

The Watchman and Southron.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27, 1906.

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.

SUMTER AGAINST THE FIELD.

The reputation of Sumter is at stake and there is no two ways of looking at it. We must get together a winning baseball team. We now have just about as strong a team as there is in the league, and they are playing fast ball. But that is not enough. Something just about as good as the others is not good enough for Sumter; what Sumter wants, ought to have and must get, is something just a good deal better than anybody else has and that is better every day in the week and Sunday too. That is the sort of team Sumter must have. To get it the people must do their part and we believe they will, when they think over the matter a little. One way to help the good work along is to attend the games and swell the gate receipts, but that is not all—Sumter must give the team all the support it needs.

DO IT RIGHT.

Within a few weeks work will commence on the new Court House, which will be one of the handsomest public buildings in the State.

The plans and specifications provide for a building that will be a model of utility and convenience, and at the same time a beautiful edifice. Everything pertaining to it, with a single exception, is to be of the most lasting and durable description, the materials and the methods of construction having been selected and specified with the view of combining utility and beauty. The plans of the architects as originally drawn, contemplated a brick and stone structure from foundation to parapet, but the county board, on the score of economy, decided to substitute a copper cornice for the stone cornice, specified in the plans, at a saving of only \$4,200. This change was decided upon in order that the total cost of the building might be brought within \$70,000. We are of the opinion that it will be a mistake and not true economy to use metal cornice work on a brick and stone building. The copper cornice will probably look just as well as the stone while the building is new and the paint on the cornice is fresh and bright, but within a short time the paint will peel off, and the economy will shine forth in all its nakedness. Then an otherwise handsome and imposing building will have a cheap and shoddy appearance. This economical copper cornice will have to be painted every few years at considerable expense, both for the sake of appearances and to preserve it from the ravages of the weather, whereas on the other hand, the stone cornice once put in place as the crowning ornament to the edifice is there to stay as long as the building stands. We believe in doing a thing right, for a thing worth doing at all is worth doing well. If we are going to spend \$70,000 on a pressed brick and stone building, it is hardly in keeping with the magnitude of the undertaking to grow economical when all is complete save the cornice and then grow economical and finish a brick and stone edifice with another material that cannot endure as long as the remainder of the structure.

We take it that the county board of commissioners must have been more than half persuaded that the view we now express was the correct one, for they embodied in the contract a proviso that they might within sixty days exercise an option to have the stone cornice put on instead of copper at no advance above the original bid of the contractor on the plans as drawn with the stone cornice work. We trust the commissioners will think over the matter and will come to the conclusion that they will do the thing right and will exercise the right to enter the contract in this particular. The people of Sumter county, if we judge them right, would much prefer a perfect and finished building that cost \$74,100, than one that cost \$69,900 but was not finished in one particular.

Let us do it right while we are about it. We are building this Court House for our grand-children and we should give them a complete and perfect building.

The people of Sumter are interested in baseball and will give the sport an enthusiastic support so long as it is fairly played and clean ball and no longer. Sumter wants clean ball or nothing, and if the home team cannot win by playing better ball than their opponents it is far better for them to be fairly defeated in every game. Sumter wants the home team to win, of course, but if we know the Sumter people they will not stand for the sort of ball played in some places, whereby the home team takes the game by main force and the help of

the umpire. That sort of ball playing will kill the sport in Sumter beyond hope of resurrection, and it should kill it everywhere.

The first week of the State campaign was not productive of sensation or exciting developments. Ragsdale and Lyon show a disposition to pitch their campaign on a personal plane and they will probably supply the fireworks for the party. Mr. Manning is making a dignified and earnest campaign on the platform announced at the outset and is gaining strength wherever he goes.

Senator Tillman will be the whole show at his private campaign circus.

We think it a good idea for Senator Tillman to speak only where he is invited and thus avoid interfering in the State campaign. Those who invite Senator Tillman will doubtless have the fairness to invite Colonel Lumpkin also, and they can take all day to present their views on public questions. If they should follow the State campaign neither one would have the time to discuss anything with sufficient fullness to give the public any enlightenment.

