

COUNTY CORRESPONDENCE.

NEWSY LETTERS FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENTS.

Items of Interest From all Parts of Sumter and Adjoining Counties.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Mail your letters so that they will reach this office not later than Tuesday morning. When the letters are received Wednesday it is almost an impossibility to have them appear in the paper issued that day.

DARK CORNER.

Dark Corner, Nov. 24.—Mr. Eddie Avin had the misfortune to have his dwelling house burned yesterday. It is supposed to have caught from the stove. Mr. Avin was at Pinewood at the time ginning cotton, but friends hurried to Mrs. Avin's assistance and saved almost all of the furniture. The house was the property of Mr. J. Dargan Osteen, and was the old Gilgal school house which had to be moved when the Manchester and Augusta Railroad was built.

Mrs. Geddings, who I mentioned as being sick in my last, died on Saturday evening, the 17th, and was buried at Bethel, Privateer, Church on Sunday evening.

Mr. Ardis is getting along as well as could be expected with his dislocated arm.

Mr. Bob Ardis has a very sick daughter.

Mr. Pink Weeks is real sick.

Mrs. J. M. Ardis and family, of Payville, spent last Sunday with Mr. Blanding Ardis.

Mrs. Su Geddings, of Pinewood, and Mrs. Jacob Geddings, of Tindal, spent last Thursday with Mrs. W. J. Ardis.

Mr. W. R. Bracey spent part of today with Mr. W. J. Ardis.

I was sorry that I could not attend the unveiling in Columbia on the 20th, but I was afraid to go as I was sick.

I would like to say something on the death and funeral of that venerable old brother, M. G. Ramsey, but for fear that I could not do it justice, I will leave it for a more able pen than mine to do, but will say that a good man has been taken from us. Sidra.

MAX NEWS NOT.

Max, S. C., Nov. 26, 1906.—Mr. G. W. Hicks, of New Zion, visited his brother, Rev. E. M. Hichs, of Bethel, Saturday and Sunday.

Mr. A. M. Carraway spent Saturday with his old friends, Mr. and Mrs. James P. Livingston. They are becoming feeble from age and affliction.

Mrs. J. C. Truluck and son, John Mc., spent Saturday and Sunday in Timmonsville.

The farmers are through planting oats.

SOUTH CAROLINA NEWS.

Items of Interest Condensed and Paraphrased for Quick Reading.

The site for the Anderson postoffice has been selected. It cost \$6,500.

Col. E. J. Watson, commissioner of immigration, has been elected president of the Southern States Association of Commissioners of Agriculture.

No new case of typhoid fever has developed among the students of the University of South Carolina within the past 15 days.

Rev. Doole Davis, a Holiness preacher, was convicted of obtaining goods under false pretences at Spartanburg on Tuesday, and sent to the chain gang for one year.

Thomas H. Bludworth, young white man 30 years old, was found dead in a well in Yorkville Tuesday morning. It is supposed he committed suicide.

Richard Lintott, a young decorator, fell from a second story window of the Leydon Hotel, Columbia, on Tuesday morning. His skull was fractured.

A negro tramp, who was sleeping in the shaving pit at the Cheraw sash and blind factory, was burned to death Tuesday night.

Wash Vance was stabbed to death in Laurens Monday night. His murderer has not been captured.

The plant of the Camden Press Brick Company was damaged \$700 by fire Thursday evening.

Clerk of Court J. C. McFadden, of Chester county, has resigned on account of ill health. He has held the office for many years.

Greenville, S. C., and Charlotte, N. C., may enter the South Atlantic Baseball League next season. Recently there has been talk of Savannah dropping out.

John Skelton Williams and a party of capitalists, several of them from Europe, spent Thursday in Columbia. They are on a trip through the South.

John Alexander Pickett has been awarded \$5,000 damages in the suit against the Southern Railway in the Richland county court.

The dispensary at Springfield, S. C., and the store of L. A. Hutson were burned Thursday.

Major Bryant, colored, was killed in Aiken county by a girl named Julia Hammond Monday night.

Henry Seay, a young white man who killed his brother-in-law, Charles Raven, in Spartanburg county several months ago, has been acquitted on the plea of self defense.

Bert Wison killed Bessie Woodward at a negro dance in Chester county Friday. She was the fourth woman to be killed in Chester county within a month.

President Benj. Sloan, president of the University of South Carolina, issued a statement Tuesday in reference to typhoid fever at the University. He says that no new case has developed within the past 21 days and there is good reason to believe that the trouble is at an end.

