

WHY NOT CLOSE EARLY?

The fine work of the Genus Fool. A fool can do more injury in five minutes than fifty wise men can repair in a month.

The only way to treat a fool is to ignore him and go along in the even tenor of your way. Do not dignify the fool with too much notice.

After considerable effort the agreement to close all the stores at 10 o'clock Saturday night had been made effective, and every firm in town had agreed to close promptly at the hour agreed.

What must be stopped. The Clerks of Sumter. "And Nice-Teeths of the Citizens."

The Greeks did not take kindly to this threat, and in consequence did not close at 10 o'clock Saturday night. They had closed the previous Saturday night promptly on the hour and but for this fool's meddling would have closed every Saturday night.

The writer is informed by the Greeks that they have no disposition to violate the agreement to close at 10 o'clock, nor do they wish to go counter to the customs of the town in which they have established themselves in business.

Viable Supply of Cotton. Special to the Item. New York, April 26.—The viable supply of cotton is the smallest since 1890, when cotton sold at 12 cents.

Heirs Wanted

The following letter received by Sheriff Pierson, and which has been furnished by him to this paper, is published for the benefit of the parties concerned:

To the Sheriff of Sumter County, Sumter, S. C.: Dear Sir. There is in the hands of an Administrator in this (Cleveland) County a small sum of money for Mrs. Hester Smith, a daughter of John W. Gibbons, deceased.

The Administrator is anxious to make his final settlement, and we are about to bring an action to sell the land for partition.

These people were very poor when they left this county. The Administrator is anxious to make his final settlement, and we are about to bring an action to sell the land for partition.

Moved and carried that the chairman of the delegation be authorized to appoint any alternate that might be necessary to fill vacancies in the representation.

The Mechanics and Laborers Democratic club met in Pierson hall on last Saturday afternoon at 6 o'clock, and was called together by President E. T. Windham.

It was moved and carried that the chairman of delegation be authorized to fill any vacancy or vacancies that might occur in the representation by appointing alternates.

His Life Was Saved. Mr. J. E. Lilly, a prominent citizen of Harbald, Mo., lately had a wonderful deliverance from a frightful death. In telling of it he says: "I was taken with typhoid fever that ran into pneumonia. My lungs became hardened. I was so weak I couldn't even sit up in bed. Nothing helped me. I expected soon to die of consumption, when I heard of Dr. King's New Discovery. One bottle gave great relief. I continued to use it, and now am well and strong. I can't say too much in its praise."

THE PHANTOM HOST. Written by Rev. P. D. Hay, Not by Father Ryan. In the spring of 1838 Mr P. D. Hay, now rector of the Church of the Holy Comforter, then a resident of Sumter, contributed an original poem, "The Phantom Host," to the Sumter Watchman.

Dedication of Kendall Institute.

The dedicatory exercises of Kendall Institute will be held tonight. Dr. Sanders, of Biddle University, and other distinguished persons will be present.

Mad Dogs at Lucknow. We were told recently that Lucknow and vicinity were literally infested with mad dogs and that some anxiety was felt on account of their number.

No Right to Ugliness. The woman who is lovely in face, form and temper will always have friends, but one who would be attractive must keep her health.

Sunday School Picnic. The children of the Baptist Sunday school, together with the teachers and many of the parents and friends, will attend a picnic on Friday on the Southern railway, at the Singleton spring, about a mile this side of the Sumter Junction on the Camden Branch of the Southern R. R.

At the last quarterly conference of Magnolia Street Church Messrs. W. P. Smith and Geo. E. Beaumont were elected delegates and Messrs. J. S. Kennedy and D. S. Moore alternates to the district conference, which convenes June 23 in the First Methodist Church in this city.

Stamp Books. The postoffice now has stamps in books on sale. The stamps are put up in small books with non-adhesive paper between each sheet of stamps.

A BIG OX. George D. Shore & Bro. Thursday sold for shipment to Baltimore the biggest ox ever in this city. The ox was raised in Privates and was bought in December.

Fifty Years Old. Friday fifty years ago, on April 27th, 1850, the first issue of the Black River Watchman made its appearance.

A Coincidence. A somewhat remarkable coincidence occurred at the Redbone Church, in Privates, on Sunday. It was the double burial of two double first cousins named Smiling, who died near together, and whose families lived near each other.

Memorial Day. The Dick Anderson Chapter Daughters of Confederacy held a meeting at the residence of Mrs. Altamont Moses on Monday, 23d. The following officers were elected: President—Mrs. Altamont Moses.

Pythian Memorial Service.

The threatening clouds and a shower of rain Monday evening prevented many persons from attending the memorial services of Gamecock Lodge, K. of P., in honor of the deceased members of that lodge.

