

# The Watchman and Southron.

THE SUMTER WATCHMAN, Established April, 1850.

'Be Just and Fear not—Let all the ends Thou Aims't at be thy Country's, Thy God's and Truth's.'

THE TRUE SOUTHRON, Established June, 1858

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## The Watchman and Southron.

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## WOMAN TEA GROWER.

MRS. ELLSWORTH NOW HASTEN  
ACRES IN BEARING.

Turned to It Because She Failed to  
Make Cotton Pay—Thinks There Is  
Great Future For Industry.

"So far as I have ever heard I am the only woman tea grower in the country." Mrs. Clara Ellsworth, of South Carolina, told a Sun reporter, who saw her during her last visit to New York. "If you want the exact truth, I must admit that I turned my farm into a tea garden because I had failed to make cotton planting pay. "About ten years ago on one of my trips to Charleston I went out to Pinehurst, Dr. Shepard's tea garden at Summerville, and what I saw there put me to thinking. I had three children to rear and educate on what I could make from a three-hundred acre farm. I had tried cotton for three years and I was about deciding that if my children were to be educated I must get into town and try keeping a boarding house. You know how Southern women are—all we know how to do is to keep house and raise children.

"I learned all I could on that first visit to the Pinehurst tea garden and when I went home I gave the matter serious consideration. Before reaching my final decision I called in my eldest child, a boy twelve years old, and laid the matter before him, not with any thought of shifting the responsibility to his shoulders, but because he was a sensible boy and I wanted to find out how he felt about giving up the farm and going to town to live.

"He was very pronounced in his desire to remain in the country. He wanted to peg along in the country school until he was old enough to go to college.

"As my judgment agreed with his wishes I decided to try growing tea as a surplus crop instead of cotton. For the first three years I did not reduce my acreage of cotton. Hiring one more hand than I had before, I devoted all the time and labor that I could to preparing my tea garden.

"I selected loamy, fertile soil, just such land as I had noticed gave the best results on the Shepard tea garden, and after having it carefully prepared I set out my young plants. From these plants in the second year I gathered and sold a little more than fifty pounds of tea to the acre.

"I was out of pocket, of course, for the amount brought in did not cover the two years expense. Realizing that the heaviest expense was preparing the ground and setting out the plants I persevered until I now have ten acres, which last year averaged about two hundred and sixty pounds of tea to the acre.

"Selling this at \$1 a pound my profit is a little less than 15 cents on the pound. Not a large profit, perhaps, but greater than I have ever been able to make on a cotton crop.

"When you take into consideration the fact that every year my tea plants become more valuable and require less work than during the first three years, I fancy you will agree with me that it is a safer venture for a woman farmer than cotton. Then, too, the weather does not seem to affect the tea plant as much as it does cotton, and the prices paid for tea can in a measure at least be counted on, while the price of cotton, as every one knows, is as variable as the wind.

"To grow tea to advantage the temperature should never fall below 20 degrees and there should be a good rainfall. I was cautioned against planting tea in swampy bottoms where the rain was not quickly drained off. So in selecting my tea fields, while I kept to the bottom lands as much as possible, because it is more fertile than the upland, I was careful to make drainage perfect.

"That, I think, is the chief reason why my plants have done so well. They are in fertile bottoms, where though the moisture is plentiful the drainage is perfect.

"Once a year the tea plant must be

pruned severely. Were it not for this pruning it would become a tree. What effect this growth would have on the taste of the tea leaf, of course, I have no means of judging, but I know it would make it very much more difficult to pick.

"At present I handle my crop entirely with negroes. From the preparation of the soil to the packing for shipment, every stroke of work is done by negroes. Some day, however, I hope to be able to put in machinery such as Dr. Shepard uses on his Pinehurst tea farm. I don't believe the use of machinery changes the taste of the tea a particle and it certainly facilitates handling.

"The pruning of the plants is a task calling for care, but I have so far been able to get all the careful negro men necessary. In picking the leaves I much prefer negro children. They make the best cotton pickers and Dr. Shepard, whose experience has been much greater than mine in tea raising, finds that they do as well with tea. I have never had occasion to try any other class of pickers.