Mr. J. R. McGhee has sold his interest in the Greenwood Index and retires from the business.

The banks of Columbia have organized a clearing house association, with Mr. E. F. P. Leaphart as manager.

Mr. J. B. Westbrook has been appointed Clerk of Court of Chester county.

Mr. T. B. Woods, a well known business man of Chester committed suicide Monday morning.

The Rockingham, N. C., Power Company is arranging to supply electric power to the mills in Hartsville.

Incendiaries are at work in the vicinity of Jonesville, Union county.

Another negro was killed at Goldville, Laurens county, Saturday night.

Mr. Donovan Bessinger, of Bamberg county, has been indicted for arson by his brother-in-law, Mr. T. W. Richardson.

Peter Sumner was accidentally killed by Henry Thompson at Prosperity on Monday.

Rev. W. O. Ross, of Abbeville, a superannuated minister, dropped dead while cutting wood Monday morning.

Ben Hood, colored, was killed in Lancaster county Monday by two white traveling picture agents.

Contributions of local items and personals by phone or otherwise are always welcomed at The Item office.

Mr. Benj. S. White, of Sampit, while racing his fine thorough-bred horse on Saturday afternoon, was thrown against a tree and instantly killed, with his family as spectators of the terrible accident.

I. P. Kirvin has won his suit in the Darlington court of common pleas against the Virginia-Chemical Company for \$1,995. He alleged that his crop was damaged by inferior fertilizer.

The Wittekind immigrants who became dissatisfied and left Anderson have been given employment in other mill towns and they are now said to be satisfied.

How Editors Get Rich.

After a good deal of study and work it has at last been figured out why so many country editors get rich. Here is the secret of success. A child is born in the neighborhood, the attending physician gets \$10, the editor gives the loud-lunged youngster and the "happy parents" a send-off and gets \$0. It is christened; the minister gets \$10, and the editor gets \$00. It grows up and marries; the editor publishes another long-winded flowery article and tells a dozen lies about the "beautiful and accomplished bride," the minister gets \$10 and a piece of cake, and the editor gets \$000. In the course of time it dies, and the doctor gets from \$25 to \$100, the minister perhaps gets another \$15, the undertaker gets \$50 to \$100; the editor publishes a notice of the death and an obituary two columns long, lodge and society resolutions, a lot of poetry and a free card of thanks, and gets \$0,000. No wonder so many country editors get rich.—Newspaperdom.

A Happy Death.

At a recent banquet in Batimore, according to the Herald of that city, Congressman Gardner's anecdote about the would-be clergyman and the dying parishoner evoked much merriment. The minister was called to the bedside of the expiring man, whose name was Hopkins.

"Opkins," said the dominie, "you're a sick man."

"I am," replied Hopkins.

"You're going to die, 'Opkins," continued the other.

"I am," groaned Hopkins.

"You've been a bad man, 'Opkins."

"I have."

"You can't expect to go to heaven."

"I know it," said Hopkins.

"Then, Mr. 'Opkins, you'll have to go to the other place."

"I will," said Hopkins, sighing deeply.

"Well," continued the consoling pastor, "you ought to be thankful that you've got somewhere to go."

ROOSEVELT AT WORK.

GOVERNMENT MACHINERY BEGINS TURNING AGAIN TODAY.

As Soon as the Big Boss Arrives in Washington Everything Takes on New Life—Cabinet Meeting Held This Morning and Congressional Committees Begin Work With Renewed Energy.

Washington, Nov. 27.—President Roosevelt was back at his desk today and business, which has been dragging, started with a dazzling acceleration. Vice President Fairbanks and Speaker Cannon arrived almost simultaneously, one from Florida and the other from Danville, Ill. The appropriations committee of the house with Chairman Tawney, present, knuckled down to work at the Capitol. So has the joint commission of the senate and house, which is considering reforms in the postal service, and also the commission on revision of the general statutes.

Today Public Printer Stillings was on the carpet before the appropriation committee and the president's simplified spelling was on trial for orthographic life. If it is proved that the inauguration of the system in service means added expense to the government printer's bills, the committee will use the tomahawk.

A procession of statesmen and office holders bore down on the president today at the White House, but today was cabinet day and this saved the president.

The cabinet's session was occupied with the president's account of the trip to Panama.

A SPECIAL MESSAGE.

President Roosevelt is at Work on a Message on the Isthmian Affairs to Be Sent to Congress.

