

The Watchman and Southern.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 1907.

The *Sumter Watchman* was founded in 1830 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.

The offer of the whiskey dealers to purchase the entire stock of the State dispensary at invoice prices does not bear out the often made and generally believed charge that the old dispensary board paid more than the liquor was worth. The more the dispensary is stirred the less one knows what to believe.

The reorganization of the Chamber of Commerce is a good thing for Sumter and if the business men will support the organization with a reasonable degree of unanimity and a modicum of enthusiasm, liberality and public spirit it can be made a positive force for the development of the town. The Chamber of Commerce, however, cannot run itself nor can the officers alone accomplish all or even half what is expected of it.

Immigration Commissioner Watson says that he is satisfied with the most recent interpretation of the new law by President Roosevelt and Attorney General Bonaparte and has gone to Europe to continue his work in the interest of immigration to the south. Watson is a hard man to down and so long as he is not discouraged there is no reason for anyone else to lose hope.

The sewerage problem has been settled and all that remains is to construct the system in the best manner and at the least cost compatible with good work. The next improvement that we wish to see under way is the electric street railway and then will come better streets and sidewalks.

The great railroad speculators, Harriman and others, have piled up such overwhelming burdens of bonds, preferred stocks, etc., that the railroads can scarcely stagger under them. It is impossible for the roads to earn the fixed charges represented by the interest on the hundreds of millions of bonds and stocks and at the same time maintain the equipment and make the necessary improvements needed to handle the business. Now that they see the penalty of the reckless issue of watered stock and bonds staring them in the face they are crying aloud for the government and the public to come to their rescue. The only way they can continue to pay interest on the watered stock is to be permitted to take it out of the public. If the water was squeezed out of the stocks and bonds held by the railroad kings, the railroads would be better off and the public would not have to pay excessive tribute.

TO MARK SUMTER'S GRAVE.

The Commission Meets at Columbia and Organize—Stone Similar to the One at Marion's Grave to be Erected.

Columbia, March 15.—The commission to mark the grave of Gen. Thomas Sumter met today and organized by the election of Col. John J. Dargan as Chairman and Mr. R. I. Manning as Secretary. The other members of the commission are: Messrs. W. A. Courtney, H. E. Ravenel and J. W. Fabcock. The members are named to the Act providing for the commission, and for that reason it was held that the resignation of Capt. Courtney, which was tendered some time ago, need not be accepted, as there was no one to receive the resignation and no provision for appointing a successor. Capt. Courtney resigned because he had been tendered the place on the State House grounds commission, but as neither position is one of profit there is no legal reason why he cannot hold both positions, and at the request of the other members he has consented to do so.

The commission decided to have a stone placed at Sumter's grave similar to the stone which marks the grave of Gen. Francis Marion, and it will be ready if possible by August 14, the birthday of Sumter. Dr. James H. Carlisle, of Wofford College, was selected to write the epitaph.

A man never gets much fun out of showing his wife how to fix her sewing machines unless he knows how to cuss.—New York Press.

MAY BUY THE LIQUOR.

Attorney Stevenson Gives Dispensary Commission Opinion on the Clarke Liquor.

Columbia, March 19.—The attorney general, Mr. J. Fraser Lyon, and Senator Francis H. Weston, who represents Clarke Bros. & Co. of Peoria, Ill., the liquor concern which sold the famous \$100,000 order to the State dispensary, went over to Cheraw last week to consult Hon. W. F. Stevenson, attorney for the dispensary commission, as to the right of the commission to accept all of the Clarke goods.

These "goods" were received at the State dispensary before the local option law went into effect, but the legislative investigating committee, of which Senator Niels Christensen was chairman, reported that these purchases were illegally made and ordered that no more money be paid to either Clarke Bros. & Co., or to Lehman & Co.—which, it might be stated, are practically one and the same firm, according to the testimony.

When the commission appointed under the special act to provide for winding up the affairs of the State dispensary took charge it was decided to accept and pay for none of the Clarke and Lehman goods except what had actually been accepted and used. The Clarke concern has black-listed itself by sending a sample case of whiskey to a member of a county board.

Mr. Wm. E. Hull, president of Clarke Bros. & Co., appeared before the commission and offered them the goods at a price considerably less than the original invoice price. Attorney General Lyon was requested by the commission to go to Cheraw and consult with Mr. Stevenson in regard to the proposition. He went over Thursday evening of last week in company with Senator Weston, attorney for the liquor concern interested. The matter was placed before Mr. Stevenson and he was requested to furnish the commission with his opinion as early as possible.

Mr. Stevenson takes the view that the commission has the authority to accept any or all of the Clarke and Lehman purchases, but he does not advise the commission what to do. He says that it is a matter of discretion.

