

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1906.

The *Sumter Watchman* was founded in 1850 and the *True Southern* in 1866. The *Watchman and Southern* now has the combined circulation and influence of both of the old papers, and is manifestly the best advertising medium in Sumter.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Subscribers are requested to examine the label on their papers, which show the date to which the subscription has been paid. Those who find that they are in arrears are requested to call and settle or remit at the earliest convenient date. The amount that each subscriber owes is small, but in the aggregate the amount due us for subscription is quite large—and we need the money.

Senator Tillman evidently places a high valuation on the privilege of "cussing" since he preferred the cancellation of a lecture contract to pledging himself to abstain from swearing for one night only in Belaire, Ohio.

President Roosevelt has been lucky these last few days. Monday he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize, worth between thirty and forty thousand dollars in cash, and Tuesday he received a legacy of \$10,000 and two cats from a woman who committed suicide.

If the rumor be true that a deal has been consummated between the Southern Railway and the Seaboard Air Line by which the former is to turn over to the latter the old South Carolina Railroad, which will give the Seaboard a road to Charleston, the hope of a Seaboard branch line from Bethune via Bishopville and Sumter to Charleston vanishes into thin air.

The Williamson method of corn culture seems to have been successful in a majority of cases where tried, irrespective of the character of the soil. Since the Williamson plan has been demonstrated to be a success we see no good reason for any farmer continuing to follow the old methods, which have been unsatisfactory and have never resulted in yields of corn anywhere approaching those obtained by the Williamson method. If all the farmers of South Carolina would follow the Williamson method, South Carolina would have corn to sell the balance of the country instead of buying a million or more bushels annually from the west, which have to be paid for with cotton.

Secretary Taft is undoubtedly a candidate for President and is doing his utmost to ingratiate himself with the negro voters. His attitude in the matter of the discharge of the negro troops implicated in the Brownsville riot and murders has more the appearance of a bid for negro support and influence in the next Republican convention than a spirit of loyalty to the President or regard for the discipline of the army.

We do not see that the voting out of the dispensary has decreased crime in quite a number of counties. Several of the Brice law counties appear to be keeping near the head of the homicide column.

Now that the turmoil over the simplified spelling experiment has ceased we would be glad to have some one tell us whether President Roosevelt did the simplified spelling himself or left it to the printer to "make all necessary corrections and fix it up right," as ordinary mortals are wont to do when writing for publication.

Mr. Harvie Jordan's advice to farmers to hold their cotton is excellent, but the trouble is that a majority of the farmers lack the necessary financial foundation upon which to stand while holding on to the cotton. The farmers are perfectly willing to hold if some financial genius will provide the ways and means for paying pressing debts and living while so doing. Holding cotton is not a simple proposition, as many who have tried to follow Mr. Jordan's advice have discovered.

Senator Latimer has got the income tax proposition down fine. He does not violently object to paying the tax if he absolutely can't help it, but he is not going to pay it if he can escape by claiming exemption as an employe of the government. Which goes to prove that he is human, though a senator.

A sub treasury is to be established in the south and Columbia, Atlanta, Savannah and Birmingham are contesting for it. Atlanta is supposed to stand the best chance of winning the prize.

The old firm of Burroughs & Collins, of Conway, has been dissolved by the withdrawal of Mr. B. G. Collins. Mr. F. A. Burroughs has bought Mr. Collins' interest and will continue the business.

KING COTTON.

Its Rule of the Universe—The Cotton Planter of the South Whether He Be American or Britisher Has the Situation in His Own Hands.

A question of paramount importance to the South is engaging the attention of the economists of all the great countries of the civilized world. It is the question of future supplies of cotton to meet the rapidly increasing demand of the growing population of the globe.

Every civilized, or semi-civilized, child born in Europe, Asia, Africa and America must be wrapped in a cotton cloth, and every dead body of poor mortality, for decent burial, must be covered with a cerement of the same fabric. It is the universal dress of the living in the breech clout of the semi-barbarian to the perfected fruit of the loom of a fashionable garment, in which is exquisitely blended the warmth of wool with the finish of silk.

The area of cotton production upon the earth is very wide, but the successful regions upon which the world depends are the southern States, the East Indies and Egypt. The East India cotton is short of staple and the Egyptian product is extra long staple. American cotton is universally recognized as best adapted to the world's needs.

For many years the cotton planter of the south was subjected to the oppressive measures of the cotton gamblers in futures who sold his crop before he made it, thereby denying him the legitimate value of his patient unremitting toil. His creditors, the middle men, forced the sale of his product on a declining market loaded with paper contracts which were manipulated to his prejudice. Now the scene is changed: organization, and systematic control of the farmer's output has placed him in the saddle and he drives the speculators to cover instead of meekly submitting to their dictum.

