

115 Years Old and in Need.

Richard Green, an old colored man, better known to many of our citizens as "Uncle Dick Buford," has requested us to make an appeal to the good people of Sumter in his behalf. He says that he has outlived all his family and has no one to do anything for him, and that he suffers for necessities of life. He expects soon to go to Pinewood where he has some relatives, and asks that any contributions for him be handed to Magistrate H. L. B. Wells—or, if more convenient to leave contributions at this office same will be forwarded to him.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

Proceedings of Regular Monthly Meeting of Board.

The County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday with all the members present except Commissioner Jenkins. The committee on road from Cedar Creek Church in Bishopville township reported through Commissioner Scarborough that they had examined into said road and thought that it was a real necessity, there being no other public road to that locality. The road would be about 4 or 4 1/2 miles in length, and that the citizens offered to put it in good condition, except Mr. Rodgers refusing to give the right of way. On motion it was decided to have the road opened, provided that an arrangement could be made through Mr. McKeithan to obtain the right of way without expense.

Commissioner McLeod, of the Committee on the DuBose road, reported that they could not say the road was a necessity, though an accommodation to two or three families in getting to church. About 10 bridges are on the road, and some would have to be enlarged, and the way it was proposed to open it out, changing it would be difficult work. Action on the matter was indefinitely postponed on motion of Commissioner Rhodes.

Supervisor Dorn stated that he had consulted the County Attorney as to case of damages to mule of E. W. A. Bultman, and he said the County was not liable, and that they should so inform Mr. Bultman in writing. The Board decided to act on advice of attorney, and the Clerk was instructed to notify Mr. Bultman.

The County Supervisor was instructed to borrow from the First National Bank for payment of court and other county expenses the sum of three thousand dollars.

County Treasurer Scarborough was before the Board and stated that the lamp used by him was injurious to the eyes in doing night work, which he was obliged to do. He asked for authority to have his office lighted by electricity, or to furnish two metal lamps. On motion of Commissioner Rhodes the County Treasurer and Supervisor were instructed to have said office lighted in the most economical manner as suggested by Treasurer.

Practical Remarks on Wheat Raising.

Mr. Editor: I see considerable written on the subject of wheat raising in Sumter County. It is no new fact to some of the older citizens of the county that wheat can be raised and successfully raised. When I was a boy my father, among a number of other farmers raised all the flour they used in their families and on their places. The yield was from twelve to eighteen bushels per acre. They planted in October generally and seldom failed to make a good crop; but here the easy part ended. The same trouble exists now in wheat raising. No facility for harvesting, and preparation for milling, and worst of all, no mill.

The old plan was to invite from thirty to sixty to cut and thresh on the same day, give a big dinner, get about two-thirds or a little more threshed out. Then came the cleaning process which was an after and endless job. The milling was in those days, as now, done at considerable loss. The same mills that grind our corn grind our wheat.

Now, Mr. Editor, what we need are mills, reapers and threshers. If some enterprising citizen will invest in these necessities in wheat culture and establish a good roller mill in Sumter or some other good locality; and as many farmers cannot afford to own reapers and threshers let those who are able do so, and go from farm to farm and harvest and prepare the crop for milling. By this means many more may be induced to engage in wheat raising.

On the other hand no business man would care to invest in useless machinery. Why can't the citizens of the county meet and inaugurate some plan whereby this difficulty may be obviated and the enterprise be of mutual benefit to a large number?

In connection with the roller mill a first class rice huller could be very profitably operated, for the farmers are paying more attention to this crop than ever.

Tindal, Sept. 7, 1899.

DeWitts Little Early Risers permanently cure chronic constipation, biliousness, nervousness and worn out feeling; cleanse and regulate the entire system. Small, pleasant, never gripe or sicken—"famous little pills"—Hughson-Ligon Co.

Eli Harrison, who escaped from the chain gang some time ago, was captured at Wedgefield Friday by Bill Pickens. Harrison was sent to the chain gang for assault and battery on Kennedy Lewis. Bill Pickens received the \$10 reward offered for the capture of Harrison.