The evident purpose of the commission to probe to the bottom all irregularities connected with the transactions of the officials of the late dispensary and to assist the attorney general in securing evidence against persons who have been guilty of violating the law is revealed in the following sentence of Mr. Stevenson's letter:

"It shall be necessary and desirable for the legal department of the State to prosecute such officers as have offended against the law in the purchase of liquors and this discretion to return or not the goods to the persons who have sold illegally to the State was probably intended to give an additional leverage to the commission to procure evidence of the facts relating to such sale from the persons selling.

"The commission can and should require a full exposition of the commissions paid to the person securing the order under investigation, the method of payment, the person to whom paid, and whether any of the same ever came to the hands of the member of the board making the purchase and whether his expenses on his trip to Peoria, Ill., were paid directly or indirectly by the seller or the seller's agent."

While Mr. Stevenson holds that the commission has the right to accept all of the Clarke purchase if it sees fit, the above extracts from his decision indicate pointedly that he will not recommend the acceptance of these goods until the matter of the manner of their purchase has been gone into fully, and not until the commission is convinced that there were no rebates paid to any official of the State dispensary in connection with the Peoria purchase.

LAMAR HERO A SCHOOL BOY.

Young Man Who Will Get a Carnegie Medal Will Go to Clemson.

Lamar, March 18.—Wade Plummer has not yet received the silver medal awarded him by the board having in charge the Carnegie hero fund for his heroic effort in saving John Gibson from a watery grave in Lynchess river on May 2d, 1905. He was notified several months ago that he had been awarded a medal and the sum of \$600 to be expended for educational purposes. He is now attending the Lamar Graded School, preparing himself to enter the next session of Clemson College.

The young man is very unassuming. He says that he only did his duty toward his fellow man. While struggling with Gibson in the water, was urged by his father and others of matured age to be in his effort to save Gibson from being drowned. He did not heed them, but safely carried him out to the banks, where Gibson, after two hours of hard work, was resuscitated.

NEW FINANCIAL POLICY.

Administration May Reverse Secretary Shaw's Policy and Eliminate Railroad Bonds as Gilt Edge Security.

Washington, March 19.—Information from a trustworthy source that the administration has about decided to make a striking change in the financial policy of the government. The action, if taken in one particular, will reverse the policy of former Secretary Shaw and almost eliminate certain railroad bonds as gilt edge securities. It is understood that Secretary Cortelyou has even more decided views on the subject of what are acceptable securities than President Roosevelt.

It is said the present head of the treasury considers certain methods of finance unsatisfactory. Secretary Cortelyou wont admit that a decision has been reached as to the class of securities hereafter acceptable to the government, but he admits that the subject is under careful consideration. The amount of railway bonds now held for public deposits is about fifteen million.

No Institutes at Clemson This Year.

To the Editor of The Daily Item: Will you please notify the farmers through the columns of your paper that the board of trustees of the Clemson Agricultural College will be forced to suspend the farmers' institute at Clemson College this summer because of the preparation they are making to admit 200 more students to the benefits of the institution? The dormitories will be placed in the hands of the contractors to be remodeled and arranged for the admission of these extra students, and it will be impossible, therefore, for them to be put in shape for the accommodation of our visitors during the farmers' institute.

Our institute work through the State will be considerably enlarged and extended through the year, so that the benefits of the work will be given to the people wherever desired. With the use of the cars, placed at our disposal by the Southern Railway Company, we can do much more work for the benefit of the farmers than we were able to do in the past. Very truly yours,

P. H. Mell, President.
Clemson College, March 15.

THE CORPORATION TAX

Nullified by the Supreme Court—The Law Discriminates Against Home Companies in Favor of Foreign Companies.

By a decision of the supreme court handed down recently it is likely that the corporation franchise tax law, enacted in 1904, will be practically nullified. The decision certainly effects the taxation of foreign corporations under the act and may effect the taxation of domestic corporations as well.

The decision is in the case of the British and American Mortgage Co., vs. the Comptroller General of South Carolina, a petition for an injunction restraining the comptroller general from enforcing the act of 1904. The petitioner held that the company was licensed to do business in this State under the act of 1893, and that the further tax imposed by the act of 1904 was in violation of the contract made by the State with the corporation when the license under the act of 1893 was granted. The supreme court in effect upheld this point and grants the injunction. The decision will affect every foreign corporation doing business in this State which has secured a license under the terms of the 1893 act and if these corporations are exempted from the provisions of the act of 1904 the domestic corporations may come in and claim that the act of 1904 is a discrimination against domestic corporations and in favor of foreign corporations and may secure exemption. The State received last year from domestic corporations the sum of \$43,397.88, from foreign corporations the sum of \$3,334.56, and from public utility corporations the sum of \$22,595.88, making a total of \$69,288.32. This year it had been expected that the total from this source would reach at least \$75,000 and it will be a very serious matter if this revenue is cut off.

