

THE WATCHMAN AND SOUTHRON

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 7, 1904.

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.

Charleston business men are talking of getting up a fall festival or gala week. They should wait until the Game Cock City Carnival has been held to see how to do it.

The Russians are the under dog in the fight now and many people who at the beginning were pro Jap in sentiment are beginning to sympathize with the poor Bear.

The encampment at Manassas will be a picnic for Gen. Corbin and his crowd of guests but the men will find it neither pleasant nor profitable.

The Russians beat the world in getting the stuffing licked out of them in carrying out a well defined plan of campaign. Gen. Kropotkin must have made his plans to suit the Japanese.

Sumter is one of the two or three counties in the State to return the entire old delegation to the Legislature. Kershaw county also returned the old delegation, but Darlington and Lee made a clean sweep and sent all new men.

There will be numbers of new men in the next Legislature, the primary having resulted in the defeat of many men who have been prominent in both Senate and House for several years, and we fear the change is not for the better.

The way some of the newspaper are roasting Senator Tillman for giving expression to his rough and ready views on the Brice bill will please him immensely. He is the shrewdest advertiser who ever put his hoof in South Carolina and yet he has never employed a press agent or ad. writer or paid a cent for the thousands of columns of advertising he has received.

Aiken county is next on the list to reap benefit from the labors of Immigration Commissioner Watson. The contracts were signed last week for the sale of 20,000 acres in Aiken county for colonization purposes. The promoters of this colony expect to settle about 500 families of Scandinavian farmers on this tract.

The race for Railroad Commissioner is now between John H. Earle and John G. Mobley. Sumter county will probably give John Earle a decided majority in the second primary, for he was born in this county and spent the early half of his life here. His friends are already hard at work in his behalf and it is safe to put Sumter in the Earle column.

Several South Carolina Colonels, who imagine they have a call to fill public office, are already running as hard as they can for the Governorship in 1906. Some of them are sure to fall by the wayside before the campaign of 1906 formally opens, but a few of the aspirants are sticklers and never give up the race when a political office is the goal.

Now, that the primary has decided in no uncertain manner that Supervisor Seale is to have at least two years more in which to build good roads, there is no harm in suggesting that the city of Sumter would appreciate the early completion of a clay and sand roadway from the city limits to the Lee county line. The Bishopville public road was materially improved about eighteen months ago, but there is still room for improvement.

Josh Ashley, of Anderson county has been re-elected to the House by a big majority. His ambition two years ago led him to make the attempt to break into the Senate, but Anderson county did not consider him senatorial timber, and he was left at home. Josh's chief claim to fame has heretofore rested upon his championship of the cur dogs of South Carolina and his violent and persistent opposition to every bill to impose a tax on dogs.

A study of the figures showing the comparative number of men engaged in the greatest battles of modern times will prove interesting and will give a clearer idea, than could otherwise be obtained, of the gigantic struggle now going on at Liao Yang. Not only are the armies greatly superior in point of numbers, but when the character of their arms and equipment is taken into consideration the battles of Napoleon and of our own war between the States seems insignificant.

The campaign that has just closed was altogether the cleanest and pleasantest that we have had for years. There was little or no bitterness engendered and there was practically none of the offensive and disgusting personalities that have had so prominent a part in nearly all campaigns

of recent years. It is true that, insofar as State affairs are concerned, it was an issueless campaign and the candidates were too few in numbers to create much political friction and heat, yet taking it all in all it was a decided improvement in many respects, especially in platform manners, over previous campaigns. The credit is due to the people and not to the candidates, and the change for the better is welcomed for it presages the time when candidates must seek office solely upon their own merits and not upon the demerits of their opponents.

Richard Harding Davis, whose correspondence during the war with Spain and his writings since convey the impression that he had fully as much to do with the success of the American army and navy as Theodore Roosevelt ascribes to himself, has become disgusted with the haughty and independent manner in which the Japanese commanders are conducting their campaign in Manchuria and has withdrawn the light of his countenance from them. When they declined to permit him to roam at will over the battle ground and stationed him eight miles distant from the fighting line he induced the other correspondents to join in sending a Round Robin to Gen. Oku demanding better treatment. Gen. Oku replied with the greatest politeness to the communication, and informed the dissatisfied correspondents that at future battles they would be stationed only four miles from the fighting lines. Then Mr. Davis quit and started home, for he could not endure the ignominy of being classed with baggage and other army impedimenta.