The macadam work on one half of Main street from Liberty street to Levi Bros' store has been completed and is in use. The comparison between the macadam half and the mud half of the street is so decided that no better argument could be made in favor of macadamizing all of Main street. The macadam half is firm and clean while the other is a miry, dirty muck. The rain Monday morning had no effect upon the macadam while it transformed the other from a heavy, dusty sand bed into a muddy mire.

A CASE OF NEPOTISM.

Judge Buchanan Discharges Stenographer Parrott to Give His Brother-in-law the Job.

Judge O. W. Buchanan has appointed his brother-in-law, Mr. George D. Tillman, Jr., court stenographer for the Third circuit. Mr. L. I. Parrott, who has held that position for several years under Judge Buchanan and for twelve years under Judge Fraser, was requested to vacate the position on Sept. 1st.

When Judge Buchanan was elected judge for the Third circuit about seven years he did not consider Mr. Parrott's application to be continued as stenographer, but appointed Mr. J. W. Nixon, a son of the State dispenser. When Mr. Nixon got mixed up in the rebate scandal the court was left without a stenographer. In this dilemma Mr. Parrott, who was in business in Darlington, was appealed to and he went to Florence, where court was in session, and worked for three weeks. Before court adjourned, Judge Bene, who was presiding, issued an order that Mr. Parrott be paid the salary of the regular stenographer for that month. Mr. Nixon had not resigned at that time and he collected his salary while Mr. Parrott was paid nothing for his work and has never received a cent.

Shortly after that time Mr. Nixon resigned and Mr. Parrott was summoned by telegraph to Lexington by Judge Buchanan and was appointed court stenographer. Since then Mr. Parrott has filled the position capably and acceptably until he was notified a short time ago by Judge Buchanan to vacate the position on Sept. 1st.

As far as can be learned there has been no complaint against Mr. Parrott and he has given satisfaction to all connected with the court. Judge Buchanan has simply displaced him without cause to make a place for his brother-in-law, and as Judge Buchanan has the power to appoint the stenographer Mr. Parrott has no redress, but must look out for another job. Judge Buchanan undoubtedly has the power to dismiss a court stenographer whenever he sees fit and to appoint whomsoever he wishes, but his action in discharging Mr. Parrott, an efficient and experienced stenographer, who has held the position for years, is rather hard and inconsiderate, especially in the circumstances.

"They are simply perfect," writes Robert Moore, of La Fayette, Ind., of DeWitt's Little Early Risers, the "famous little pills" for constipation and all liver ailments. Never gripe. Hughson-Ligon Co.

The Bishopville Recorder, referring to the article published lately in this paper in regard to the schedule on the Bishopville railroad, says: "While the above schedule is not what the people of Bishopville want, they have no one to blame but themselves, as the petition to change the schedule was signed by nearly all of our business men."

Chester E. Brown, Kalamazoo, Mich., says: "Kodol Dyspepsia Cure cured me of a severe case of indigestion; can strongly recommend it to all dyspeptics, 'Digest what you eat without aid from the stomach, and cures dyspepsia.'—Hughson-Ligon Co.

It is stated that the Fourth Regiment Band will give an open air concert once a week during the fall and winter. If a band stand was erected on the Graded School Square, so that the band men could be comfortable, they would be able to give us better music and more of it; besides, the square is the natural place of rendezvous for our people, and weekly concerts at this place would be the occasion for the commingling of our citizens, which will not be the least of the pleasures gained by having the concerts on the square.

Mr. Ingram's Wheat.

The Columbia correspondent of the News and Courier, writing under date of September 7th, gives the following report of the experiment in wheat growing by Messrs. Ingram & Purdy on their Stateburg farm:

Mr. W. H. Ingram, of Stateburg, was in the city today. Mr. Ingram has just resigned the position of Master for Sumter County. He got to talking about his wheat planting, and gave some very interesting and valuable suggestions of a practical nature.