We anticipate that those who most strenuously objected to Senator Tillman's interference in the State campaign will be the greatest objectors to his plan to hold independent campaign meetings.

Mr. McMahan has come out in favor of the State going into the insurance business. Before we could endorse the suggestion he would have to prove that insurance is an evil that stands in need of public regulation, that it is an evil that should be totally suppressed were it possible to do so, that it is an evil that has so strong a hold on the debased appetite of the people that they will have it regardless of law, considerations of personal health and well-being or the public welfare. If he can demonstrate beyond peradventure or question that insurance stands on the same plane as liquor as an evil, then we would favor an insurance dispensary.

Does it not strike you that Mr. McMahan's State insurance scheme is nothing more nor less than a direct and forcible argument against the State engaging in any sort of business, even in the lawful exercise of its police powers—as in the case of the State dispensary, for example?

The public building appropriation is one more substantial achievement to be credited to Congressman Lever. He is a representative who accomplishes practical results for the benefit of his constituents.

MEETING ON SATURDAY

Of the County Executive Committee. What Was Done.

The County Executive Committee met Saturday in the court house at 12 o'clock with Hon. John H. Clifton presiding.

The first action taken by the committee was to confirm the elections held in the four ward clubs of the city.

The assessments to be paid by the various candidates for the expenses of the election were apportioned as follows: Senate, \$15.00; House, \$10.00; Auditor, \$15.00; Judge of Probate, \$10.00; Superintendent of Education, \$10.00; Supervisor, \$15.000; Magistrates in the county, \$2.50; Magistrates in the city, \$7.50.

It was determined to hold the campaign meetings at the following places at the times indicated: At Privateer, July 31; at Wedgefield, August 3; at Shiloh, August 7; at Mayesville, August 10; at Dalzell, August 21; at Sumter on the Academy Green, on Friday night, August 24; at Sumter Court House, Saturday, August 25.

All pledges must be filed and assessments paid on or before noon of July 28. If there is a deficiency of funds for campaign purposes to the successful candidates are to pro-rate the amount above the available funds. In case of a surplus that amount will be divided equally among the unsuccessful candidates.

It was agreed upon to pay the managers of the elections for their services \$1.00 per day. The same managers are to serve for both elections.

The matter of the changing of the voting place at Providence was not taken up owing to the fact that there was no representation from that place.

THE USUAL RESULT.

Spartanburg, June 22—There was a big negro picnic pulled off here today at Glendale, it being given by Mrs. Pruden, of Massachusetts, who is teaching a school for negroes at that place. The picnic was pulled off with the usual results, only this time there were no fatalities. Charlie Stevens, alias "Foot," of Spartanburg, cut Roland Norris, of Glendale, in the side of the head, the wound extending from the temple down to the throat. The wound was dressed and it is not thought that the negro will die. "Foot" has not been arrested yet and is in Spartanburg attending to his business. The picnic took all the negroes from the city, there being a scarcity of labor in all lines today.

PROHIBITION A FAILURE.

The Conditions in Brice Lay Edgefield Call for a Law and Order League.

To the Editor of The News and Courier: In a recent issue of your paper you republished an editorial from the Edgefield Advertiser charging me with having done this town and county a manifest injustice by heralding to the world the statement that prohibition is a failure in Edgefield. In justice to myself I beg that you publish the enclosed reply, which I have addressed to the editor of the Advertiser.

