

A Terrible Explosion.

PRICES KILLED. COMPETITORS HURT EVERY ONE SURPRISED AND PLEASED.

During the month of February, the shortest month in the year, we will sell our entire stock of goods

At Cost, For Cash.

When we advertise *at Cost*, the public know that we sell as we advertise.

To satisfy some skeptics we make this statement. We will positively sell to anyone presenting the cash during the month of February any article in our store, groceries alone excepted, at the actual cost of bringing to Sumter. As we need the money, there will be no restrictions as to quantity.

At Cost, For Cash.

Our contract with W. L. Douglass prohibits our selling his Shoes at less than fixed price, but all other Shoes go at cost.

The secret of our Success in Business

Has been our ability to buy cheaper than others. We now

offer to sell our stock of Dress Goods, Dry Goods, Notions, Laces, &c., Capes, Cloaks, Trunks, Carpets, Matings, Blankets, Shoes, Clothing, Hats, Furnishings, Hardware, Glassware, &c., for Cost. Everything in our immense store, groceries alone excepted, will be sold at cost for cash.

When we say Cost for Cash, we mean cash down with purchase. Goods sold on memorandum or charged will not be sold for cost.

J. RYTENBERG & SONS.

The Watchman and Southeron.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 2, 1898.

The *Sumter Watchman* was founded in 1850 and the *True Southeron* in 1866. The *Watchman and Southeron* now has the combined circulation and influence of both of the old papers, and is manifestly the best advertising medium in Sumter.

Senator Moses has introduced a bill in the Senate, to incorporate the Sumter and Wateree Railroad Company. The great need of Sumter is another railroad giving connection with systems that compete with the Atlantic Coast Line. We trust that the incorporation of the Sumter and Wateree Railroad is but the forerunner of the prompt construction of an independent line, and we know that the people of Sumter are so unanimously in favor of another railroad outlet that they will join most heartily with us in the wish. But there is more than a wish required, and if Sumter is to have another road, the business men of the city must unite in working for it. They must spare no effort to promote and expedite the building of the road, and they should do everything possible to sustain it when it has been built.

The proposal to establish a reformatory for youthful criminals should not be permitted to evaporate in talk. There is need, a great need, for such an institution, and the State should not postpone establishing it any longer. We suggest that no better use could be made of the net earnings of the State farms, concerning which so much has been said, than to devote them to the creation, equipment and maintenance of a reformatory prison for the juvenile convicts. If the penitentiary earns \$10,000 per annum it could support a reformatory without asking the State for an appropriation.

The Next Cotton Crop.

Many reports come in that the farmers are buying considerable quantities of fertilizers. This indicates that the shortage in cotton will be large. As we have frequently said before, predictions as to the price of cotton are almost worthless, but at this time it appears almost certain that unless the production of cotton for 1898 is very materially decreased the price next winter will be very low. In our opinion the price of cotton will fall to four cents if the size of the crop produced this year reaches within half a million bales of what was produced last year. Cotton planters can do as they choose. They are supposed to know how to manage their business but if they depend on cotton and "get left" it will not be because the newspapers of the South failed to warn them. They have been warned time and again. The farmer who produces all that he consumes will probably be in good condition at the end of the year.—*Greenville News*.

When Mark Hanna after his election telegraphed McKinley "God reigns and the Republican party still lives," he showed very little reverence for the Deity, when he mixed Him up in a dirty mess like that.—*Washington Star*.

A Few Candidates.

State Senator E. L. Archer, of Spartanburg, has announced his candidacy for the Governorship.

Col. R. B. Watson, of Ridge Spring, is said to be in the race for the Governorship.

Senator S. G. Mayfield, of Bamberg, will make the race for Governor and will have a strong following.

Gov. Ellerbe is an avowed candidate for re-election.

W. C. McGowan, Esq., of Abbeville, has been spoken of more than once, as a candidate for the Governorship. And there are others whose names have been mentioned in the same connection.

Col. Knox Livingston is mentioned as a probable candidate for Governor or Attorney General.