Mr. Ingram last year planted 23 acres in wheat. He has threshed and had ground 597 bushels, or an average of 19.17-20 per acre. The wheat was planted on gravel land that had been abandoned as unfit for other grain. This wheat was matured 20 bushels of cotton seed to the acre, and a top dressing of 100 pounds of soda to the acre. Since the harvesting of the wheat the land has been sowed, by a Deering harvester, in peas, and Mr. Ingram says the peas will make 3 to 4 tons an acre. The same land and 100 acres adjacent will be sown in wheat next October. The cotton acreage of this farm has been entirely given over to small grain, as offering the best money making crop.

The wheat planted by Mr. Ingram is known as the "Red May." Mr. Ingram thinks it produces better results, and before planting is subjected to a blue stone wash, which prevents "smut" and seems to avoid the worms.

Mr. Ingram figures up the cost on his wheat like this: Twenty bushels cotton seed at 10 cents, \$2; soda to the acre \$2.40, ploughing \$1 an acre, harvesting \$1 an acre, allowing for machine be owns. Out of this Mr. Ingram gets per acre three barrels of double patent flour, two barrels of seconds, bran and straw. The straw he uses for potatoes, and he says that with plenty of straw under potatoes they will make from 300 to 500 bushels to the acre.

Chronic Diarrhoea Cured

This is to certify that I have had chronic diarrhoea ever since the war. I got so weak I could hardly walk or do anything. One bottle of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy cured me sound and well.

J. R. Gibbs, Fincastle, Va.

I had chronic diarrhoea for twelve years. Three bottles of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy cured me.

S. L. Shaver, Fincastle, Va.

Both Mr. Gibbs and Mr. Shaver are prominent farmers and reside near Fincastle, Va. They procured the remedy from Mr. W. E. Casper, a druggist at that place, who is well acquainted with them and will vouch for the truth of their statements. For sale by Dr. A. J. China.

BISHOPVILLE PERSONALS

From The Recorder, Sept. 6. Miss Christene McKagan returned to her home in Sumter Monday, after spending some time with relatives here.

Prof. W. P. Baskin will leave Thursday for Wedgefield to take charge of the Wedgefield School to which he has been elected.

Miss Essie Fleming has tendered her resignation as teacher in the Bishopville Graded School with the request to accept same. The board of trustees held a special meeting today for the purpose of acting upon her resignation and electing a teacher.

Miss Estelle Barrett, who has been on an extended visit to relatives in Sumter, returned home Tuesday, accompanied by her little niece, Cecile McLeod.

Mr. H. A. McKeen left Monday for Spartanburg, where he has gone into business. We regret to lose Mr. McKeen, but wish him much success in his new field of labor.

THE BUSINESS LEAGUE.

The first of the regular monthly meetings of the Business League was held in the Sumter Club rooms last Wednesday night.

President Moss reported for the executive committee that the railroad authorities had been communicated with in reference to the arrangements of more convenient schedules. Letters from General Manager J. R. Kenly, of the Atlantic Coast Line and Superintendent J. H. Sands, of the Charleston Division of the Southern, were read. Both stated that the matter of schedules would be taken up when the winter schedules were arranged and the requests of the league would be complied with if possible.

Letters from the Manufacturer's Record in reference to the write up of Sumter and rates for a staiding advertisement were read. The write up promised some months ago will be published as soon as the copy for same is furnished.

A proposition from the Sumter Club to combine the club and the league so that both bodies may occupy the club rooms was submitted. The proposition was received as information and will be considered at the next meeting.

There was a general discussion of freight rates and discriminations against Sumter dealers. Nothing definite was done, as no facts and figures were submitted, but it was decided that those who have complaints in future shall collect the facts and lay the matter before the executive committee, which body will proceed immediately to make a thorough investigation. If there has been discrimination and if the complaint has a grievance the executive committee will take the necessary steps to obtain redress.

The executive committee reported that a folder setting forth briefly the advantages of Sumter as a cotton and tobacco market and as a manufacturing, railroad and mercantile centre had been prepared and would be circulated.

