

The Watchman and Southron.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1901.

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.

AS TO OUR BAD ROADS.

The communication of Dr. Dwight in this paper on the subject of bad roads confirms the opinion, that since the chain gang has been in this county the custom of working the roads has been to a large extent discontinued by the people. This should not be. It is impossible for 25 or 30 hands to keep the roads of the entire county in order. The work of the chain gang should be directed to permanent improvement of the highways, and the roads should be kept in order as heretofore until a better plan is found.

The people themselves are to blame for the condition of the roads, for they sit down and wait for the chain gang to come around instead of working them as the road law provides. There is no use to attempt to make the County Supervisor the scape goat. He may not be perfect, he may fail to do many things that he could or should, but even were he absolutely perfect and absolutely tireless he could not keep the roads of Sumter county in good condition with the people so entirely supine and indifferent to their own duty in the matter.

THE LEE COUNTY MOVEMENT.

Some of the Reasons for Establishing the New County.

Mr. Editor: All honor and credit and thanks to the Watchman and Southron and The Daily Item for the privilege of their columns to discuss the pros and cons in the matter of dividing the county. Your offer is liberal and generous and the wisest move that has been made in the matter and calculated to accomplish more than contentiousness, slurs and sneers, or strained attempts at witticisms, which only engender bitterness; and the people on this side, at least, will appreciate your broad courage.

Now, over this side, it is well known that I was, ab initio, opposed to any cutting of our old "Gamecock" county and fought the move, and even up to the initiation of this last move was, to say the least, reluctant. But, upon discovering the wide favor and popularity with which it has been received by the greater portion of our people I concluded to give more study and ponder more seriously upon the "Why-ness" of the "Wherefore" that this was thus, and will attempt to give my conclusions.

From the day when South Carolina was a Province under the Lords Proprietors even unto this day as population and property values have increased, the trend has been towards smaller and more compact territorial management, simply as a measure of political economy.

Our State, in the writer's own time, was divided into 29 Districts. Some of these were again subdivided by special act of assembly; as in the case of Sumter and Clarendon, once forming one district. But, as population and property rapidly increased and values enhanced and prosperity possessed the land and people, and facilities became more greatly needed, and time became more precious, a special provision was incorporated into our new constitution for the formation of new counties, upon certain conditions, provisions and stipulations, to meet this growing necessity of the people for greater convenience and facilities in the management of their district or county affairs, until there are now nearly double the counties in our State.

It has, for some years, been dawning upon many of our people on this side of Sumter county and in the included sections of Darlington and Kershaw, that the time had arrived for their too to "set up house keeping" for themselves for the same above reasons, and they have become convinced that it is feasible, practical and a necessity. They have noted that there lies, on the undulating and fertile hills at the head of Black River, a picturesque growing and prospering town, centrally located and willing and ready to make a fair and handsome donation towards obviating increased taxation in the formation of the new government if she is made the county seat. Who can blame her for so commendable an ambition.

Thus has the new county idea grown in regularity and developed into a widespread determination to materialize at the polls. So much for the reasons for voting for Lee county. As to Dr. Cheyne's communication I will take it, seriatim, and answer. First, that I too have been searching for knowledge among the Lee county" opposers, why they are so reluctant that we should secede. Sumter once headily approved the right of secession and fought gallantly in its defence and the only reason given now for resisting that right is identical with that which influenced the north in the by gone, namely, the loss of rich tributary territory and consequent loss of Poll Tax and Power. This loss is readily conceded, but is no valid reason why a family, political or domestic, should not divide and set up "house keeping" for themselves, when they so decide and demand solely and only what the law assigns them, without antagonism or contention by the political or domestic parent on mere selfish grounds. Like my friend, the Hon. Dave Durant, I too have been seceded from, domestically. Mangre all argument and disapproval, but my progeny are flourishing and I'm not starving or dead. Sumter will retain her numerous railways, radiating and reaching to the uttermost parts of the land. She will retain her marts of trade and manufacturing industries and banks. She retains every item of county property and only proportionate share of county indebtedness (Lee county assuming her full quota of same.) She will have less court

expenses, less poor and less prisoners to care for; less roads and many less causeways to keep up. She retains the position of county seat and may also retain all the gentlemen of legal acumen who haven't the astuteness to move over to the "Bantam City." As to the shape of the old county it may be, in some aspects, procrustian, but unfortunately neither the constitution on any statute bearing thereon provides for or prescribes any particular form, shape or picture, but leaves those dissatisfied with their shape the same privilege of reshaping themselves. It surely will work no more hardship or inconvenience upon those who reside in the "handle" to Sumter or to do as they have always done, in all respects, than before the Lee county lines were run. Mere surveyor's lines and metes and bounds are no obstacle or bar to trade and commerce, or other intercourse. We are not moving off anywhere and I have heard no word inimical to Sumter or a single adverse comment made regarding her.