THE STATE HOUSE SUIT.

The suit against Architect Milburn and Unkefer, McIlvain & Co., the contractors who completed the State House, promises to be a case of more than ordinary interest owing to the serious nature of the charges brought against the architect and contractors. The commission composed of State officials and members of the Legislature that had charge of this work having undertaken, in their reply to the report of the committee appointed to investigate the work on the State House, to defend the architect and contractors and justify their acceptance of the job, cannot fail to be drawn into the fight in the courts. Consequently we look for the suit to take on a political complexion, and there will be fully as much politics as law in the contest. The charges against Architect Milburn are especially damaging and a verdict against him would be tantamount to his professional ruin, for he will be discredited in the eyes of the public and no one will care to employ an architect who has been proven guilty of conspiracy to defraud his clients. He will fight the case to the bitter end and his friends will rally to his support.

As we view it the State House commission has nothing to do with the suit that has been brought against Architect Milburn and the contractors, and they should keep hands off unless they desire to make common cause with those who are accused of defrauding the State. Mr. Milburn and the contractors must stand or fall by the work on the State House, and they must prove that the work was honestly and properly performed to establish their innocence. If the work is defective and in accordance with the letter of the specifications nothing can say will alter the facts. The commission had nothing to do with the work, and if Architect Milburn who was employed to see that the contract was carried out and the work properly performed conspired with the contractors to deceive the commission and defraud the State it was the misfortune and not the fault of the commission that they retained throughout the transaction a mistaken and misplaced confidence in the professional ability and integrity of their architect. They were guided by the advice of Mr. Milburn in accepting the work from the contractors and if they were deceived by him with fraudulent intent the wrong committed was Mr. Milburn's, not theirs. The issue is between the State and Mr. Milburn, and the State House is the evidence and the members of the commission had best leave the issue to be fought out on these lines. They were not supposed to be expert judges of stone work, and for that very reason they were given authority to employ an architect to advise them and superintend the work, and unless they now propose to set themselves up as experts they should stand aside and let Mr. Milburn fight his own battle.

The adventure of Senator Latimer in New York City reminds us of a story the late Col. Marion Sanders frequently told on himself with a great deal of enjoyment. Along in the '80s when he was a member of the Governor's Staff he went to New York City with the Governor and a big crowd of generals, colonels, mayors, captains and a few other military men to attend a celebration, we have forgotten exactly what. The whole outfit was gorgeously uniformed, especially the colonels, who had gotten themselves up regardless of expense. One

night Col. Sanders, started out to attend a meeting held in honor of the visiting Governors and their Staffs, but he lost his way and finally drifted into a big hall where a band was playing. As he walked in, a committee of uniformed men met him and escorted him to the platform and gave him the seat of honor. In a few minutes the presiding officer introduced him as the distinguished and honored guest of the occasion and called on him for a speech. He was somewhat surprised, particularly, as he saw none of his party present, but concluding that they had all got lost and had not been as lucky as he had been to find themselves again, he felt that the reputation of the South depended upon him, so he got up made his bow and gave the big crowd a rip snorting Bull Run to Appomattox, Uncle Bob Lee, Stonewall Jackson Rebel Yell speech that made the whole Yankee army look like thirty cents. And when it was all over he found out he had been talking to a Grand Army rally.

The Chicago butchers are still carrying on a strike, but they are playing a losing game and thus far have injured themselves far more than they have the packers.

If President Roosevelt's letter of acceptance contains as many words as reported a few days ago it should be issued as a special edition of the Congressional Record and the census of 1900 might be used as a mailing list.

Not a single Republican paper or magazine has a favorable opinion of John Sharpe Williams' speech of notification to Vice Presidential Candidate Davis. Evidently it hit the mark aimed at.

The Cotton Producers' Protective Associations which are being organized in various sections of the State contain the germ of great good to the farmers, but, as with the Alliance, the germ of practical benefit is likely to be killed by political aspirations of those who assume the role of leaders in the movement.

Japan has secured absolute control of Corea, although that country will retain a nominal independence and must be treated with as an independent power by other nations. Japan has effectually shut Russia out of Corea, and if the war is barren of all other benefits to Japan, the possession of Corea will go far toward compensating for the cost of the war.