The world needs all the cotton that the whole cotton area of the south can produce and it is now not a question of price but supply which agitates the spinners of the old world. Their chronic cry of hard times has been smothered by the ceaseless hum of mills taxed to their utmost capacity, working day and night, in the vain effort to overtake orders which will drive them until May, 1908. Throughout the whole manufacturing districts of Europe and Great Britain the utmost activity prevails; wages have been increased, profits are enormous, and general prosperity abides. Sometimes a warning cry of over-production and coming disaster is heard, but it goes unheeded as mills and spindles are multiplied to join in the ever increasing consumption of the great American staple.

Two and a half years ago, when the short supply of American cotton enabled speculators to manipulate the market into a panic of high prices, and which threatened to deprive hundreds of thousands of operatives in European mills of their livelihood, the Federation of Master Cotton Spinners was formed with their headquarters at Manchester. The first move was to organize a system of short time, and for a year they worked two-thirds the usual number of hours, paying their work people two-thirds the usual amount of wages, and in this way the scant supply of raw cotton sufficed to keep the mills going for a year.

The mill operatives recognizing the crisis supported their employers loyally and this co-operation averted a calamity. Out of this arrangement was evolved later the greater movement which included the continental spinners resulting in the organization of the International Cotton Federation which held its first meeting in Zurich, Switzerland, in 1904. The object of this important and far reaching system is unity of action by all the cotton using countries of Europe and Great Britain, the checking of manipulation by cotton market gamblers of the price of raw material, the extension of the area of cotton planting and the co-operation of governments for the encouragement of cotton cultivation in all colonies in which climatic and labor conditions are favorable.

An important committee of nine members representing England, Germany, France, Austria, Belgium, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland and Italy was recently received at Windsor by King Edward, who cordially shook hands and addressed to each one a warm welcome in his own language. At Paris they were received an encouraged by the president of the republic; at Kiel the emperor of Germany extended a welcome and manifested a keen interest in their enterprise, and in Washington the commission had the honor of President Roosevelt's advice and assistance.

Last spring, it will be remembered, a committee representing this organization was sent to the southern states to ascertain if suitable lands for the extensive planting of cotton for English investors could be procured. The report of this committee was favorable, and a second commission composed mostly of the first committee is now in the south for the purpose of buying large tracts of cotton land to be developed for foreign account.

The Messenger questions the wisdom of this policy. The amount of cotton produced by newcomers will be comparatively small and the cost doubtless greater than to others long established and familiar with the economic methods of cultivation. The area of cotton cultivation is extending yearly and will extend so long as market prices continue to pay a

profit to the planter. Whether the increase in American production will keep pace with the world's demand is another question.

Captain Hobson who lectured in Wilmington about two years ago affirmed that the Southern cotton States could and would easily command 15 cents a pound for cotton and that the cotton consumers could and would become accustomed to such an adjustment of value as surely as the world increased in population. He saw in the prospective demand from China alone the assurance of this price and of even higher value.

Whatever therefore may be the outcome of the efforts of the Federation of Master Cotton Spinners of Manchester, and of the international Cotton Congress, and of the British Cotton Growers' association, the fact remains that the southern cotton States hold the key to the situation and that the world must look to us for its yearly supply of raw cotton for years to come.

The increasing independence of our cotton planters will insure them against the assaults of the New York and Liverpool cotton gamblers who will not be able in the future, as in the past, to dictate the terms upon which the crop is to be sold, and our planters may extend their acreage annually with the assurance that the increasing trade of the world will take their product at remunerative prices.—Wilmington Messenger.

The two-year-old son of Mr. O. W. Compton, of Belton, was burned to death Thursday.

Thos. J. Yoe, white, and Laura Simpson, colored, have been arrested for setting fire to a barn at Ninety-Six.

L. F. Evans, the Columbia printer who left home a few days ago with avowed intention of committing suicide, turned up Sunday night in a semi-stupor and was taken in charge by the police.

State of Ohio, City of Toledo, Lucas County, ss.—Frank J. Cheney makes oath that he is senior partner of the firm of F. J. Cheney & Co., doing business in the city of Toledo, county and State aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of \$100 for each and every case of catarrh that cannot be cured by the use of Hall's Catarrh Cure. Frank J. Cheney. Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence, this 6th day of December, A. D. 1886.

A. W. Gleason, (Seal) Notary Public. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Send for testimonials free. F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, O. Sold by all druggists, 75c. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

The Swedish scientist, Alfred B. Nobel, the inventor of dynamite, died December 19, 1896, leaving a fortune of \$9,000,000, the interest on which to be distributed annually to those who had most contributed "to the good of humanity." The interest is divided into five equal shares, each amounting to about \$40,000, one of which is given to the person who has worked most or best for the fraternization of nations, the abolition of reduction of standing armies, and the calling in and propagating of peace congresses. The award is made annually on the 10th of December, the anniversary of Mr. Nobel death, by Norwegian Storthing.