With all due deference to Dr. Cheyne, who owns a very valuable plantation on the bluff of Black river, I would ask him if any "wide awake farmer" would give as much for Oswego lands today if we were situated 17 miles from "the largest market town," or in other words would not "any wide awake farmer" or other buyer, give more for Dr. Cheyne's lands today were Bishopville, 3 miles distant, a market town of size and note, as is Sumter, with a turnpiked road thereto. Does not proximity to market affect land values in an increasing or decreasing ratio until entirely beyond its influence? Just in the same ratio as might be illustrated by contiguity and propinquity to and remoteness from some heat producer? Is 8 miles of turnpike road sufficient to destroy all that influence? Put that question in that square cut shape to that "wide awake farmer" and hear his answer. Turnpiked roads offer facilities without any rails because they overcome distance and friction which comprehends time and cost, and even without turnpikes proximity answers the same purpose in a measure. All our lands are more valuable than when cotton brought 12 and 15c, greatly owing to modern commercial facilities. Increase those facilities to the market town and the syllogism is sound that concludes values will increase.

If joining the "majority of your neighbors" is "good ring rule" the definition has been wonderfully changed. "Ring" in South Carolina political parlance signifies to "cabal," to unite in a small party to promote private views by intrigue." If there is any "ring" caballing or intriguing it is not on this side the lines.

I don't know who fears that "some little X roads will start up as a county seat," but there is a very strong tendency towards small counties and we doubt not but that Dr. Cheyne himself would very complacently regard and very favorably consider any movement to establish a county seat contiguous to his own plantation, say at Gregg's X Roads or St. Charles, and place higher values on his already fertile acres, and contend for the enhancement solely upon the grounds of proximity to the county seat and a prospective market town.

The Doctor says he hopes "that Bishopville may grow and prosper and overflow with milk and honey or any other juice she may prefer." Bishopville has her full share of milk now, as we can testify, and doubtless honey too and other sweets, but it is that same flow of "juice" that the projected Lee County furnishes that Sumter is so loth to lose and Bishopville will receive her full quota of that (to use an Irishism) is the bone of contention and the cause of antagonism right now. The matter of increased taxation in new counties has been disposed of by Mr. Durant, in your last issue, and doubtless he has the data, and even should our taxes be somewhat increased it is a simple family question of finance upon which we are receiving some of the cheapest legal advice we ever got from Sumter.

There are no "wild surmising" as to what Bishopville will become. "Solid, substantial growth" is there now in the shape of brand new, solid brick and mortar and woodbuildings filled with substantial merchandise, a bank with substantial "demintion cash" in it, large new lively stables with substantial live stock, more lots being sold at substantial figures; more stores and residences to be built, more merchants and more population and more business attracted. We don't need any teaching about "booms" in Sumter County, as the Doctor would know had he been living some years ago, just where he is now. If there is any collapse it won't hurt Sumter this time as she is 22 miles distant; collapses don't hurt the country anyway. Money only changes hands.

Yes, we will relieve Sumter of very many of her causeways and bridges, but we have superior highways and will try and select superior highway men and will make the "good roads movement" a specialty and make our roads an object lesson, and if Sumter will spare us some sand we'll swap her some clay for road building and she can extend our pikes from our lines to her city and automobile communication can be established between the "Gamecock City" and the "bantam town" and all will be calm and serene between us. Yes, a number of us regret to "leave old Sumter, known so favorably, all over the United States." (2) Many of us are still living who helped to make her well known and very favorably too—in the South, but the time has arrived when even the sentimental South must cease mercantile sentiment to stand aside and patriotism must yield to Pelf and Power.

J. Merrick Reid.

St. Charles, Sept. 23, 1901.

GUV'S AMENDE HONORABLE.

In Re the Ice Cream Festival at St. Charles.

Dear Editor: Will you please allow me? By some sheer miserable inadvertence we omitted a name in the list of EIBs and Fairies. Miss Nela Marion Shaw's pretty face also beamed under the immaculate white cap as a waitress, and this little lady would have been more conspicuous but for indisposition which caused her early retirement from service. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sam E. Shaw, who were contributors to the feast and patrons of the school. Our omission has been called to our attention by entirely disinterested parties and we feel like kicking—ourselves. Guv.

Wee Nee, Sept. 23, 1901.

DISCUSSING LEE COUNTY.

Mr. DuPre Favors the New County, but Would Not Injure the Old.