We have received with a good deal of doubt the reports sent out from various parts of Georgia, Florida and Alabama that there is in those states a wide spread organization of negroes whose purpose is robbery and murder of the whites: but be the reports false or true the publication of these reports bode no good for the negroes. That there is a general organization, controlled and directed by officers from a central headquarters we seriously doubt, for no negro with sufficient intelligence and ability to create and direct such an organization could be such a fool—as well as such a cold blooded villain—not to know that the result of such an organization would be the death and destruction of every negro connected with the organization as well as hundreds of innocent and inoffensive members of the negro race. The majority of the white people of the South have nothing but kindly feeling for the negro race as a whole and all the ill feeling and animosity that has developed in recent years have been the direct outgrowth of the evil conduct of the criminal and idle members of the negro race. The kindly feeling toward the negroes is dependent, however, upon the conduct of the negroes, and if it becomes an established fact that any considerable number of negroes have banded together in a secret organization for the purpose of robbery, murder and worse crimes, kindly sentiment will vanish and the negroes will suffer in proportion to their misconduct. There is a place in the South for the law-abiding and industrious negro and they are safeguarded in the enjoyment of the fruits of their industry. There is work for each and every one of them and not one negro need be idle a day in the year. The trades are open to them and there is no discrimination against them on account of color, as there is in the north and west. A capable negro mechanic is always certain of employment at remunerative wages in the South, and so long as he is law abiding he has no just cause for complaint of the treatment he receives. It is the idle and criminal class that is responsible for all the trouble between whites and negroes in the South and if these classes grow in numbers and viciousness the result will be the increase of trouble between the races. If there is any substantial foundation for the reports that there are hundreds of Before Day Clubs of negro murderers already in existence in the South we are at the beginning of troublous times. The whites may suffer greatly, but the negroes will be the greater sufferers in the end.

When the collection begins for the Carnival don't begin figuring how little you can get off with, but give every dollar you can afford.

Weekly Crop Bulletin.

Section Director Bauer today issued his weekly crop bulletin, as follows:

The week ending 8 a. m., September 5th, had a mean temperature of 79 degrees, which is about one degree above normal. The temperature was very uniform throughout the week. The extremes were a minimum of 56 at Greenville on August 30th, and a maximum of 94 at Blackville on the 3d. The sunshine was slightly above the normal amount, and the relative humidity was slightly below. There were no violent wind, or any hail storms during the week.

The precipitation averaged less than the weekly normal amount, although in the northwest counties and in the middle Savannah valley counties there were excessive rains locally, over quite large areas. A number of places had no rain until the 4th, when generally showery conditions prevailed over the entire state. What rain fell during the week was generally beneficial.

The moderately high temperatures, and general absence of precipitation were favorable, and farm work made rapid progress.

Fodder pulling is under way, and nearing completion in the western counties, and is practically finished in the eastern ones. The bulk of the corn crop has matured, and it is a uniformly large crop.

On sandy lands, cotton has stopped growing, and generally stopped fruiting; it is opening fast, with picking general, over the eastern and central counties, while picking has just begun in the western counties where the crop is from one to three weeks late. Rust, shedding and blight continue to cause deterioration on light lands, and rust has appeared on some clay lands and on sea island cotton. Boll worms and caterpillars have appeared in a few fields, but are not yet threatening. Sea island cotton is heavily fruited, and is still blooming freely.

The weather was ideal for cutting rice, and much of the early planted crop has been harvested; late rice is very promising; rice birds have appeared in a few coast fields. Considerable hay was cut and cured in fine condition. Peas are fruiting heavily recently. Nearly all reports indicate a continuing promising condition of all minor crops and fall truck.

Stateburg Items.

Stateburg, Sept. 6.—Cotton is being gathered in rapidly, but our farmers look blue over the prospect. The crop is much shorter than was expected some weeks ago. The heavy rains yesterday and today caught a good deal of the "fleecy staple."

Mr. William H. Barnwell left on Monday for Atlanta where he will enter business.

Miss Lila Davis Tew returned to Columbia on Monday after a pleasant visit to Miss Sne Lee.

Miss Fannie C. Sumter, of Sumter, is visiting Miss Agnes H. Burgess.

Mrs. S. H. Ramsey has returned home after two weeks spent in Privateer.

Miss Tillie Flud is visiting her friend Miss Ethel Cross in Chester.