The meeting was not largely attended, but the discussion of matters of interest to the city was of a practical nature and many excellent suggestions were made. It is evident that the Business League has commenced work along the right line and that it will do the work that is needed to develop the city.

Not the Wisest Way.

It is not always best to wait until it is needed before buying a bottle of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy. Quite frequently the remedy is required in the very busiest season or in the night and much inconvenience and suffering must be borne before it can be obtained. It costs but a trifle as compared with its real worth and every family can well afford to keep it in their home. It is every where acknowledged to be the most successful medicine in the world for bowel complaints. For sale by Dr. A. J. China.

Reckless and careless bicycle riders are doing all that lies within their power to force the City Council to pass an ordinance forbidding bicyclists to ride on the sidewalks in any part of the city. They ride on the sidewalks at the highest possible speed, day and night, and show an utter disregard of the rights of pedestrians. Half the time they do not ring or give any warning, but dash by or run over those who are walking. At night they are even worse, for they ride without lights and do not ring when approaching corners or pedestrians. Accidents are of daily occurrence and it is remarkable that some one has not been seriously injured before this. Bicycles are allowed on the sidewalks on sufferance only, and unless riders exercise the proper care it will be necessary for the protection of those who have the first right to the sidewalks to pass an ordinance requiring bicyclists to use the streets and keep off the sidewalks.

During the past week Manager Ryttenberg made a ten strike in signing a contract with the Andrews Opera Co., which is one of the largest and best opera companies in the United States, to sing one night in our city. The company is making a long jump to Charleston, and the enterprise of our Mr. Ryttenberg will probably be rewarded with a packed house. If such attractions as this are brought to our doors, we should do all in our power to encourage the local management in going further with the good work. Date will be during November.

The Government Cotton Report

Washington, Sept. 11.—The bureau report on the condition of cotton gives an average of 63.5 against 84 for last month and 79.8 for last year. This is the lowest average for 25 years. There was an improvement in the August average of 6 in Alabama, 8 points in Mississippi, 10 in North Carolina and Georgia, 12 in South Carolina and Louisiana, 16 in Texas, 20 in Oklahoma, 24 in Arkansas, 24 in Texas and 40 in Indian Territory. The result of the long drought the general averages, given by states, are: Virginia, 87; North Carolina, 73; Georgia, 69; South Carolina, 66; Florida, 77; Alabama, 76; Mississippi, 78; Louisiana, 74; Texas, 61; Arkansas, 62; Tennessee, 76; Missouri, 85; Oklahoma, 66; Indian Territory, 53.

A conservative estimate on the basis of the government report makes the total crop less than two million bales.

Card of Thanks.

In behalf of the Fourth Regiment Band, I desire to extend our sincere thanks to all who contributed toward the success of the concert and lawn festival held last night, and the two held heretofore. The members of the band are very grateful to the ladies who contributed refreshments so generously, and also to the many persons who attended the concert and made it a success socially and financially, and they take this means of thanking them one and all. Respectfully,

R. S. Hood, Sec. and Treas. 4th Reg't Band.

Some time ago we expressed the opinion that the price of cotton would advance with the season. Neill's estimate came later, and, although unconvincing of a record-breaking crop, we held our peace—watching Texas. It makes little difference how short our own crop is; it is only Texas that counts. Texas fills the eye of the consumer. Saturday's reports from Texas seem to settle the question. The crop of that State will at least be below the average of the last two years, and elsewhere it will be materially smaller. Cotton, therefore, is a good thing to hold. There is a great revival in the mill industry all over the world. The demand for cotton goods is increasing and manufacturers will need more cotton than ever before. Cotton will respond to the prevailing movement toward higher prices. Those producers who are able to hold it on their plantation should do so, thus keeping it from entering into the reports of receipts. Those who cannot afford to go without money should store their cotton in bonded warehouses and get loans on it. The prospect of an advance of half a cent a pound will warrant warehousing it for three months.—The State.

Washington Political Gossip

McKinley's Trucking to Public Sentiment.