Mr. Editor: I have read the two communications in your issue of the 18th inst. for and against the formation of Lee county.

That by Dr. Cheyne is the same argument that was used against the formation of all new counties in the State, with the exception of Hampton county and that was a political necessity at that time, in order to give the whites now in that county some showing over the black horde that so largely predominated in Beaufort county.

Mr. Durant simply begs the question. Like him, I can say that Sumter county is very dear to me, the bones of my kindred lie in Sumter city, and at Bishopville, at which place I spent a number of my boyhood years. But this is a mere statement that does not weigh an atom in deciding a question, that I believe is best for my fellow man. No man has the right to defeat a public measure that would be of benefit to his friends where he is not injured in doing so. If he lets such sentiments govern him, he is not a safe man with the ballot. The people around Bishopville need a new county. Some of them above there live thirty miles from Sumter. That is a long trip to take to attend to their public and private duties, let alone the expense incident thereto and fatigue of travel by private conveyance. Mr. Durant has shown that the tax rate of new counties is less than the old counties, and the town of Bishopville has given the new opera house (a very substantial building) for a court house. Now where is the bug-a-boo of high taxes. The statement that it would leave Sumter county irregular, is a wasted argument. All the States and counties are irregular in form, with a few exceptions, as well as the Congressional Districts. But what has that got to do with the prosperity of either county? It is almost an insult to say that Sumter city would be injured by the new county. Her merchants are broad and liberal, and can extend the lines of their business into several counties just as she is doing today. County and State lines, don't keep down a city's prosperity. Columbia is on a rock with poor water facilities, yet we see how fast she is growing and extending her trade. So it is with Atlanta and other progressive cities. Charleston is a dead place comparative with her ability. There should be no false sentiment about this matter. We all love the old county but in this day of progress changes must take place. Family ties are strong, but separation has to come however painful it is. It is so decreed. The advocates of Lee county are good and true men. In seeking to better their condition they are not trying to injure others, and all should look at it in that way.

County lines can make no difference between those who love and respect each other. No more than different creeds can do. The people of Lee county would be just as good friends to Sumter, as they are now. Nothing would be changed except their public duties. Then why fight them when they are trying to help themselves. The ties already formed between us all will last till death. They would go to Sumter in distress as freely, as she would go to them. Let each man in the prescribed limits of Lee county study this question well, and cast his ballot for or against the measure as he thinks best for his public interest, then when the ballots are counted on the 22d day of October, it is found that the county has won or lost in a free untrammelled fight, let all interested accept the result in good faith.

Jas. E. DuPre.

Pisgah, S. C., Sept. 23.

"I wish to truthfully state to you and the readers of these few lines that your Kodol Dyspepsia Cure is without question, the best and only cure for dyspepsia that I have ever come in contact with and I have used many other preparations. John Beun, West Middlesex, Pa." No preparation equals Kodol Dyspepsia Cure as it contains all the natural digestants. It will digest all kinds of food and can't help but do you good.—J. S. Hughson & Co.

Weekly Crop Bulletin.

Columbia, S. C., September 24.—The first of the week ending 8 a. m. Monday, September 23d, was warmer, the latter portion decidedly cooler than usual, with a maximum temperature of 95 degrees at Blackville, and a minimum of 47 degrees at Greenville. The winds were generally northeasterly, and were high during a part of the week. The sunshine was generally deficient during the first of the week, while the last three days were, almost cloudless.

The rainfall ranged from 0.21 at Charleston to 8.10 at Anderson, with excessive amounts over all but the southeastern portion of the State. The rains were damaging to open cotton, and caused floods in all the "up country" streams, submerging low lands to a greater depth than any previous freshet this season. The rains were beneficial to growing and immature crops. A drought of considerable severity prevails in the southeastern counties, along the immediate coast, to the injury of fall truck crops; there also the ground lacks sufficient moisture to quickly germinate recently planted seeds.

Cotton picking was delayed, and open cotton beaten out of the bolls, by the heavy rains and winds. The recent cool weather checked the rapid and premature opening, and decreased rust and shedding. In some sections a large portion of the crop is open, in other places but little has as yet opened. The crop is furthest advanced, and poorest over the eastern half of the State, while over the western half it is unusually late, with many young bolls that will require at least a month longer to mature. Sea-island continues to bloom freely and has improved.

Corn is being gathered, and the poor yields confirm previous estimates. Rice is not so good as it appeared to be before harvest; in the Georgetown district the crop is short; harvest is nearing completion. The hay crop is the largest in years, and much of it has already been secured in fine condition. Sweet potatoes are very good. Peas are good. Oats are being sown, and some have come up to good stands. Minor crops as a rule promise excellent yields.