The Southern Power Company, which is developing the great water power on the Catawba and Wateree rivers in North Carolina and this State, advertises that it desires to supply electric power to Sumter as soon as the development six miles above Camden has been completed. This company will have more than 150,000 horse power for sale when all the power stations are completed and the manufacturing towns that secure this power will be independent of the coal trust. It will be wise for the Sumter factories to get in touch with the Southern Power Company before all their power has been contracted for.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS.

This is the Season of year when every person wishes to add to the happiness of their family or friends by giving them presents.

It matters not what their conditions in life may feel it to be a duty and we cannot conceive of anything more appropriate than Jewelry or Silver Ware. We would suggest the following as being useful and desirable gifts:

- WATCHES FROM \$5.00 TO \$75.
- GOLD NECK CHAINS FROM \$2.50 TO \$12.00.
- BRACELETS FROM \$2.00 TO \$35.00.
- GOLD EMBLEM CHARMS FROM \$2.50 TO \$40.00.
- GOLD SCARF PINS FROM 75c TO \$7.00.
- GOLD SIGNET RINGS FROM \$1.00 TO \$10.00.

We have recently been appointed sole agents for Eastman Kodaks, and our initial order is now in transit, due to arrive the end of this week or first of next. What would be more suitable than a kodak as a Xmas gift? Prices \$1.00 to \$25.00. We guarantee to keep on hand a full line of supplies at all times.

McCormick Jewelry Company.

WHAT TO BUY FOR CHRISTMAS

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The Custom of giving Christmas Gifts is an old established one, and does not lessen in the least as time progresses. It is not confined to the rich who can best afford it, but if anything the people of moderate means seem most anxious to add to the happiness of their loved ones at this time. It is always a perplexing problem to know what to buy. Some people really make themselves sick thinking over it, weeks ahead. A good prescription for this class of people would be

"GIVE LIBERALLY"

'Tis well to consider the usefulness of a gift, in fact it ought to take precedence over all else. We do not claim any intimate association with Santa Claus, in fact we do not handle toys at all, but for a staple and useful line of Christmas Gifts, Our Stock will be found as attractive as any in town.

PERMIT US TO SUGGEST A FEW THINGS.

- Art Squares**
Nothing more useful if you can stand the price
\$3 to \$20.
- Furs**
Nothing more useful for a Christmas Gift to your lady friend.
Price \$1.00 to \$15.00.
- Table Covers.**
Chemille and Damask a very pretty assortment of patterns from
50 Cents to \$2.50.
- Toilet Soaps.**
We carry a very large line of these from 5c. to 25c. per cake, but have a special holiday package, 3 cakes in a box
At 20 Cents Per Box.

- Ladies' Kid Gloves**
\$1.00 to \$1.50.
- Children's Sacques**
25, 50, 75 and \$1.00.
- Rugs.**
Nothing better and a beautiful line of patterns to select from
Price, \$1.00 to \$6.00.
- Table Sets.**
Just the thing to enjoy a good Christmas dinner on. This means the cloth and napkins to match.
\$2.50 to \$5.00.
- Handkerchiefs.**
A box of these makes a very useful and appropriate gift. Price,
5 Cents to 25 Cents Each.

- Gent's Gloves.**
We have a full line of these in gray and brown, dressed and undressed, silk lined, **\$1.00 to \$1.50.**
- Hand Satchels, 25c. to \$2.**
- Ladies' Belts.**
A very pretty assortment at **25 Cents to \$1.00.**
- Lap Robes.**
You realize the benefit of these every cool morning or evening that you go driving.
Price, \$1.50 to \$7.50.
- White Quilts.**
Did you ever notice how much better a bed looks with a nice white spread on it?
Prices, \$1.00 to \$3.00.

- EMBROIDERED HANDKERCHIFS.**
We have a beautiful line of these in linen and swiss effects at **25 to 50 Cents each.**
- KNIT GOODS.** Ladies' Zephyr Circular Capes 50c., 75c. and \$1.00.
- FASCINATORS,** 25c., 50c., 75c. and \$1.
- NEWPORT SCARFS.** Very desirable for evening wear, 50c. to \$1.00.
- CHILDREN'S EIDERDOWN COATS**
\$1.00, \$1.50, \$2.00 and \$2.50.
- JEWELRY.** This may appear a little out of our line, but we have quite a nice assortment of it.
Solid Gold Hat Pins, \$1.50
Plated Hat Pins, 25c. to 50c.
Solid Gold Necklaces, \$2.50 to \$3.00
- PICTURES.** We have a very attractive offering in these, consisting of about 200 beautifully framed, no two alike, regular price \$2.50 to \$3.50, will be closed out at the special price of \$1.00. See the display in our show window.
- COLOGNE.** This is not as much needed at this season of the year probably as later on but it will keep. We had it put up in single bottles in a case special for the holiday trade 25 cents to \$1.50 each.

O'DONNELL & COMPANY.