MILES MAY BE SENT TO THE PHILIPPINES.

Washington, Sept. 11.—"End the war in the Philippines speedily, or the result will be disastrous to you and to the republican party" That is the sum and substance of what is being daily dinned into the ears of Mr. McKinley, not by his opponents, but by leading republicans, who know how unpopular that war is becoming all over the country. Mr. McKinley is gradually becoming convinced that the reaction in public sentiment concerning his Philippine policy, predicted more than a year ago by Col. Bryan, is at hand, and once fully convinced, there is no telling what he may do, for this country has never had a president who feared the public sentiment of the country as much as Mr. McKinley does, or who tried so hard to make his official acts meet its approval, regardless of his own opinion.

The most striking thing connected with the hearing on trusts, by the industrial commission, was a daring and somewhat scandalous attack upon Vice Chairman Philips of the commission, who is connected with an independent oil company in Pennsylvania, by officials of the Standard Oil trust. Mr. Philips denied the charge that he had been mixed up in an offer to dicker with the Standard Oil trust, but the charge left a bad taste in everybody's mouth, and is not calculated to add anything to the prestige of the commission, which isn't any too great at best.

Senator Stewart is a fine specimen of stalwart radicalism in all his views. He never trims on any question, conservatism is unknown to his mind. He has got it in for France for several reasons, the latest of which is the second conviction of Dreyfus, and says that country really has no government at all, and that we should break off diplomatic relations until France gets a government. The senator threatens to offer a joint resolution to that effect when congress meets; also a bill repealing all official recognition of the exposition at Paris next year.

The administration appears to be still determined to leave Gen. Otis in supreme command in the Philippines, although Secretary Root is understood to have recommended a change, and to favor sending Gen. Miles over there. There is politics in this determination, and it isn't the sort of politics that reflects any credit upon Mr. McKinley. The Hanna crowd are afraid of Miles now, and if he should go to the Philippines and do what Otis has signally failed to do, they would fear him still more. They know that Otis is not likely, under any circumstances, to develop popularity enough to make him a political rival of Mr. McKinley. That is why they wish to keep Otis in command, notwithstanding the overwhelming evidences from all sources, of his unfitness, not to call it by a harsher term. The agent of the non partisan Associated Press, in a long letter from Manila, just published, after going into details, showing the failure of Otis, sums up by saying: "The secret of the whole trouble here is that the government has left a small man to deal with a most delicate problem, requiring broad statesmanship. Everyone agrees that Otis is honest, and that counts for much in a position affording such chances for dishonesty, but everyone agrees also with the most remarkable unanimity, that he has bungled affairs from the beginning."

It is evident to even the most casual observer of those political currents which are to be found by those who know how, just below the surface of the party waters, that the republican leaders are carefully paving the way to drop Mr. Hobart if they shall consider it expedient to do so. The state of Mr. Hobart's health is made the basis of all these preparatory stories. If it doesn't improve, "his family will have to veto the idea of his remaining in politics," etc. This is all tommyrot. Mr. Hobart has shown upon several occasions, during the last three months, notably by his getting Alger to resign, that his health is good enough to do what other men, not on the sick list, failed to do. His "health" is likely to remain in a precarious condition, until Boss Hanna has fully made up his mind whether it will be best to have him run again with Mr. McKinley, and he isn't likely to fully decide until the national convention meets. Then Mr. Hobart's health will take a good or bad turn, in accordance with Hanna's decision.

After wobbling around the question for about two weeks, the war department, under political pressure, issued the order for the enlistment of two negro regiments for the Philippines. They will bring the volunteer army up to the limit set by congress, which it has been clear from the first that the administration intended to do.

Col. W. J. Bryan was unanimously elected a member of the council of administration, of the Spanish War Veterans association, which has just

closed its first encampment, in Washington, although he did not attend the encampment. Ex Gov. Oates, of Alabama, was also elected a member of the council, as was H. H. Blunt, a Louisiana negro, who was a lieutenant in the Ninth Immunes. Gen. J. W. Keifer, of Ohio, was elected commander in chief of the new organization, which hopes ultimately to embrace all the state organizations of Spanish War veterans which have been formed.