"That is another point in which I hope to be able to follow the example of the owner of Pinehurst. He has picked schools in which the little darkies are taught just what tea leaves to pluck and how to pluck them.

"When these tea pickers are not working in the tea fields there are schools for them to attend. So far as I am able to judge tea picking is the ideal out of door labor for children. Aside from walking up and down the rows of plants there is nothing tiresome about it.

"After the picking comes the grading, mixing, drying and polishing. Polishing tea is a discovery of Dr. Shepard, I believe. He discovered that by stirring the dried tea you could give it the gray appearance noticeable in the best oriental varieties. This stirring we call polishing. In the oriental goods it is produced by mixing with the dry tea powdered talc.

"Strange as it may seem, tea is not a pleasant plant to work with. Not until it is thoroughly dried, just as you buy it from your grocer, does it have the pleasant pungent odor that we call the tea smell. While in preparation the odor to many is exceedingly unpleasant.

"The plant itself is not particularly beautiful, certainly nothing to compare to the cotton plant. The leaves, as you can see by unrolling a leaf of the dried tea, are small and of no particular beauty.

"On the bush the leaf is of a velvety appearance and when the bush is kept closely pruned the plants have the dense foliage we associate with a good hedge. They are not planted as hedges, however, as each plant must be set far enough from the others to be worked and picked on all sides. In pruning the young twigs that are clipped off are dropped on the ground and ploughed under for fertilizer.

"Dr. Shepard's tea garden is worked with the co-operation of the United States department of agriculture, so, of course, a person going into the business feels quite safe in following what have been proved to be the best methods on that farm. There is now another large tea garden in South Carolina, the American Tea Growing company of Colleton county.

"I have understood that the agricultural department is interested in that venture also and that it contemplates making the experiment of setting the plants on hillsides, protected against washing by terraces. If that should prove a success it will mean a great improvement for our farms in this section.

"As the hillsides are now planted a dry season means partial, if not complete, failure of both cotton and corn crops. If the tea plants will flourish on our hillsides there is some hope of farming in this section being made to pay.

"If the government could only be induced to give us a duty on tea for a few years I am sure the Southern States would soon be able to supply the country. It need only be a tax amounting to 10 or 15 cents a pound on tea brought into this country. It would have the effect of excluding the cheap and unhealthful grades of foreign teas and giving us native growers a chance to get up a demand for our product.

"It seems very peculiar that the United States, which has duties on nearly every other commodity, should receive tea free. In that respect it stands almost entirely alone among the great nations of the earth. In England the duty on tea is 12 cents a pound, even where the tea is grown in British possessions while in France they charge 20 cents duty to the pound.

"Under the present conditions, while the market for American raised tea might not be called so brisk, it is

steady. I have been able to dispose of all that I have produced at a good average price. I expect to double my acreage during the next two or three years and in time hope to be able to stop planting cotton altogether."—New York Sun.

## GRADUATES AT CLEMSON.

Diplomas Awarded at Closing Exercises Tuesday—Chancellor Kirkland, of Vanderbilt University, the Orator of the Occasion.

Clemson College, June 11.—The climax of commencement at Clemson College was reached this morning when the graduating exercises were held in the spacious auditorium in Memorial Hall before an audience that crowded it to its utmost capacity. The graduating class was composed of 72 of as fine looking young men as ever went out from the institution with its degrees. The stage was beautifully decorated for the occasion, and the weather was most auspicious. Seated on the platform were Governor Ansel, Dr. J. H. Kirkland, chancellor of Vanderbilt University, the officers and teachers of the College, members of the board of trustees, alumni and other visitors.

The exercises of the morning were opened with prayer, after which the Hon. R. W. Simpson, chairman of the board of trustees, introduced Governor Ansel, who in turn, in a brief but graceful speech, introduced Chancellor Kirkland, the orator of the day. Dr. Kirkland delivered one of the most profound and eloquent addresses ever heard at Clemson. It was delivered with great fluency and commanded the greatest attention from the audience. His voice carried without effort to every part of the auditorium and no one present had the slightest difficulty in hearing every word uttered by the distinguished speaker, who is a former South Carolinian.