Washington, Nov. 27.—An official announcement has been made that President Roosevelt will send a special message to congress shortly after the opening of the session dealing with the Isthmian situation. He prepared much data on his return trip and expects to finish the message within the week.

Endowment of an Automobile

Now that endowments, thanks to what Mrs. Sage did or didn't say in connection of them as "deadeners," are the subject of general discussion, it may be worth while to tell of a wholly new kind of endowment that was brought to our attention the other day.

In the family of a certain New Yorker there recently arose a difference of opinion as to whether he should or should not buy an automobile. He was somewhat opposed to making such an addition to his responsibilities, but the other members of the family really didn't see how they could get along without one of the machines, and in the ways too well known to need description they exerted constant pressure until at last the man yielded to the extent of saying that if a venture in "the Street" brought in a profit of \$5,000, the sum he considered necessary for going into automobiling in respectable style, he would make the desired purchase. As it happened, the venture brought in, not \$5,000, but \$29,000.

Then the man invested as he had promised, and, being a person of foresight and caution, he proceeded to set aside the remaining \$24,000 for the maintenance of the expensive toy. This sum he speaks of as "the endowment of the auto," and all is for the present well, but some people who have had painful experiences declare that the endowment is all too small—that it will not begin to suffice, if an attempt is made to "keep" the ravenous money-eater on the income of the fund established, and that fatal inroads will soon be made on the principal. There are other people, however, who not only think but have proved that an automobile can be maintained easily enough on \$1,000 a year, which judicious investment of the \$24,000 would produce. They are, it must be confessed, for the most part people who haven't \$5,000 to pay for one of the machines or \$24,000 with which to endow it, and they are accustomed to act as their own chauffeurs and to make all except the most serious repairs themselves.

Just the same, the idea of an endowed auto is an excellent as well as a novel one, and it deserves the serious consideration of all who contemplate participation in the new joy. So doing, they will realize that the purchase of an automobile is but the beginning of their expenditures as automobilists, and it may prevent them from serving as horrible examples for those who are sadly proclaiming that prosperity is leading the country into dangerous extravagances.—N. Y. Times.

Clerk—What kind of hammock do you want, miss? Summer Girl—Oh, a little one, just about big enough for one—but-er-strong enough for two.—Life.

SABBATH SCHOOL INSTITUTE.

A Series of Interesting Meetings Conducted by Rev. A. L. Phillips.

On Saturday and Sabbath an interesting series of talks was given in the Presbyterian Church by Rev. A. L. Phillips, D. D., of Richmond, Va., on Sabbath school work. Dr. Phillips is the general superintendent of Sabbath schools and young people's societies of the Southern Presbyterian church. He cares for the interest of this department of church work in 18 States and is acknowledged an authority on Sabbath school methods and work. Those therefore who heard him enjoyed a rare treat and caught something of his overflowing enthusiasm for the noble task of training the young.

On Saturday, in three talks, he described the control and organization of a model Sabbath school. Sabbath morning he spoke of the great work accomplished by Sabbath schools in educating and evangelizing the masses. How the school was doing work in destitute places where there are no religious influences, preparing the way for the establishment of churches. The various Sabbath school publishing houses send out annually three hundred million copies of religious literature.

Sabbath afternoon Dr. Phillips spoke to the children, holding their close attention telling them how they could aid in this great work by making their local school "Bigger and Better."

Sabbath evening his talk was a fitting end for so fine a series. Jesus Christ was taken as the model, master teacher and held up for the study of those who strive to teach in the school.

KILLING IN DARLINGTON.

Young White Man Shoots Negro to Death in an Alleged Quarrel Over a Gun Trade.

Darlington, Nov. 25.—Mr. Ernest Register, a white man, shot and killed Jim Byrd, colored, last night. The killing occurred in Society Hill township and was the result of a quarrel over swapping guns. Byrd, according to the information received here, believed that Register had gotten the better of him in the gun trade, and demanded the return of his gun, and endeavored to back up his demand by force, a proceeding which Register resisted with force.

STATISTICS OF CRIME.

Government Agents Making a Thorough Investigation of Lynchings, Homicides and Suicides.

Washington, Nov. 26.—Statistics on lynchings, homicides and suicides are being prepared. Agents are making an investigation in all parts of the United States. Alfred Holstone, of Greencastle, Miss., is preparing the figures on lynchings; John H. Carber, of Washington, on suicides and John Karen, of Boston on felonies. The investigation will cover the year 1906. The work cannot be completed in less than two years.