Here's a Sensation.

All Beer Dispensaries Are Ordered Closed.

Special Cor. News and Courier.

Columbia, Sept. 9.—The board of control has tired of its own petted child—the beer dispensaries. All places where beer has been sold are to be closed. The edict went forth today. It was unexpected and shocking. It will play havoc with many who have prepared for the business and breaks up the business in the harvest season. It is a rather late awakening on the part of the State board. All that is said about the wide license and latitude of the beer dispensers is so, and in some places the beer dispensaries authorized and codded by the State board, by permits, are good old-time saloons for the sale of beer.

The mandate goes forth in these resolutions adopted by the board this morning.

Resolved, That all beer dispensaries are hereby ordered closed and the terms of office of such dispensers are declared to be vacant; this order to become effective on Nov. 1, 1899.

Resolved further, That semi-sterilized, or family, beer be supplied to consumers through the regular county dispensaries, and that breweries usually seeking business with the dispensary are requested to submit bids to the State board of control at the October meeting, proposing to supply such beer bottled and in crates and in such quantities as may be necessary to be shipped to various county dispensaries direct, and at such times as it may be ordered out by the board.

And it is further resolved, That the board at the October meeting designate such dispensaries as it is deemed prudent to require to handle such beer, and that they be required to handle such beer business by Nov. 1."

That Second Chapter.

The new pastor was preaching his first sermon. In the middle of it he stopped abruptly and asked: "How many of you have read the Bible?"

Fifty hands went up. "Good," said the pastor. "Now, how many of you have read the second chapter of Jude?"

Twenty-five hands went up. A wan smile overspread the divine's face.

"That's also good; but when you go home read that chapter again, and you will doubtless learn something to your interest."

There is only one chapter in the book of Jude.—Guthrie (O. T.) Leader.

Punctured.

Sprocket—Had my tire punctured this morning. Crocket—You don't say so? How did it happen? Sprocket—Riding in a strange country and ran against the forks of a road.—Toronto World.

A Bit of Superstition.

One of the most liberally patronized of the Pennsylvania's many passenger trains is the St. Louis express, which leaves the Broad street station each afternoon at 4:30 o'clock. The regular gate for the train is No. 14, but at this season of the year the rush of people to get aboard is so great it becomes necessary to open two gates. No. 13 being the nearest, it is the one selected.

The saunterer happened to be in the station the other afternoon when the gates were thrown open. Instantly there was a rush for No. 14 and the crowd became jammed around it for a distance of 30 feet in each direction. Gate No. 13 was practically neglected.

"This way for the St. Louis express," called out the ticket puncher at the gate. "This way for the St. Louis express."

But, although his voice was good and loud, none of the passengers who were struggling around No. 14 seemed to hear it. Out of probably 100 well dressed, intelligent men and women the saunterer saw but three leave the pushing throng around No. 14 and pass through No. 13. He asked the gate-man why it was.

"Don't know," was his answer, "except it's superstition. Afraid to start on a journey by passing through a gate with 13 as its number, I suppose. It's this way every time, and will be, I guess, as long as the number on the gate is left as it is. I believe that the most of the people would rather miss their train, if it came to that, than take chances with their superstitious fears. Funny, isn't it?"—Philadelphia Inquirer.

The Pope's Enourage.

The court of Pope Leo XIII comprises 1,000 persons. There are 20 valets, 120 house prelates, 170 privy chamberlains, 6 chamberlains, 300 extra honorary chamberlains, 130 supernumerary chamberlains, 30 officers of the Noble guard and 60 guardsmen, 14 officers of the Swiss guard and police guard, 7 honorary chaplains, 20 private secretaries, 10 stewards and masters of the horse and 60 doorkeepers.

The paupers in Japan number fewer than 10,000 out of a population of 38,000,000. In that country it is considered a disgrace to be an idler.

Syndicates Swallow

The Long Leaf Pine.

