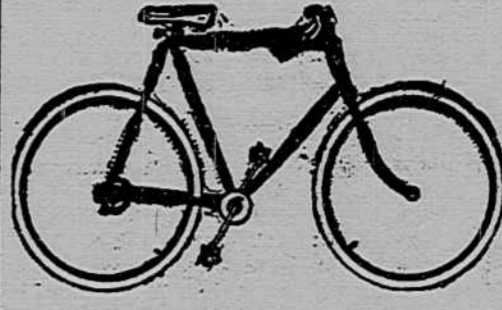
WANTS. BOARDING. HAVING TAKEN the House on Main Street second door south of the Nixon House, I am prepared to accommodate a few regular boarders, and also lodging and meals to transient customers. Terms reasonable. Mrs. W. B. SMITH. Sept. 8.

The Pianos that excel in point of Tone, that quality which really makes the great difference between the best and the inferior, is found in its greatest perfection in

STIEFF PIANOS

Their cost is more reasonable than any other good piano, because sold by the manufacturer direct.

SUITABLE CONVENIENT TERMS. STANDARD ORGANS. CHAS. M. STEIFF, BALTIMORE, WASHINGTON, CHARLOTTE, N. C., NORFOLK, VA., 9 North Liberty St. 521 11th St. N. W. 213 N. Tryon St. 416 Main St.



Columbia Bicycles

1898.

Chainless Columbia,	\$125
Standard Columbia,	\$75
Models 7 & 8. Hartford,	\$50
Models 15 & 16, Vedett,	\$40
2d hand Columbias,	\$25 to \$50

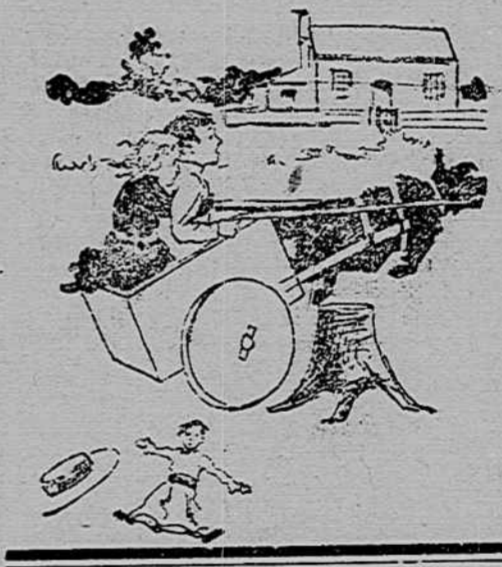
Satisfaction guaranteed on every wheel sold by me.

D. JAS. WINN, SUMTER, S. C.

Dec 10 Lord Byron Making Good Resolutions

for the New Year, afterwards asserted that "hell is paved with good intentions." Possibly that was after a New Year's "spree." A good resolution to make, and to keep, if you wish to preserve your health during Winter's rainy and sloppy weather, is to buy good corkeoled shoes, or our impervious Russian calf, with English bull dog toe, that will keep the feet dry and comfortable

BULTMANN & BRO., The Old Reliable.



A DREADFUL ACCIDENT

in a runaway or collision might have been averted if your vehicle was of such invincible build as our fine stock of light buggies, phaetons, surreys or carriages. They are made like a bicycle—strong, light and put together like welded steel. Spokes, thills, felloes and all are strong as steel.

H. HARBY.

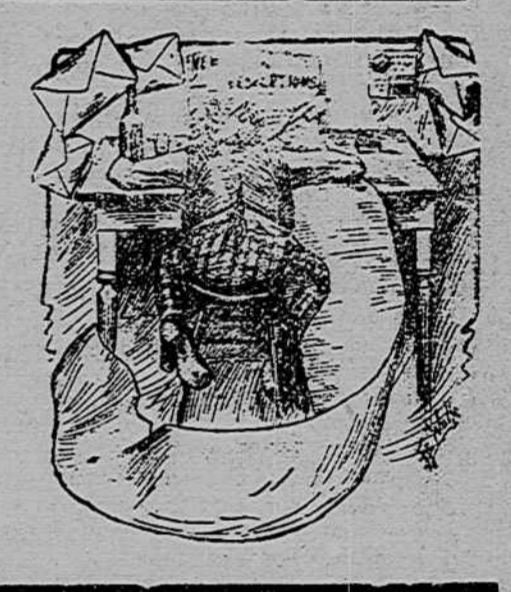
Pens, Pencils, Paper.

In any quantity at the Book Store of H. G. Osteen & Co., Stationers and Booksellers, Liberty St.



How To Treat Your New Year Calls when they come to wish you many happy returns of the day should be with the most lavish hospitality. There is nothing that will taste better to a man on a cold day than a cup of hot bouillon, a slice of chicken, turkey, or a cold bird, while a chicken salad is indispensable. You will find everything in meats, poultry and game, choice enough for the most fastidious epicure at this market. Manufacturer and shipper of Sausage, orders by mail or wire promptly attended to. **E. HOGAN,** Telephone No. 26. TUOMEY BLOCK. Oct 25

The State of South Carolina, COUNTY OF SUMTER. By T. V. Walsh, Esq. Probate Judge. WHEREAS, GEORGE G. COOPER, of said County and State, made suit to me to grant him Letters of Administration, cum testamento annexo, of the Estate and effects of Joseph M. Cooper, deceased. These are therefore to cite and admonish all and singular the kindred and creditors of the said Joe M. Cooper, late of said County and State, deceased, that they be and appear before me, in the Court of Probate, to be held at Sumter, on January 20th, 1898, next, after publication thereof, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon, to show cause, if any they have, why the said Administration should not be granted. Given under my hand, this 28th day of December, A. D., 1897. THOS V. WALSH, Judge of Probate. Dec 28-2t



A DREADFUL ACCIDENT in a runaway or collision might have been averted if your vehicle was of such invincible build as our fine stock of light buggies, phaetons, surreys or carriages. They are made like a bicycle—strong, light and put together like welded steel. Spokes, thills, felloes and all are strong as steel.

H. HARBY.