To the Editor of Edgefield Advertiser: In your last week's issue you charge editorially that in a letter to the Charleston News and Courier I did our town and county a manifest injustice by heralding to the world the statement that prohibition is a failure in Edgefield, quoting me as saying, alluding to the recent call for the organization of a law and order league, "not only the action in issuing the call but the call itself is a confession that the prohibition law since its adoption in Edgefield has been a failure." I deny your charge, and in making it respectfully submit that you have done me an injustice: Before presenting what I shall have to say allow me to remind you that I have been The News and Courier's correspondent for a period covering something like ten years, during which time I have said a thousand things laudatory of this people, and as many times by my humble pen, have "heralded" to the world the virtues and advantages of this town and county, and yet as far as I recall this is the first time you have ever copied or referred to any of my writings, and you now do with at least the apparent desire to do me an injury. But as to this I trust I am mistaken, my purpose in this article being to be perfectly fair and respectful. Mind you, I have no protest to enter against your having copied an extract from my article, only in all these years you might have seen some good in my writings. You only quoted a part of what I said. For a proper appreciation of my position, and of the issue between us, it is "manifestly" just that the entire portion of the article relative to, the question at hand be given. After quoting the call I wrote: "Law is generally enforced by its officers and the individual citizens—this is the natural channel. Abnormal conditions—flagrant violations of the law—is the justification for an effort to enforce it through an independent organized body. Not only the action in issuing the call, but the call itself is a confession that the prohibition law since its adoption in Edgefield has been a failure. Nor does the law in the writer's mind, represent the sentiment of a majority of our voters. Of course, no one questions the right and sincerity of the promoters of the organization and those who will join them, but there are some equally as sincere who question the wisdom or expediency of the movement."

You say that I heralded to the world the statement that prohibition has been a failure in Edgefield. In the article referred to I expressed no opinion of my own on this point. I made no such statement, but the call itself and the action had thereunder was a recognition of the fact that the law had been a failure in that its provisions have been flagrantly and continuously violated. Whether or not the law has been so violated, and whether or not a recognition of this fact and a determination to stop it, and hereafter to see to the enforcement of the outraged law, led some of our good people to form the League, is the sole question between us.

If true, then my interpretation of the call is correct. If not, than I honestly confess I have unintentionally done the injury charged. Law, a violation of which all good citizens, among whom I modestly make bold to number myself, deplore, is generally and almost universally enforced through well organized and established channels—by its officers and the individual citizen. A stern recognition of its flagrant violation that goes unwhipped of justice and a righteous indignation born thereof, "an unsatisfactory state of affairs," to quote the good and able editor of the Johnston News-Monitor, himself a member of the League, leads to the organization of independent bodies to see to its enforcement. All over our State there has been a cry that violation of the law was too prevalent, and its execution at fault, and for the purpose of correcting this evil law and order leagues have been formed in some counties. If Edgefield's prohibition has been the success approximating perfection, certainly so far as human agency can make it, as you contend, why, I ask, the necessity of a League to see to its enforcement? Why rather not continue in the natural channels alluded to? Why the necessity for a more thorough enforcement? Was it because the law was being, and had been enforced, and was a success in their communities, that many of our best people left their homes and farms,