EMPLOYEES WORRIED

Special to The Daily Item. Washington, Nov. 24.—Many employees of the interior department are anxious to know what will happen when James R. Garfield succeeds Mr. Hitchcock as secretary. If reports are true there will be a general cleaning carefully the Keep commission's most dangerously affected, as it is known that Garfield has been studying carefully the Keep commissions report. It is probable that Garfield will make some changes when his investigation of the charges against the land offices is completed.

THE PATRICK CASE.

The Man Who Killed Millionaire Rice May Yet Escape Electric Chair.

Washington, D. C., Nov. 26.—The Supreme Court will continue on its docket the appeal of Lawyer Albert I. Patrick, who is sentenced to die in the electric chair at Sing Sing, despite the reported promise of a commutation of the sentence to life imprisonment. The case will possibly be not reached before next October term. Should Patrick's attorneys ask to have the appeal dismissed there is a chance that Patrick may escape even a prison, otherwise the case will be heard in open court and the court pass upon the question of a new trial.

A naturalist relates that the appearance of perch, bream and crayfish, in newly-cut dams near the Macquarie river in New South Wales was at first a perplexing mystery, the fishes being sometimes noticed immediately after the first rains in the dams, and for some years the theory of spontaneous generation was accepted as the only possible explanation. Then a Sydney zoologist discovered fertile and half hatched fish ova on the breast and feet of a wild duck, supplying a simple solution of the problem.

BRYAN DENOUNCES BANKERS.

Strong Words of Condemnation for the Emergency Bill.

Lincoln, Neb., Nov. 23.—Bryan, in the Commoner today, denounces the proposed emergency bill drafted by the bankers at Washington. "It will be a sorry day for the American people when they sleep soundly and permit these money gamblers to place upon the statute books such a measure as is contemplated by the American Bankers' Association," says Bryan.

OIL TRUST PROSECUTIONS.

No Indictment Has Yet Been Made Against H. Clay Pierce.

Austin, Tex., Nov. 23.—No indictment against H. Clay Pierce, of the Waters-Pierce Oil Company, has been made public, and the district court officials deny that any such indictment exists. Rumors have been current for several days that the grand jury has returned an indictment against some prominent man "not a citizen of Texas," but so far there is no authority for the widely published statement that a true bill has been found against the St. Louis oil man.

TEXTILE STRIKE AVERTED.

Mill Operatives Win Big Victory—Thirty Thousand Hands Get Ten Per Cent. Increase.

Fall River, Mass., Nov. 23.—Fall River's cotton mill employes won a battle for an increase in wages today and on Monday next 30,000 operatives will come under a scale giving them 10 per cent. more than the present rate.

The granting of the advance by the manufacturers prevented a strike, the workmen having voted at meetings last night to stop work in all mills next Monday if the new schedule was not accepted. M. C. D. Borden, an independent cotton manufacturer, employing 5,000 operatives, took the lead in meeting the demands of the mill hands by announcing that the scale of wages in his mills would be raised 10 per cent. No demand had been made upon the proprietor of the Fall River iron works mills and his action practically forced the other mill managers to grant the increase.

The new pay scale affects 70 corporations operating 92 mills, besides the iron works plant. The Manufacturers' association's agreement to pay the increase is for a period of six months, but provision is made for extending it.

Between November, 1903, and July, 1904, the Fall River operatives suffered reductions, aggregating 22 1-2 per cent. Last spring a part of the cut was restored, and in view of the continued prosperous business condition, the operatives demanded a complete resumption of the 1903 scale.

It is considered probable that other cotton mills in New England will follow the lead taken in this city and that thousands of outside mill hands ultimately will be benefited by the determined stand taken by the Fall River unions.

KILLING AT JOHNSTON.

L. Y. Born Shot to Death by Negro Named Charles Gomillion.

Johnston, Nov. 23.—L. Y. Born, a white man 35 years old and the son of the late Pressly Born, a prominent farmer of the Good Hope section of this county, was shot and killed about nine o'clock tonight by a negro man named Charles Gomillion.

It seems that Born was under the influence of whiskey at the time of the killing. He came to Johnston on the train due here at 6.45 o'clock, but which arrived tonight about 8 o'clock, and after having had an altercation with some one at the station soon after arriving here, he proceeded to the home of Gomillion, which is on the outskirts of town.