Hundreds of Millions of Feet Bought in Many Counties.

Florence, Sept. 10.—"Within the next twelve months there will be a complete corner on all the long-leaf pine timber in South Carolina," remarked a prominent saw mill man yesterday, and from present indications it seems as if his predictions will be verified. The tall yellow pine trees that for so many years have graced our forests and furnished the lumber with which our Southern homes have been built are fast passing into the hands of aliens, and will soon be numbered with the things of the past.

For several months representatives of capitalists, especially of three distinct firms, have been making a canvass of the counties of Horry, Georgetown, Williamsburg, Clarendon, Berkeley Sumter, Darlington, Florence, Marion and Marlboro, and buying all the timber that could be secured, the price varying from 50 cents to \$6 an acre. These agents are slick, smooth talkers and the farmer who comes within the sound of their siren voices find it hard to get away without signing one of their carefully worded contracts. Here is where the mischief is done and it is confidently predicted that these contracts will result in endless litigation. It has been observed for several months that the lawyers at the various court houses in the counties named have been busily engaged in looking up titles to various tracts of land to ascertain if the owners can sell the timber on their lands and if so, the terms of the contract which are signed in substance are as follows:

The owner upon the acceptance of the purchase money bargains, sells and relinquishes all his claim to the timber standing or lying on his land, "that measures twelve inches stump diameter, and upwards, twelve inches from the ground at the time of cutting," but a reservation is granted to use the timber from this tract for ordinary plantation purposes, and a right of way, generally about sixty feet wide, to be used whenever desired by the purchaser or their assigns for a permanent railroad or tramway or for any permanent branch railway or tramway. The purchaser next gains the right to erect buildings, establish roads, etc., and at the end of contract, (which never terminates) has the right to carry away every improvement made upon the land.

After pledging himself to defend and guard this timber the seller then enters into an agreement to give the buyer ten, and even in some cases fifteen years to cut and remove this timber—not from the date of the signing of contract, but from the time it might suit the buyer or his assigns to begin. This may be twenty or forty years hence, it matters not which; the time limit does not begin until the cutting actually commences, and if at the end of the ten or fifteen years further time is granted for the removal of the timber, or rather to allow the younger trees to grow, for an indefinite period of years upon the annual payment of 6 per cent. of the original purchase money. In the meantime the landowner is bound by this contract to pay the taxes due upon his land which in a few years will amount to, and in many cases exceed the amount received for the timber, thus "selling his birthright for a mess of pottage," and leasing his lands for an indefinite period to those lumber companies for the purpose of raising timber for the Northern and foreign markets.

One company claims to have purchased 96,000,000 feet of lumber during the month of July.

If this timber could be sold and removed in a reasonable length of time these lands could be cleared up and used for agricultural purposes, but under existing contracts it is specifically expressed that no part shall be cleared.

This is no overdrawn picture, but the records in the court house in each of the counties named will verify every statement made.

Where the matter will end no one now knows, but a devoted old brother in Williamsburg County, of the Presbyterian persuasion, who has read the Bible all his life and has sold his timber for a good round sum and pocketed the money, declares that he can prove by the Bible that the millennium will begin with the year 1900. Let us hope for his sake, at least, that this prediction will be verified. F. P. Cooper.

Ponce, Puerto Rico, Sept. 11.—The steamer Philadelphia, Capt. Chambers, from Venezuela ports, brings news of the spread of the revolution and the waning strength of the government. The insurgent leader, Gen. Ciriaco Castro, has 10,000 men under his command.

According to the same authority, a strict censorship of cable dispatches has been established; mail matter is freely opened, and a close watch is kept upon outgoing passengers. President Andrade has purchased a Spanish gunboat with an equipment of eight guns, for \$135,000.

Sixty-six prominent politicians, among them Senor Hernandez and the editor of El Pregonero, were arrested Aug. 14, and more than five hundred have been taken into custody since.

A fierce battle was fought on Aug. 23 near Barquesimeto when the insurgents captured 2,000 government troops and secured a large quantity of ammunition.