came to Edgefield and banded themselves together with the laudable purpose to see that the law should be enforced in the future? And was this the reason that stimulated many of our good townspeople to similar action? Rather was it not the fact that they recognized that conditions were and have been "unsatisfactory"—that the law had been and was being flagrantly violated, and that the concert of action must be had to correct such unfortunate conditions and enforce the law in the future? I heard an active and honored member of the organization, speaking generally, that if you don't think the law is being violated just come down my way. Evidently he knew that the law was flagrantly violated and saw the necessity for organization and concert of action. You are unhappy in your illustration in the matter of the burnings in our town a few years ago. It only goes to establish the one and only one contention in my article, viz: That it is the frequent, flagrant violation of law that causes people to unite as independent bodies to enforce law and suppress its violation. In the first place there is no analogy between the prohibition law and the law against incendiarism, murder, theft, as I shall undertake to show, and although it is a common argument to place them on a parity, it is none the less fallacious. But let us, as in logic you are bound to do, place them on the same footing. Was it one, was it two, was it three fires that so aroused our people as to cause them to employ night watchmen, detectives and finally convict the guilty party. No it was "when buildings were being repeatedly burned," when there was such a continuous violation of the law as to arouse indignation and determined action. But, even in that case, to the extent that it did not suppress its violation, it was a failure. Once admit that a law is being continuously violated and not enforced, then in practical effect that law is a failure. Have we had the practical prohibition in our town and county to the extent you claim? If so, why the necessity to send for an officer of the law to suppress its sale? Mr. Ogg, the law officer alluded to, stated to me, and I have his consent to quote him, "that when I first came to Edgefield it was the rottenest town I ever saw," having reference, of course, to the sale of whiskey. The prohibition law had been in operation some time before he came here. I have it from the lips of citizen after citizen that in their communities whiskey is sold or has been sold in such quantities as even to demoralize labor. But you said to me that so far as blind tigers were concerned conditions were equally as bad under the dispensary law. Granted. If blind tigers flooded our county under the dispensary law, and conditions now, so far as the blind tigers are concerned are similar to those when the dispensary law obtained, is not this an admission that the prohibition law has been a failure at least in the county? Allow me to quote what Editor Carson says in his last issue of his paper: "An organization to enforce the prohibitory features of the dispensary law is an acknowledgement of an unsatisfactory state of affairs." Exactly the same idea I expressed, only in different words. You will hardly accuse him of trying to misrepresent conditions in our county. Can any other reasonable construction be placed on the words "unsatisfactory state of affairs" other than that the prohibition law has not been satisfactorily enforced. The more the violation of the law, the more the credit for organizing. As to your comparison of the prohibition law with arson. In every civilized country in the world the sale of spirituous liquors has been recognized as a legitimate subject of commerce and trade, legalized and accepted as such. Have you ever heard of a country legalizing the crime of arson? Arson is malum in se, a wrong in itself, the sale of liquor on the contrary is malum prohibitum, only made a wrong by virtue of a statute. Recently we had a vote in this county on the question of the legal or no sale of spirituous liquors. Would it be possible to have a vote on the question as to whether or not we should repeal the law against arson, murder, theft or to legalize their commission? Our people are divided on the subject of the best policy to pursue regarding spirituous liquors, whether we shall sell them legally or whether we shall have prohibitive laws. Are they divided regarding the laws against arson, theft, murder?

SENSATIONAL MURDER.

Millionaire Thaw Kills Stanford White, a Well Known Architect.

New York, June 26.—Harry Thaw, the Pittsburg millionaire who shot Stanford White, the architect, killing him instantly at the Madison Square Roof Garden last night, was arraigned in the Jefferson Market Police court this morning. He was still wearing evening clothing. He was first taken to headquarters from the Tenderloin station, where he spent the night. He rode in the patrol handcuffed to Capt. Hodgins. He tried to avoid photographers, placing his hand in front of the face. The reason for the crime is considered to have been White's alleged ruin of Evelyn Nesbit, who is now Thaw's wife. She was an actress and artist's model. It is intimated that the defense will be emotional insanity. Thaw is said to have been brooding over his wife's wrong until he became unbalanced. Thaw told Policeman Debs, who arrested him, "I did it. That man ruined my wife's life. That man ruined my home. Guess he won't ruin any more homes." When told that White was dead he said, "I am damn glad I made a good job of it."

Later Thaw said he dined at Martin's. White and his party were near Evelyn began shivering. Thaw asked: "What is the matter?" His wife wrote: "The dirty blackguard is here." Thaw continued: "Then I saw that fat scoundrel sitting there, big and healthy, and then I saw how nervous she was." He wouldn't talk further without consulting his attorneys. None arrived during the night. This morning his friends are trying to secure leading lawyers for the defense. Mrs. Thaw has disappeared and the police are hunting her.

Thaw said she would appear when needed and stick by him.

The Woman Found.

New York, June 26.—Mrs. Thaw was found at the home of friends in the city but was not arrested. Attorney DeHeld promised the assistant district attorney that she would go to his office any time she is wanted.

Removes black heads, drives away heavy furs. Stimulates the whole nervous system. Greatest beautifier known. Nothing so helps fading loveliness as Hollister's Rocky Mountain Tea. 35 cents. China's Drug Store.

The horses of Sumter are becoming educated and few of them now pay any more attention to an automobile than to a bicycle.