According to the story told by Gomillion he was awakened about nine o'clock by a noise at a front window. He went to the window, raised it and called out to know who was there. He received no answer, but saw a man crouching under the window, and thinking the intruder was about to shoot, himself opened fire and shot the man.

After the shooting Gomillion went up the street and told the night watchman what he had done. He later surrendered to the police and was taken to the jail at Edgefield where he was locked up.

Born was shot through the neck and abdomen and lived only about an hour after the shooting took place. The inquest will be held tomorrow. There is no feeling against Gomillion.

The Innocent Immigrant Girl.

Robert Watchorn, the commissioner of immigration, has made a sympathetic and thorough study of the immigrant types that reach New York. Discussing these types the other day, he said:

"The most naive are the Germans from the smaller and remoter States.

They have the charmingly simple and quaint minds of children.

"A beautiful German girl disembarked here the other day. She was tall and strong, blue-eyed and yellow-haired. She wanted to know at once if there were any letters for her.

"The postmaster at the pier, after getting her name, said by way of a joke:

"Is it a business or a love letter that you expect?"

"The girl faltered.

"A business letter."

"Well, there's nothing here," said the man after looking over the assortment.

"The girl hesitated. Then, blushing as red as a rose, she said:

"Would you mind just looking among the love letters, sir?"

The Signature Was Good.

A story is told of how the late ex-Gov Joseph A. Gilmore, of New Hampshire, when he was superintendent of the Concord and Claremont railroad, once wrote a letter to one of his section bosses who had done something to displease him. All the man could make out was the date and Superintendent Gilmore's signature.

Some time afterward, being in Concord, the man went to call on the superintendent at his office.

"Hello, John, how do you do?" said Mr. Gilmore. "Well, what are you doing now?"

"Why, I am up here at the same place on the section, Mr. Gilmore," replied John.

"What?" said Mr. Gilmore, "didn't you get a letter from me?" naming the date.

"Why, yes; certainly," answered John.

"Well, didn't you know that that was a letter of dismissal?"

"Letter of dismissal?" cried the astonished John. "No, I couldn't make it out, except that it was from headquarters and signed by you, sir. But after some study I concluded it was a pass. As none of the conductors on the road could read it, they all accepted my statement that it was a pass from Mr. Gilmore, and I have been riding on it ever since."

John kept his place on the section.—Boston Herald.

Ray Bright Enough for Him.

A member of the traveling fraternity was waiting for a train at a small railway station in Northern New Hampshire, where was gathered the usual number of people whose daily diversion is "to see what is going on at the dee-po." Among the later arrivals was William Ray, well known in that section for his ready wit. His appearance was the occasion of such salutations as "Good morning, Ray," "Hello, Ray," from all sides.

Business being dull that morning, the stranger, thinking this an opportunity to "drum" up a little fun, turned to the newcomer and inquired: "Are you an X-ray?"

Without hesitation William F. replied: "I don't know as I'm an X-ray, but I can see through you."

A burst of laughter from the crowd, silence on the part of the traveling man.—Boston Herald.

Gov. Guild's Stammering Story.

Gov. Guild, of Massachusetts, tells this story:

In Tremont street there used to be a stammering college kept by Prof. Graves. Next door to this college was a flower store. Prof. Graves' method was to ask each pupil what phrase he would like to learn to say perfectly. Then the professor would drill the pupil on that one phrase or sentence.

One day a friend of mine, who was afflicted with the stuttering habit, decided to patronize the professor. Before he went into the studio, however, he stopped to look in the flower store at some very handsome yellow chrysanthemums. Then he went up stairs to see the professor.

"Now, my dear fellow," said Prof. Graves, "is there anything particular you would like to learn to say perfectly?"

"W-w-w-well, y-yes, th-there is," said the stammerer. "I sh-sh-should like t-t-to be able t-t-to s-say ch-crys - crys - ch - crysanth - th - th-m-m-mum before the darn th-th-thing f-fades!"—Boston Herald.

Hero of Many Battles.

One fault of a certain extremely popular general is that he, being rather deaf, is apt to come to wrong conclusions.

Returning from a campaign one of the first men to greet him was an old acquaintance. "Ah, my good fellow," said the general, "so glad to see you have prospered and had good fortune these years."

"Yes, general, yes; but I have had the greatest misfortune to lose my wife since I saw you."

Catching the word "wife," the other guessed at the idea of a recent marriage, and patting his old friend affectionately on the shoulder, he exclaimed:

"Happy man! Happy man!"—Exchange.