He briefly reviewed the origin and growth of the order, which was born amid scenes of fratricidal strife more than thirty-five years ago. Beginning with a few noble men who had in their hearts a feeling of genuine fraternity for their fellows, the order has spread until the tri-colored banner has been unfurled throughout the globe.

The closing prayer was made by Dr. Brown. The good night ode was sung, and the services ended.

Mannville Lodge No. 107 K. of P. The 107th Lodge K. of P. of the Grand Jurisdiction of South Carolina was instituted by Deputy Grand Chancellor F. Frank Wilson last Friday night at Mannville.

Game Cock Lodge of Sumter was represented by Knights H. L. Scarborough, H. E. Moneyham, Altamont Moses, L. I. Parrot, J. S. Hughes, G. W. Dick, J. M. Knight, S. H. Edmunds, J. H. Levy, A. D. Moses, C. M. Hurst, Jr., J. L. Haynesworth, J. H. Chandler, O. L. Stubby, W. F. Shaw, J. Edwin Rembert, J. W. McCoy, B. Walsh, Walter Cheyne, R. M. Jenkins, and H. M. Stuckey.

At half-past eight o'clock the work of institution was commenced and was completed at four o'clock Saturday morning. The three subordinate lodge ranks were conferred upon the following members of the Mannville lodge: E. Alexander, Rev. O. M. Richards, Nat. Barrett, J. C. Parnell, I. P. Barnett, E. F. McCutchen, J. W. Jockey, D. L. Shaw, W. W. Player, J. M. Play, W. F. Davis, G. G. Trimal, J. L. S.orough, J. R. Dixon, J. R. Cousar, N. Y. Alford, Bradford Scarborough, R. M. Cooper, H. T. Woods, E. F. DesChamps.

At midnight a recess was taken, likewise a most beautiful and tempting feast which was furnished by the hospitaller-brethren of Mannville. Nat. Barrett's table was particularly tables. Crockery, tinware and cutlery from his shelves were brought into requisition. The valiant Knights attacked the foe, and spread havoc all around. Even the new made Esquires acquitted themselves like heroes, and did full justice to the occasion.

THE WAR RELICS PRESENTED. Col Blanding brings the flag and vase to Columbia. Yesterday the venerable veteran of the Mexican and Civil wars, Col J. D. Blanding of Sumter, arrived in the city, bringing with him the historic flag of the war of Mexico, and the celebrated Jackson was presented to the regiment. Col Blanding turned directly to the governor's office and turned these invaluable relics, together with all papers relating to them, over to Gov. McWenney to be placed in the State house and there securely kept.

Col Blanding says he has been urged to bring these precious relics to the Louisville reunion, but he felt that the relics should be in the State house and would not delay. His meeting yesterday with old Uncle William Rose, the colored veteran of the famous regiment, was most affecting.

Dr. Cady's Condition Powders. Eggs become unwholesome when kept in refrigerators. A fungus forms in them which is easily found by the microscope, although it is not noticeable to the taste. The fungus constitutes a danger when we consider how many eggs are consumed by all classes of society, and people of delicate constitutions ought to be particularly careful that they eat fresh and not kept eggs.

Married in Georgia.

Mr Editor: We clip the following local editorial from the Butler (Ga) Herald, and as it so intimately concerns one of Sumter county's best and most promising former citizens who has a very wide circle of "friends, relatives and acquaintances" in this county and State, who will be gratified to read it, we ask a place in your columns:

"Smith-Cooper—At the residence of Mr J C Sealy at 4 o'clock on Wednesday afternoon, occurred the happy marriage of Miss Nettie R. Smith to Mr D H Cooper. Rev R. M. Wesley officiating. Only the immediate family and a few special friends witnessed the ceremony. This marriage has been in contemplation for some time, but on account of the serious illness of the bride, the happy event has been postponed until the evening of the 18th inst, when it was consummated.

"The bride is one of the most accomplished and deserving young ladies of this community who for the past three years has been in charge of the depot as agent and telegraph operator here. By a faithful discharge of her duties she has won the love and admiration not only of our community but all railroad employees and officials, who wish for her a long life of happiness. Mr Cooper is one of Fort Valley's most successful business men, who has been in the cotton business for the past several years. Through his uniform courtesy and correct business methods he has made many friends among our people who congratulate him and wish for him a life of perfect bliss, and that there may never be a bubble on life's sea to mar his happiness."

