## Plums Ready and Ripe for the Spring Picking.

An entire new and well-selected Stock throughout.

Dress Goods.

Every season the Looms seem, to turn out more beautiful patterns and designs than previous years.

feminine heart to see and admire the new styles we are showing. The designs for skirts are specially attractive.

Dress Goods.

Wash Fabrics.

Never before have we had such a beautiful line of there goods.

All the newest and choicest products It will be a pleasure to the of the mills will be found in this de-Our assortment of Organdies can not

Always on display, and always a pleasure te show and make you prices.

Wash Fabrics.

Ladies Shirt Waists.

We have exclusive control of the celebrated Stanley Waists, the acknowledged leaders in this line.

All new and desirable styles. All well made and good fitting. An entire new line of Ladies' Ready Made Shirts.

Shirt Waists.

Laces and Embroideries.

This season we have surpassed all previous attempts in giving our trade a choice selection. We have something new to show the ladies in a

Fancy Novelty Scarf.

In Springtime a young man's fancy turns to thoughts of dress We are now prepared to satisfy that fancy to suit the most fastidious

STROUSE & BROTHERS' CLOTH-

ING, As always, is in the lead

New ideas embodied with good workmanship place this line of goods within the reach of every pocketbook See the line of all wool Spring Suits we are showing from \$5 pp

Note-We have a fine assortment of imported and domestic cloths in Pants Patterns-only one of a kind Made to your measure and fit guarShoes and Slippers.

Just in the rear of our Dry Goods Department you will find our Shoe Dapartment wherein is done the largest shoe business of this city.

Lack of space permits of very little display. But we have the goods, and beyond the reach of competitors, yet can show to those interested, the choicest and daintiest line of Ladies'. Misses and Children's Shoes, ()xfords and Slippers ever seen South.

Our Men's Shoes can not be beat

Shoes and Slippers.

## SONS. RIVERE

The Watchman and Southron.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 1898.

The Sumter Watchman was tounded 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

COME AND SEE THY LITTLE JOHNNY."

When Blind Tom visited Sumter ome years ago he sang a song-the ords and music being his own comesition. He called the song by the ove name, and among other striking brases was the line several times reeated "He is sick but he is well." Ve were foreibly reminded of Blind Tom's song on reading last week's Free-

Sumter." "The Jury made a mistake in not presenting the guilty parties," and what the jury should have done was," &o , &o. ; but these are prefaced with "we are not disposed to condemn she Grand Jury "

The Freeman next tackles the Petit

The jury in the case of Williams, who was tried last Monday for the murder of Mr. es, has been very much censured by many sople for their recommendation to mercy, d while we cannot join in this censure, we think it is very unfortunate that the recmendation was given, as it may fornish me people with an excuse for lynching in be future." . . . "as the murder was peculiarly atrocious one, Williams richly leserved death." . \*

"At the same time, as we said before, it is a public misfortune that Williams escaped the extreme penalty of the law, but those who are condemning the verdict would de well to pear in mind that the jarors probably knew nothing of Williams having plead guilty last week, and were swore to find a verdict by the evidence submitted," &c , &c,

Next following this, the Freeman goes on, and without quoting anything from the article criticised, to bear out the unfair criticism, says :

The Freeman is sorry to note that the Watchman and Southron, which has always strod straight on the mob law question, 'is showing signs of weakening. Its leading editorial this week was intended as a harsh critic.sm of the jury that recommended Witliams to mercy, but was in reality in the nature of a surrender of its anti-lynching principles. The fact that Williams escaped the gailows is to be deplored, but it is certately no good reason why mob law should be supreme in this County in the future. We have known instances in this County where white men who were as gailty as Cain, not only escaped the gallows, but escaped all punishment, and our contemporary did not see fit to condemn those juries. Why not extend the same charity in this case? The Freeman stands for a atern administration of justice, but it also stands for the supremacy of righteous law. Set aside the courts and allow mobs to decide as to the guilt or innocence of men charged with crime, and it requires no prophet to foretell our future.

We claim that the article said just what the Freeman has said viz : that the effect of the recommendation of the Jury is to furnish some people with an excuse for lynching in the future.' No more and no less; and if the Freemen can prove its charge against the Watchman and Southron by quoting 288,385 bales more than last year. from the article, will it please proceed to 357,330 bales more than in 1896, and

Such a construction of the article was not dreamed of by the editor of the an advance of only 5 16 cents per pound cause we choose to do so, but Assistant that the position of this paper on the season, and contracts for August delivsubject of mob law is too well known ery, at an advance of only 0.25 cents bor. At the same lime it might have to admit of question. We have al-ways opposed mob law, and we deplored In our circul-

violence. We take this occasion to disclaim the interpretation as made by the Freeman of the article in question, should there be anybody else who may be able to read it in the same light as the editor of the Freeman claims to do.