To the modern world a "calendar" is merely a harmless necessary reminder of weeks and days, to be hung up on New Year's day and consulted in dating letters throughout the year. It has no such mournful sound as "calendarium" had for the ancient Romans. The original "calendar" of their times was the money lender's account book, so-called because interest was due from the debtor on the calends, or first day of each month. Seneca speaks of "calendar" as a word invented outside the course of nature on account of human greed.

Letter to White & McCallum, Sumter, S. C.

Dear Sirs: Every job Devoe is done with less gallons than ever before with any other paint.

S J Field, Indianola, Fla. says: "All houses here are painted Devoe. The hot air is too trying for other paints. One coat Devoe is better than two of any other paint, so far as we know."

Yours truly
F W DEVOE & CO
P. S.—The Durant Hardware Company sell our paint.

If a man thinks he can outwit a widow he is entitled to another think.—Chicago News.

Spring and Easter Opening
ON MONDAY, MARCH 25TH,
8 A. M. TO 7 P. M.

FINE MILLINERY.

We cordially invite inspection to this showing. An authoritative exhibition of Imported Hats from the foremost Paris Modistes. Quite a feature is the exclusive models of our own creation, distinguished for correct style and individuality, which proclaim them "en tete." By far the best collection it has been our pleasure to display for your inspection.

Miss McCabe, of New York, our Head Milliner, will take pleasure in assisting or suggesting.

Schwartz Bros.
Monday, March 25th, 8 a. m. to 7 p. m.

EASY - TO - WEAR.

You'll find our Hart Shaffner & Marx Varsity suit not only good to look at and easy to pay for, but easy to wear.

We'll fit you perfectly in it; and you will think so yourself. All wool qualities here.

WE ALSO SELL
KNOX HATS,
ECLIPSE SHIRTS,
ARROW COLLARS,
Keiser Neckwear and
Wilson Brother's Furnishing Goods.

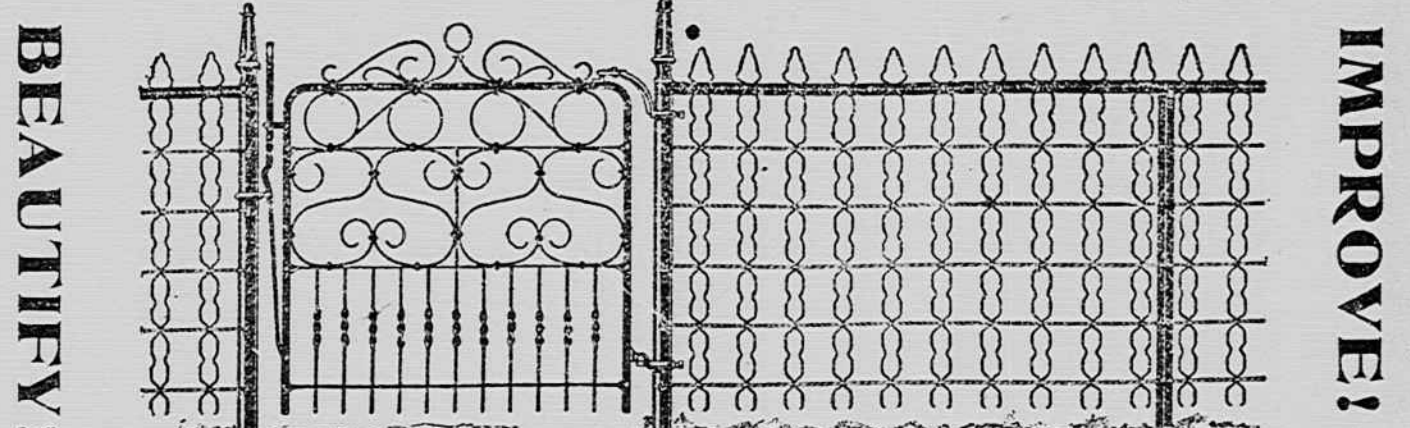


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THE
D. J. CHANDLER CLOTHING CO.,

Phone 166. - - - Sumter, S. C.

LAWN FENCE OF STEEL AND IRON



BEAUTIFY! IMPROVE!
The most MODERN and ARTISTIC designs of LAWN Fence Structures to choose from. We thus meet all tastes and requirements. Nothing so mar the beauty of our city as the unsightly yard fences of a by-gone age. Call, Write or Phone us Today. Estimates Promptly Furnished.
THE DURANT HARDWARE COMPANY.