Mr. John T. Bronson, of Denmark, has announced himself a candidate for the office of Secretary of State.

Secretary of State Thompkins is a candidate to succeed himself.

Col. J. W. Floyd is after the place John Gary Watts now has and John Gary himself is anxious to retain the title of Adjutant and Inspector General.

G. Duncan Bellinger, Esq., is a candidate for Attorney General.

W. P. Pollock, of Chesterfield, H. H. Evans, of Newberry, C. L. Winkler, of Kershaw, and C. P. Towne are also said to be casting eyes in the direction of the Attorney General's office.

Mr. L. P. Epton will ask the voters of the State to elect him Comptroller General as a vindication of the kicking out administered by the Legislature.

Comptroller General Derham will be a candidate for the same position, as he is desirous of serving a full term.

Nothing has been said about the matter, but it is the natural presumption that Lieutenant Governor McSwiney and State Treasurer Timmerman will both be candidates for re-election.

There may be many other candidates, and there probably are. This is not put forward as a full and complete list of those who will ask the suffrages of the voters of South Carolina at the next election, being compiled hurriedly from memory.

SMALLPOX IN TENNESSEE.

It Breaks Out at Cumberland Gap—10 Per Cent Vaccinated.

Louisville, Ky., Jan. 31.—A special to The *Courier-Journal* from Cumberland Gap, Tenn., says: "Great excitement exists here on account of smallpox. The secretary of the board of health of Virginia is here, and health officers from the boards of Kentucky and Tennessee are expected to-morrow. It is claimed that the mining districts are in an alarming condition, numerous cases being reported to-day. There are said to be about 20 cases in Middlesboro. It is also stated that many persons fleeing from these points have been stopped, and are now down with the disease at various stages along the railroads, particularly at Norton, Big Stone Gap, Litrell and Pineville. Not 10 per cent of the inhabitants have ever been vaccinated.

It is claimed that the germ was brought here from Alabama by negroes who came to work in the iron districts. Local officers are doing all in their power, preparing pest houses in the different districts. A number of physicians have tendered their services and the residents are now being rapidly vaccinated.

Representative Green, of Nebraska, has introduced a bill in Congress making the formation of a trust or monopoly a felony.

The Outlook as Guy Sees It.

The Arabs have a saying: Life is of two parts; that which is past—a dream; that which is to come—a wish. The holidays are numbered with the misty past and are but a dream now, and the future—well, the future is one large wish. The boil and bubble of the merry season has subsided, the gentle simmering of the after days has ceased and everything has resumed the even tenor of its monotonous way and the attention of everyone is directed to the stern duties and toil and struggles of another mysterious year. The toot of horn and clang of the matin bell breaks the crisp air of the early morn and those gay and festive causes "the nigger and the mule," are creating an activity in real estate that no financial move could accomplish. Even the bird shooters have "ceased firing," (tho' the fire fiend has "commenced firing") and the sharp shooting, skirmish bombardments and fusillades, which sometimes carried us back to the days of "the late unpleasantness," have ceased, and the air and the partridges are again calm and serene.

We could bring down our own bird once in a while in the days gone by, but it is astonishing what a prodigious amount of vacant space surrounds a partridge now-a-days; they also fly faster and the light is not near so good as in the olden time. We are soon satiated now with the sport, but have not succeeded in satiating our appetite with "partridge on toast."

The movers have disappeared from the highways and the wagon trains transporting chairs, children and long collards are no longer seen on the roads. There has been an unusual number of moves this season, and within a radius of three miles we can count up over a dozen different families who have changed domicile and yet, take it communibus annis et communibus locis, this is as good a place as any other to—er—to die in.

The wide, wet, 7c. smile of the past spring no longer pervades the countenances of those you meet. The present wretching of their physiognomies is with a $4\frac{1}{2}$ to 5c wearied effort which photographers would term a long exposure, and which is only a shade or two less painful to behold than the genuine dry grins, and into which, we fear, they will ultimately eventuate. The farmer's granges are very active this season, and the organization has grown to proportions unprecedented in our county. We learn that there are eight or ten organized and in active operation in the county. Upon the farmer depends the prosperity of the country, and tho' organizations have been of little benefit to him heretofore, it is no reason why he should not continue the effort to educate himself up to an intelligent understanding of his faults and failings as well as his wants and the causes that militate against him, and the remedy for both. We believe he is discovering the causes and will apply the remedy.