After reading the charge by the Freeman that "We have known instances in this county where white men who were as guilty as Cain looked ever the court records for the last ten years to refresh our memory

as to any such case Failing to find anything that answers to the description, and taking it for granted that Mr. Miller knew what he was writing about and would furnish the information, we addressed him East, which might before the new a note asking for it. He declined to crop could be marketed, greatly regive the information, for reasons duce the value of cotton, and the which he states, but which to us appear flimsy. Having made the charge against the County, which in It criticised the Grand Jury as making cludes everybody as well as the ju- the face. ping charges against the city of ries and the Watchman and Southron, he need not hesitate now to specify.

The following is the note sent to him, and his reply:

Mr. R. F. Miller, Editor of the Freeman. Dear Sir: In your last issue you said: "We have known instances in this county where white men who were as guilty as Cain, not only escaped the gallows, but escaped all punishment, and our contemporary did not see fit to condemn those jurors."

Will you he kind enough to name the cases to which you refer, and let me have some by

the bearer of this? Very respectfully, N. G. OSTEEN. March 22, '98.

Mr. N. G. Osteen Editor Watchman and

Dear Sir : You note of this date received and contents noted.

I must decline to "name the cases" for th reason, that by so doing, I would piace myself in a similar position to that now occupied by you, viz: condemning some jurors while excusing others; and besides, you and I might differ as to whether the defendants, in the cases I have in mind, "were as guilty as

> Very respectfally, EDWIN F. YILLER.

Sumter, March 22, 1898.

IT MEANS BANKRUPTCY.

Mesers. Latham, Alexander & Co., have issued a circular letter that shows the cotton situation on March 18th in a manuer that should warn the cotton farmers against planting another eleven million bale crop. If the crop of 1898 shall be as great as the crop of 1897, the farmers of the South will be bankrupt and the business interests of this sestion will be in a worse condition than in 1893-94. The following extracts are made from the circular letter referred to above :

"The total visible supply of cotton in the world is 613,828 bales more than last year, 660,092 bales more than in 1896, and 477,568 bales less than in

The amount of cotton that has been marketed to date is 2,105,027 more than last year, 3,694,781 bales more than in 1896, and 1,045,986 more

The exports this year are 977,896 bales more than last year, 2,365,470 bales more than in 1896, and 514,674 bales more than in 1895

The stock in United States ports is 91,856 bales more than in 1895

Middling uplands is now selling at

the action of this jury for its effect in 19th and February 5th we endeavored ships ?- Augusta Chronicle.

weakening the hands of those who try to show the underiably enormous losses to uphold law and cry down mob that the South has invariably sustained when more coston was produced than necessary to supply the wants of the

If we should bring the tabulated figures made then, up to this date, the losses to the farmers on this year's crop would appear still more startling; and, with the condition of affairs now prevailing throughout the world, the necessity for a reduction \* \* escaped all punishment," we in acreage this year should appeal to every farmer with greater force and induce him to largely increase the production of food crops.

The planters of the South have no encouragement to plant cotton largely this year, with the Anglo-Russian-Chinese complications existing in the strained relations of our own Goverument with Spain, which possibly might result in war, staring them in

Even with permanent peace exist ing between all the nations of the globe, the consumptive demand for cotton would not be sufficient to warrant the production of another such large American crop as last year An inevitable loss to the whole South, in our opinion, would surely follow.

From a recent circular of Messrs Ellison & Co , Liverpool, the highest authority on cotton consumption in the world, we make the following ex tract as to future prospects:

"In our Annual Report issued in January, we showed that with an American crop of 10,750,000 bales, and a consumption of about 9,650,-000 bales, the stock of American cot-Europe, and the surplus stocks at the American and European mills would be about 1,900.000 bales, against already said about the assassination. only 800,000 last year, and we remarked that in regard to the future of prices everything would depend

acreage as took place in the spring of Kingstree County Record. 1895, we should see a repetition of the upward movement in values wit nessed in that year; but, if planters are satisfied with present prices and do not reduce the area planted, then cotton will become a greater drug than it ever has been in the history of the trade, and planters will

In their report Messrs Ellison & Co. based their calculations upon crop of only 10,750,000 bales, when 9,975,418 bales have already been received, and the indications favor 11,-000,000 bales or more

The present unfavorable outlook for prices of next year's crop should induce every merchant in the South to use his influence with the planters to cause a marked reduction in acreage. which would be surely followed by better prices and greater confidence in general business operations throughout the South

Yours truly, Latham, Alexander & Co.