Mr Dwight H. Cooper is a son of Capt J. Harrington Cooper of this place. He cast his lot 'away down south in Georgia' some four years since, taking with him only that prestige which Sumter county is prone to furnish the best class of her young men; and the above report of his success in life and—love, should be very gratifying to his olden friends and very encouraging to the younger ones who are so woefully sluggish in launching their double oared life boat on the matrimonial sea, but are selfishly complacent and persistent in pushing their miserable little one paddle, single seat, rudderless and keelless canoe through the narrow ditches or over the cheerless mud flats of life.

We echo the good wishes of the Georgia paper and people, only we think a few "bubbles" are necessary to relieve the monotony, provided there's not too much ebullition. May their oars pull together. May their sails be filled by propitious breezes and their bark, at last, be gently wafted to "the better shore."

St Charles, April 30, 1900. Tetter, Salt-Rheum and Eczema. The intense itching and smarting incident to these diseases, is instantly allayed by applying Chamberlain's Eye and Skin Ointment. Many very bad cases have been permanently cured by it. It is equally efficient for itching piles and a favorite remedy for sore nipples, chapped hands, chilblains, frost bites and chronic sore eyes. 25c per box. For sale by Dr. A. J. China. Dec 30-1.

CUBAN OIL cures Cuts, Burns, Bruises, Rheumatism and Sores. Price, 25 cts Sold by Hughson-Ligon Co.

TO DISFRANCHISE NEGROES. Constitutional Convention is Leading Issue in Virginia Campaign. RICHMOND, April 30.—The question of calling a constitutional convention in Virginia primarily for the disfranchisement of the negroes has been practically settled so far as the Democrats are concerned. A majority of the delegates to the Democratic state convention, which meets at Norfolk on May 5, are instructed in favor of making the call for a convention a party issue. This matter is now the absorbing one in Virginia and the demand for the disfranchisement of the negroes and other constitutional reforms has entirely overshadowed the original purpose for which the Norfolk meeting was called.

Refrigerated Eggs. Eggs become unwholesome when kept in refrigerators. A fungus forms in them which is easily found by the microscope, although it is not noticeable to the taste. The fungus constitutes a danger when we consider how many eggs are consumed by all classes of society, and people of delicate constitutions ought to be particularly careful that they eat fresh and not kept eggs.

Repeated Sheldon's Experiment. LONDON, April 30.—Dr. Parker, London's well known preacher, repeated this week Rev. Charles Sheldon's Toledo Capital experiment. The paper put in his hands was Pearson's Illustrated Weekly News. The Kansas pastor seems rather to have taken the wind out of Dr. Parker's sails and the latter's effort are attracting comparatively little comment or attention.

DISASTROUS EFFECT OF OTTAWA FIRE

Five Thousand Men Thrown Out of Employment.

GREAT DISTRESS ENSUES

OTTTAWA, April 30.—An estimate is made of the effects of the fire in Ottawa which runs as follows: Homeless, about 15,000; destitute, about 8,000; fatalities, 7; thrown out of work by destruction of industries, Ottawa, 3,000; Hull, 2,000; value of buildings destroyed, \$2,500,000; personal property, such as furniture, clothes, etc., \$4,000,000. These figures do not include the lumber burned.

At a mass meeting of citizens it was decided to instruct the city council to ask the Ontario legislature for leave to borrow \$100,000 by issuing debentures to aid the sufferers from the fire in Ottawa and Hull. General subcommittees were appointed for the purpose of affording relief. It was decided to build two shelter buildings in Hull. Orders for blankets, bread and other necessaries was given. The needs for relief are pressing.

London Aids Fire Sufferers. LONDON, April 30.—Lord Mayor Newton has decided to open a mansion house fund for the relief of the homeless people of Ottawa, and a Stock Exchange fund has been opened with several large subscriptions.

Arguments Heard. RALEIGH, April 30.—Argument for appeals were heard by the supreme court in two of the most notable murder cases in recent years in this part of North Carolina. In one case the defendant is Tom Jones, the negro who murdered and burned his mistress and five of her children and who is under sentence to be hanged here May 11. In the other the defendant is James Smith, a negro who cut the throats of two young white men, one of whom died.

Porter Out of Danger. NEW YORK, April 30.—George F. Betts, brother-in-law of George Addison Porter, gave out the following statement last night: "Mr. Porter has been operated upon and the operation was entirely successful. We do not care to give the name of the hospital or the names of the doctors, but you can say that Mr. Porter is out of danger."

Be Careful. No woman can be too careful of her condition during the period before her little ones are born. Neglect or improper treatment then endangers her life and that of the child. It lies with her whether she shall suffer unnecessarily, or whether the ordeal shall be made comparatively easy. She had better do nothing than do something wrong.

MOTHER'S FRIEND

Druggists sell it at \$1 per bottle. THE BRADFIELD REGULATOR CO. ATLANTA, Ga. Send for our free illustrated book, "Before Baby is Born."