What is the outlook? Well, it would require a much higher elevation than we occupy to say; but we presume to venture the prediction that there will be another crop of cotton made; also more hominy and hog and other auxiliaries—much more—and that there will be a gradual reconciliation of everything to 5c cotton. Whenever there is an adjustment of taxes, salaries, land rents, doctor's bills, lawyer's fees, preacher's salaries, &c., &c. on an equitable gold standard 5c cotton basis, and mortgages and liens and "billy sales," as Long calls them, are no more, there may be some chance for the prosperity of "the goose that lays the golden egg." Until then he is apt to continue to remain—a goose. Farm and household supplies and Necessaries are cheap enough now in all conscience, and everything we need to buy is cheap enough when—when you have the money. When you haven't, there is nothing

cheap—nothing but "cold shoulder." One can always get more of that without money than with it, and tho' filling, it is not fattening. It fills one with righteous wrath and contempt and indignation, but it's a mighty poor beverage—to fill the place that grows the most for filling. Jan 24, 1898. Gvv.

A blizzard is prevailing in the Central Atlantic States and there has been much suffering among the poor people already.

The Tennessee senatorial deadlock remains unbroken. The democratic caucus took seven ballots last night. The vote stood, McMillen, 36; Turley, 27; Taylor, 27.

"Rust,"

the dread of the cotton grower, can be prevented. Trials at Experiment Stations and the experience of leading growers prove positively that

Kainit

is the only remedy. We will be glad to send, free of charge, interesting and useful pamphlets which treat of the matter in detail.

GERMAN KALI WORKS,
92 Nassau St., New York, N. Y.

NOTICE.

OFFICE OF

County Superintendent Education,
SUMMER, S. C., Jan 23, 1898.

THE DATE fixed for the next regular examination of applicants for Teachers' County Certificates, is February 18 (third Friday).

For whites at Office Co Superintendent.
For colored at Court House.
W J DURANT,
County Supt. Education.
Jan 22—4.
Freeman and Herald copy.

Estate of S. Robt. Spann, Jr.,
MINOR.

I WILL APPLY to the Judge of Probate of Sumter County on Feb. 10th, 1898, for a final discharge as the General Guardian of said Minor.

FRANK M. SPANN, Guardian.
Jan 12—4.

Order Your
PROVISIONS AND GROCERIES
FROM

GEO. W. STEFFENS & SON
Wholesale Agents, Charleston, S C
—Agents for—

MOTT'S CIDER
RED SEAL CIGARS,
AND DOVE HAMS

A. WHITE & SON,
Fire Insurance Agency.

ESTABLISHED 1866.
Represent, among other Companies:
LIVERPOOL & LONDON & GLOBE,
NORTH BRITISH & MERCANTILE
HOME, of New York.
UNDERWRITERS' AGENCY, N. Y.
LANCASTER INSURANCE CO.
Capital represented \$75,000,000.
Feb 28

DR. E. ALVA SOLOMONS,
DENTIST.

OFFICE
OVER STORE OF SUMTER DRY GOODS COMPANY
Entrance on Main Street,
Between Dry Goods Co. and Durant & Son
OFFICE HOURS:
9 to 1.30; 2 to 5 o'clock.
April 9. 2

PURE FLOUR.

"Bread is the staff of life" and flour being its principal ingredient, every one rich and poor ought to be interested in knowing the character of the food that constitutes a large percentage of their daily meal; therefore it will pay you to read carefully what the

American Journal of Health, of December 30, has to say about the goods manufactured by

The Millbourne Mills.

Of which we are the sole agents.

Evils Inflicted by Inferior Flour.