Mr. Frank P. Burgess left on Thursday for Bishopville, where he will buy cotton during the season.

Miss Emma M. Frierson who is in Charleston, spent Sunday at home.

Mr. C. E. Cabaniss of Petersburg, Va., is the guest of Mr. W. D. Frierson.

Miss Kate Bull returned to Charleston on Friday, after a pleasant stay with relatives and friends.

Mrs. C. M. Holcombe, leaves on Wednesday for North Carolina. Her many friends hate to see her go. For many years she has been our faithful postmistress.

Mr. Harry Bull is in Sumter in the employ of the Telephone Company.

Attention, Managers Primary Election

THE SAME Managers will serve on the 13th. One from each club will call on Mr. H. L. B. Wells on Saturday, 10th, for boxes, ballots and blanks. One of the Managers should take the boxes and returns to the Court House on Thursday, 15th, or the Executive Committeeman may do so. Checks for the pay of Managers will be issued that day to the managers present or to the Executive Committeeman. All bills should be in hands of Secretary and Treasurer on that day, so we can pay same and close up our accounts. E. W. DABBS, County Chairman. Sept 7—1t Herald and Freeman copy.

Master's Sale.

BY VIRTUE OF A DECREE of the Court of Common Pleas for Sumter County in the State of South Carolina, in the case of Moses E. Lopez against Mary E. Hall, Lizzie May Hall, Robert Troy Hall and Rutledge China Hall, I will sell to the highest bidder at public auction at the Court House in the City of Sumter, in the County of Sumter and State of South Carolina, on sale day in October, 1904, being the third day of said month, during the usual hours of sale, the following described real estate, to wit:

All that tract of land in said County and State containing one hundred and fifty acres more or less, bounded North by lands of Thomas Osteen, East and South by lands of estate McLeod, and West by lands of Widow Kolb.

Terms of sale Cash. Purchaser to pay for papers. H. FRANK WILSON, Master for Sumter County.

Sept. 7

THE FALL OF 1904

Is full of promise for Sumter merchants, The indications are that

Our Farming Friends

Upon whom we are so largely dependent, will make a good crop of cotton, and if anything like the present prices are maintained, they can look forward to

A Happy Christmas.

Already they have harvested good grain crops, and we cannot conceive of any greater happiness than to feel that they are not dependent upon the west for their bread, and the surplus from their cotton crop can be used in improving their homes, which means

Happiness to Their Families.

It is useless to say that we have made usual preparations for the season's business, and with a continuance of the patronage heretofore so liberally bestowed upon us, which we solicit most earnestly, there will be no disappointment on our part.

Enlarge and Improve

Has always been our policy, and a glance through our stores and warehouses is a convincing proof that they are stocked as never before, and probably as no other mercantile house has ever been stocked in Sumter. We are frequently asked, why do you buy such a large stock, and our reply is that in buying quantities

We Save Money for Our Patrons

And another reason is we have the friends to buy them. There is no town in the State in which there is a better class of merchants or more active competition than in Sumter, and while this house is credited with doing

The Largest Business

It is only by the strictest care in buying, and the closest margin of profit in selling, that we can maintain our supremacy. It matters not what baits or inducements our competitors may offer we will take care of our friends, let the cost be what it may.

The present state of the weather does not justify us in entering into a detailed description of our Winter fabrics, but this will be taken up later.

O'DONNELL & COMPANY.

The Welsh Neck High School

Has just closed a prosperous session, enrolling 194 boarding students. Its catalogues are now ready for distribution. Send us your address and we will take pleasure in mailing one to you. You will enjoy looking over it.

J. W. GAINES, Prin., Hartsville, S. C.

June 15—3m

J. D. Craig Furniture Co.

Funeral Directors

—AND—

Licensed Embalmers,

No. 202 North Main Street.

With a full and complete stock of supplies, larger than ever before, we are better prepared to render prompt and satisfactory service.

Calls attended promptly

DAY OR NIGHT

Day Phone, 14

Night Phone, 201.

May 25—3m

KEEP US IN MIND.

We buy and sell Real Estate and collect Rents, in city or country.

We sell all kinds of Insurance, including Fire, Life, Accident and Health, representing only the strongest companies.

We'll appreciate a share of your business.

WHITE & McCALLUM,

The Real Estate and Insurance Men.

OFFICE NO. 188, MAIN STREET

PHONE NO. 143.

McH—1y