The new Spanish minister is report ed to have inquired why this country is buying new warships. It might have been sufficient to reply that it is be-In our circular letters of January dickering for the O'Higgins and other hind them and undo their work by ropean judgment he is foremost BALTIMORE

UNWORTHY OF NOTICE.

Since reading the subjoined editorial in the Kingstree County Record, we have regretted that we took any notice whatever of the Like City Times and its attack on the people of Sumter and Darlington who assembled in mass meetings and condemned the Lake City lynching. The County Record shows up the editor of the Lake City Times in his true colors and proves him to be unworthy of notice :

"We noticed in last week's Lake City Times an article casting epithets at the editor of The County Record, and attacking this paper's utterances regarding the recent postoffice tragedy. It was our intention to let the article pass as not worth the attention of a gentleman, but the editor of the Lake City Times called to see us last Monday and told us that, while the article was his leading editorial, it was written at the dictation of someone else, and expressed public sentitiment and not that of the editor; that of another. Mr. Clark furthermore said that he had not seen anything in The County Record that would warrant -such an article, and he did not know what his dictator was referring to, but that he had been told it was one of the articles we had reproduced from another as our editorials were directed in specific terms to the members of the mob. Continuing, he said he knew The County Record was not "entirely full of denunciations of the people of Lake City and vicinity," as his editorial said, but he had published that "for effect"

As a matter of fact, there was nothing at all published in The County ton in the ports of the United States, Record which attacked anyone save the murderers, and if occasion presented itself we will say again what we have

The claim that we have denounced anyone who was not in the mob is utterly false, and was known to be by the upon the prospects of the new crop. author of the editorial in Lake City "With as great a reduction in paper when the article was prepared."-

## MORE LENIENCY.

Henry Burrows was found guilty of manslaughter after a fair trial on the charge of murder. He killed Alex Haynsworth by striking him on the from Augusta to the Baltimore Sun, not get anything like present back of the head with a heavy billet of wood. It was murder, but the fact that the deed was supposed to have been done in the heat of passion was an extenuating circumstance. The jury took a charitable view of the case and rendered a verdict of manslaughter, and under this verdict Henry Barrows would have received no more than jus tice had the extreme penalty for his orime been imposed.

In this case the jury was not to blame, but the people who signed the petition for a light sentence are The people are crying for justice and are damning the courts and the law because criminals are punished, but when there is a chance to punish a convicted felon they must needs go and plead for leniency. The way to put a stop to crime is to punish criminals, and when the people prevent the punishment of criminals they do wrong. What we need in this country is more justice and more severe punishment of criminals Tenderness Poe was born of a Maryland father, ments, and for instrumental music, both popu-Watchman and Southron, who has felt above the lowest price touched this Secretary Day is reported to have re- and consideration is not the proper but his mother was not southern. If plied that it is to take the place of the treatment for convicted felons. What he is to be classed as southern he is one recently blown up in Havana har- encouragement is there for juries to con- easily first, as he is first in pure gebeen pertinent to inquire why Spain is vict if the people follow immediately be

petitions ?- Daily Item.

COAST LINE SHORT CUT.

The Augusta Chronicle of yesterday contained the following of much concern to South Carolinians:

"It is stated that the Atlantic Coast Line is now surveying the route of an extension of their line that will put them a great deal nearer to Augusta than at present.

. "The information is to the effect that the new line will be run from Denmark to Martin's Station on the Port Royal and Western Carolina division of the Charleston and Western Carolina.

"The reason for the building of this short line is obvious. The Atlantic Coast Line now owns the Charleston and Western Carolina and, at the same time, is running its trains into Augusta over the tracks of the South Carolina and Georgia.

"By the construction of this short line it would be enabled to reach this city over its own tracks for the entire

distance.

"Just when the work of grading, and of laying the tracks will commence can not be stated. It is believed that the Coast Line in the future will make a very strong bid for the business of this section and that by shortening its he was a public servant, and as such route to the east and running over its published the article at the instigation own tracks it will compete, not only for the passenger business, but for the freight to such an extent that Augusta will enjoy even lower rates than she now has to the east and from there."

Southern Poets' Graves.