It is wonderful what a little careful grooming will do for a woman. It's inspiration and sweetness. It's delightful and bewitching. The effects of Hollister's Rocky Mountain Tea. 35 cents. Tea or Tablets. China's Drug Store.

have from time to time deemed necessary, either to secure a revenue from such traffic or to surround it with such restrictions as have been thought necessary or expedient to prevent evils apt to grow out of such traffic. To say, therefore, that the sale of intoxicating liquors belongs to that class of wrongs denominated mala in se would be to cast a grave imputation upon the law-making department of the Government, both State and Federal, and this we are very far from being willing to do. Indeed, the very highest of all authority might be cited to show that the manufacture and sale of spirituous liquors is not malum in se. Indeed, the most ardent prohibitionist so far as their wishes have taken the shape of law, must be regarded as admitting the proposition for which we contend; for every prohibition law which has fallen under our notice contains provisions recognizing this proposition by excepting from its operations sales of liquors for certain purposes, viz: medical, scientific, mechanical or sacramental purposes, thereby expressly admitting that the mere sale of intoxicating liquors is not only not wrong, but actually necessary or useful for certain purposes.

As I conceive it, I said nothing that did injustice to my county or town. If I did, I certainly disclaim any intention of so doing—I am as much for the upholding of law as any man, without which our civilization would be a mockery, our flag a lie. I said nothing that in the remotest degree could be construed as a reflection upon the League or its action. If they can succeed in the future in suppressing the violation of law, I say God-speed them in their worthy object. For myself, I believe the best way to suppress law violations is through the natural channels alluded to.

I knowingly do no man an injustice, much less my own people. My people have been of this people since the existence of this country. They, with thousands of others, fought under the Revolutionary, Mexican and Confederate flags. I love their memory too well, I love the proud history of this county and town too well, I love and respect their present citizenship too well, to knowingly do them an injustice. Very truly,

S. McG. Simkins.

Weekly Weather Bulletin.

For the Week Ending 8 a. m., June 25, 1906.

There was ample sunshine during the week, after two days of partly cloudy weather, and the week was characterized by much higher temperature than the preceding one.

The mean temperature was slightly above normal, and the extremes of temperature ranged from a maximum of 97 degrees at Yemassee on the 19th to a minimum of 59 degrees at Greenville on the 19th and at Walhalla on the 20th and the 21st. Maximum temperatures of 90 degrees, or above, prevailed over all but the extreme northwestern part of the State during the second half of the week. Fresh to winds moderated the heat perceptibly in many localities.

Widely scattered thunderstorms prevailed on the first two and the last three days, but the precipitation was generally light, and many places had no rain during the week. The soil is well supplied with moisture over the entire State, with localities where the surface soil is still very wet from the excessive rainfall of the preceding week.

A destructive hailstorm occurred in the upper part of Greenville county on the 18th, which is the only adverse weather condition reported during the week.

Cleanliness is the first law of beauty; also the second and third. No matter what your complexion is, are, Hollister's Rocky Mountain Tea will cure them. 35 cents. Tea or Tablets. China's Drug Store.

CANDIDATE'S CARD.

For Congress.

I hereby announce myself a candidate for the Democratic nomination for congress from the seventh congressional district, and pledge myself to abide the rules and regulations of the Democratic primary.

A. F. Lever.

For County Supt. of Education.

I hereby announce myself a candidate for reelection to the office of County Superintendent of Education, pledging myself to abide by the rules of the Democratic primary.

S. D. Cain.

For the Senate.

I hereby announce my candidacy for State Senator for Sumter county subject to the rules governing the Democratic primary.

A. K. Sanders.

For Supervisor.

In announcing myself a candidate for re-election to the office of county supervisor I desire to thank the citizens of Sumter county for their liberal support in the past and pledge myself to abide the result of the primary.

W. H. Seale.

For Magistrate.

The undersigned at his own urgent request has consented to become a candidate for Magistrate in the Sixth Judicial District of Sumter county and if elected will endeavor to serve the people to the best of his ability. He pledges himself to abide by the rules and regulation of the Democratic primary.

H. C. Bethea.

The many friends of Mr. W. R. Brown nominate him for the office of Magistrate of the Sixth District and pledge him to abide the result of the primary.

I hereby announce that I am a candidate for office of Magistrate at Sumter, and I need every vote I can get. I ask that you give me your votes and I pledge myself to give you my best service and abide by the results of the primary.

H. L. B. Wells.

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