The series of articles upon food adulteration which have appeared in these columns, and which are being republished by the newspapers throughout the land, have served to impress upon the people the great necessity of care in the selection of articles which go upon their tables, for upon the quality of such depends the health of the entire family

That the subject of flour is one of prime importance will scarcely be denied, for there is no meal but what this staple enters into its menu in one or more forms. Hence the election of this food product cannot fail to interest every reader of this journal who regards his own health and that of his family as the most important consideration.

As the word "adulterations" is generally understood, that is as the mixing of inferior material with the genuine articles, flour cannot be said to be adulterated in the ordinary sense of the term. However, the quality, grade and wholesomeness of flour vary as widely as do the characteristics of any other article of food supply. Flour varies in quality from the lowest "red dog" to the highest fancy patent, with values all the way from feed prices to the highest market quotations, and there is a wide difference in the bread-making qualities of the various grades of flour and the amount of nutrition contained in each.

Poor flour is dear at any price, for not only does the unpalatableness of the family loaf and the domestic pastry reflect its inferiority, but many stomach troubles may be directly traced to this source. The fermentative processes engendered by a low grade product lead to functional disorders of the digestive system, which become chronic when the use of such inferior article is persisted in. Again muscular strength and nerve force cannot be sustained by flour deficient in any of the constituents which aid in developing dynamic force in the human body.

The residents of any city may with a little care, always secure the highest grade of flour, and no other should be allowed entrance into the household. The "Millbourne" flour of the Millbourne Mills Co., Philadelphia, Pa., offers to the careful housekeeper a high class article in this line, and as it is easily obtainable there is no excuse for risking the health of its members by introducing into the dietary of the family any of the mediocre flour upon the market. Any really first class retailer will obtain this flour for his customers who insist upon having the best.

Having purchased samples of this flour without indicating our purpose, and after submitting the same to thorough analytical examinations, we unhesitatingly endorse it and recommend it to our readers in the strongest terms. There are many reasons for the pre-eminent superiority of the flour offered by the Millbourne Mills Co., which we herewith enumerate. First, it is rich in gluten, which renders it more valuable as far as nutrition is concerned. There is not in its constituents that excess of starch so commonly found in other brands of flour and which taxes the digestion beyond its powers.

Second, it is always uniform, and its results may be always depended upon. Third, because it makes the whitest and lightest of bread and biscuits, and has no trace of sourness, which renders it especially gratifying to those with impaired digestive functions.

The samples of flour which were made the subject of scientific investigation were purchased in open market, and were not obtained from any dealer interested in a certain brand. The samples were also submitted to our chemical test kitchen, with a result which leaves only one decision, and that is overwhelmingly in favor of the flour bearing the brand "Millbourne" flour of the Millbourne Mills Co. We have no more interest in this brand than in any other flour sold, but in the interest of readers who naturally seek these columns for information upon all health matters we make this unbiased report. From the standpoint of health alone we advise our readers who call for this flour not to be put off with a substitute, but to insist upon having goods branded by the Millbourne Mills Co., and we do not say this in the interest of the manufacturers, who have not been consulted in the preparation of this report, but solely for the protection of the readers of the American Journal of Health.

A J. GRAY, M. D.
With the exception of about 100 barrels, we have handled no other in over two years, and as stated in our advertisement last Fall, we have sold over

5,000 Barrels
Of this brand, and not a package has ever been returned or single complaint made. Our customers who formerly used Western patents are now using MILBOURNE STRAIGHT, with more satisfaction and thereby

Saving 50c per Barrel.
Bear in mind we deliver this Flour in any part of the county, freight prepaid, at Sumter prices.

It costs no more—Get the best—Millbourne.
O'DONNELL & CO.,
Sole Agents.



A KAFFIR KING IN AFRICA

can indulge his taste in a stylish rig, when he takes an airing, but the rest of the Kaffirs walk. Any man of moderate means can suit his fancy with one of our stylish and handsome buggies, phaetons, traps, or carriages, as we are selling fine carriages at a price that will astonish you.

Respectfully,

H. HARBY.