North Carolina has dead statesmen. lawyers, divines and soldiers who deserve richly monuments to their mem ories, but do not receive them As to poets it has among its dead no one who can in any special or proper sense be classed as a poet, except ex gratia. We are glad to know that there is a good showing for a suitable monument to one very genuine south ern poet-a man of genius, a gentleman in high sense, a noble southron We refer to Paul Hamilton Hayne. It is noteworthy that our sister State of South Carolina has given birth to two of the best poets of the southland. In Harry Timrod and Paul Hayne South Carolina possessed two singers of inspiration and melody who deserve to be remembered grate fully, tenderly and proudly. They were finely endowed with lyric power, and sang in such high and emavishing sweetness of numbers that they ought to forever charm Both were poor in this world's good one of the truest of its own poets-Richard Henry Wilde-has been duly marked with appropriate me morial stone. It was erected by the Augusta "Hayne Circle," organized tells of of the Wilde monument:

"On a prominent square of Greene street, the beautiful residence street of Augusta, famous for its four rows of live oaks and elms stretching from one end of it to the other, rises a cenotaph of Georgia granite in scribed to Wilde's memory. On one face is sculptured in bass relief a full blown rose, beneath which appears the verse:

"My life is I ke the summer rose, That opens to the morning sky; But ere the shades of evening close, Is scattered on the gound to die."

There are appropriate inscriptions. giving dates of birth and death of this gifted son of Georgia, who sang a few strains of magic sweetness-"a poet, jurist, orator and statesman" "The llayne Circle" is still trying to carry out the plan of erecting to the poet Hayne a monument that shall speak to coming generations We put Hayne third among southern poets, omitting Poe, who was born in Boston-we may not undertake to say who shall be first-Timrod or Lanier. Both have left some rich legacies of rare merit and beauty nius among all American poets, of whatever name or section. In Euamong all the poets of our country. Charlotte, N. C.,

We hope that before longer neglect Timrod and Hayne's graves will be marked by fitting memorials of their genius If Lanier has not been thus honored, it is a neglect that cannot be too soon cured In Baltimore, at last, Poe's grave is no loager neglected He will live long in his poetry that may have the quality of perpetuity.-Wilmington Messenger.

That Silver Corpse.

Of all the apreasonable things we

know of, the silver corpse easily takes the lead. Its funeral has been preached in every language, and that it is a dead issue we have been informed time and time again. But it does not seem to realize it We are are a loss to understand why a corpse should so persist in stalking abroad. Hamler's father's ghost is not a marker to the perturbed silver spirit that walks abroad in all sections and in all seasons. shough its death has been officially deciared, and we have been informed by enthusiastic goldbugs that the silver question is buried so deep that resurrection is impossible In the face of these authoritative declarations it is passing strange that a corpse will continue to intrude itself upon the public attention. And yet it does The Obio Democratic state central committee adopted the following resolution last

Resolved. That it is the opinion of this committee that the silver forces of Ohio should stand united in exactly the same position they occupied in 1896, and are overwhelmingly in favor of the readeption of the Chicago platform and the renomination for the presidency of Hon. William Jennings Bryan in 1900. And, fully and unreservedly indorsing this position itself, the committee suggests to the organized silver forces of Ohio that in all county or district Democratic or silver conventions, held in the State this year, the question here raised be submitted to a direct vote of the delegates assembled to the end that doubt and discord as to the principles of a candidate may be eliminated and the allied silver forces thoroughly united in the effort to return to congress a silver delegation from the president's own State. - Augusta Chronicle.

A man well known in politics and one who is in a position to know whereof he speaks, in talking of the outlook for this year's State campaign, yesterday said that Senator Tillman had determined to make several speeches in the State during the campaign this things, and now sleep in unhonored year. Of course they will not be degraves In Georgia, the grave of livered at the regular campaign meetings, but at points to be arranged for later. When asked what would be the burden of the speeches, the speaker said that they would be in defense of the dispensary system and the Reform in 1885. A correspondent writing party It is said that Senator Tillman intends to take a hand on these lines notwithstanding the fact that his elder brother is expected to attack both matters referred to throughout the canvass. -The State.

SPAIN BUYS THE KERESE.

Rome March 18 -The Spanish government consummated the purchase of the new Italian cruiser Kerese to day and will be given immediate possession. The Kerese is a light armored craiser and is a new, swift and powerful vessel. The terms of the sale have not been made

NOTES.

Pure, sweet and delightfully enchanting captivate the ear It is this very charm of tone that most distinguishes the



and makes them the favorite home instrumen's. Singers prefer them as accompani-

TERMS ACCOMODATING STANDARD ORGANS. TUNING AND REPAIRING.

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