Looks Like Lever in the Seventh.

From Reported Figures Lever Has 700 More Votes Than Brantley.

Columbia, Sept. 24.—It looks very much as if Mr. A. F. Lever of Lexington has won the race for congress in the final primary in the Seventh Congressional district, defeating Mr. Thomas F. Brantley of Orangeburg. The figures obtainable, considering those points from which the missing votes are to come, indicate that Mr. Lever will hold the lead he now has or not fall back more than 200 from that lead. The figures available now account for a total vote of 6,086, which lacks 2,888 of coming up to the total vote cast in the first primary, the total vote therein being 8,974.

Of the vote reported last night Mr. Brantley has received 2,691 and Mr. Lever 3,395, giving the latter a lead of 704. Absolutely nothing has yet been heard from Berkeley county and only one box in Colleton county has been reported. More than half of Orangeburg's vote has been accounted for and half of that of Lexington. All of the Dorchester vote save four boxes is in and there are only ten boxes to hear from in Sumter. The missing vote from Orangeburg and Lexington counties is in the rural districts and Mr. Lever's county has more of this rural vote to report than Mr. Brantley's. Berkeley, it is thought, will be carried by Mr. Brantley and Colleton is the debatable and uncertain ground.

The vote as reported thus far is as follows:

	Brantley.	Lever.
Richland,	39	32
Lexington, (12 out of 29)	299	1,305
Orangeburg (30 out of 52)	1,535	903
Berkeley,		
Colleton (Walterboro)	43	187
Dorchester (all but 4)	334	224
Sumter, (23 out of 33)	441	744
Total,	2,691	13,395

The Hague, September 21.—Baron Van Lynden, the minister of foreign affairs has forwarded to the legations and members of the counsel of the Court of Arbitration, a copy of the Boer appeal for arbitration with a notification that he intends to bring up the appeal for consideration at the first meeting of the council. The date of the meeting is not fixed.

Tutt's Pills

This popular remedy never fails to effectually cure Dyspepsia, Constipation, Sick Headache, Biliousness And ALL DISEASES arising from a Torpid Liver and Bad Digestion. The natural result is good appetite and solid flesh. Dose small; elegantly sugar coated and easy to swallow. Take No Substitute.

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Unequaled by any other.
Renders hard leather soft.
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HARNES
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NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS.

OFFICE OF COUNTY TREASURER SUMTER CO. SUMTER, S. C., Sept. 24, 1901.

NOTICE is hereby given that I will be in my office in the County Court House at Sumter from October 15th to December 31st, 1901, inclusive, for the collection of taxes for the fiscal year 1901. The levy is as follows:

For State purposes,	5 mills.
For County purposes,	3 mills.
For School purposes,	3 mills.

Total levy, 11

Also the following special school levies: School District No. 1, 2 mills. School District No. 16, 2 mills. School District No. 18, 2 mills. School District No. 29, 3 mills. Mr. Clio, 2 mills. Concord, 2 mills. Privateer, 2 mills. No. 5, 1 mill. No. 17, 1 mill. School District No. 23, 4 mills. School District No. 22, 4 mills. Commutation Road Tax for 1902 \$1.00, payable from Oct. 15th, 1901, to Feb. 1st, 1902. H. L. SCARBOROUGH, Sept 24 Treasurer Sumter Co.

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CURES WHERE ALL ELSE FAILS.
Best Cough Syrup. Tastes Good. Use in time. Sold by druggists.
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FALL ANNOUNCEMENT OF The Sumter Dry Goods Co.

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The goods are all in, have been opened, and await your inspection. Never before in the history of The Sumter Dry Goods Company has the assortment been so complete, and never before have we exhibited such a variety of new styles and new ideas.

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As it Never Talked Before in This City.

Cash with its mighty power of buying and selling has its hand on the helm and the result is money saving for you.

Come and see our Goods, Get our Prices, And we will leave the rest with you.

We have the best line of Ladies' and Children's Shoes to be had.

We carry Drew-Selby, Dottenhoffer, and the American Girl Shoe, and Hill and Green's Children's Shoes—every pair guaranteed.

Another pair or your money back if not satisfactory. Respectfully,

The Sumter Dry Goods Co.

FALL Announcement.

CALL AND SEE OUR NEW LINE OF Waistings, Tricots, Albacross, etc., plain and striped.

ALSO NEW LINE OF Embroidered Pattern Waists, all the new colorings.

These are just the materials for early fall waists, and the newest things shown.

Take a look at our line of

BLACK GOODS.

Everything that is new you will find here. We are opening new goods every day. Soliciting a share of your trade,

Yours,

J. RYTTEBERG & SONS