The speaker expressed his gratification at being in his native State again, and particularly on that occasion. He said his life work so far had been among college men and he always felt glad of an opportunity of addressing them, for college students are always anxious to grasp the truth, and seed cannot be sown better than among them. He said that the theme of his discourse was suggested by the great development the South is experiencing and its relation to the colleges and universities of the South. He said that the natural resources of the South which are being developed with such wonderful rapidity would be useless unless there be an intelligent, educated class of men to control them.

Sumter county was represented in the graduating class by Frank M. Dwight, of Wedgefield, and Edward D. McCutchan, of this city.

## BEAR KILLED NEAR CAMDEN.

Camden, June 14.—The sporting element of this community had some real sport this morning. Mr. W. C. Brown, the Wateree bridge-keeper, reported that he saw bear tracks in his yard, and that the bear had upset some bee hives and helped himself to the honey. As soon as this was reported on the streets a party of ladies and gentlemen made up a party to go in pursuit of the bear. Well armed and on good mounts, they set out, and some dogs were put on the trail of the bear. The interesting feature was that it proved to be a real bear. He was chased into the swamp in Mr. McSmryl's pasture, near Smryl's distillery. As soon as the hunters spied him a fusillade of shots were fired at him, and he soon fell a victim. It is estimated that at least 50 shots were fired at him.

The bear was dumped on a wagon and brought to town. Several "countrymen" came in advance to bring the news. It was a novel sight to see the army of hunters marching up Broad street, and when the wagon which contained the bear was stopped on the street an immense crowd gathered around to view it. The bear weighed 450 pounds, and was photographed by Photographer Zemp. The butchers then took charge of him and he was prepared for market.

Just in the midst of the excitement over the bear the fire bell rang. Mr. M. L. Smith's residence was on fire, but the fire was extinguished before any great amount of damage was done.

A meeting of the State high school committee will be held at Chick Springs Monday afternoon, June 24. The committee is composed of the members of the State board of education, committee of college associations and the committee of State teachers' association.

A woman's idea of tight lacing is when somebody else does it.

## STATE LEAGUE GAMES.

Darlington never had a chance to win in the game Tuesday. The Game Cocks had the Fiddlers going from the jump, and it was a simple matter of pure luck that enabled them to score at all, and saved them from the ignominy of a shutout.

Richardson has proved himself too much of a problem for the Darlington boys. Twice this season they have faced him, and in each game they were able to obtain only three hits. The clever twirler was in fine form yesterday, and in a majority of the innings it was a case of three up and three down.

By innings:  
Darlington . . . . .000 002 000—2  
Sumter . . . . .103 101 00—6

## At Orangeburg.

Orangeburg, June 11.—Punk ball playing in the three first three innings cost the locals the game. When it was too late they got together and made it the fastest game of the season, even though they could not break into the series of goose eggs. Armstrong pitched a beautiful game for the visitors, yielding only three hits and walking but one. He was well supported, the visitors making no errors and their stick work being made to count. Glaze, for the locals, made a beautiful catch of what seemed an impossible chance in left field that kept the score from being larger than it was.

Score: Orangeburg 0; Greenville 5.

## At Anderson.

Anderson, June 11.—Inability to hit at critical times cost the locals the game this afternoon. Several times a good hitter would go to the bat with two men out and get a single, two-base or a three-base hit, but the batter following would strike out. McMakin and Derby pitched well. Spartanburg managed to get hits when hits counted most.

The game was rather listless and not more than three hundred fans witnessed it. Anderson, Manning-like, is taking the many defeats gracefully.

Score: Anderson 2; Spartanburg 4.

## THE GAME COCKS TOOK THE FINAL GAME FROM FIDDLERS.

The game Wednesday, which was the final of the series between the Game Cocks and the Fiddlers, was a regular swatzenfest. It was one of those games in which a spectator expects anything to happen, and is surprised at nothing, yet it was exceedingly interesting, as such games always are. Both teams had on their batting garbs and such stick work as was seen yesterday was enough to demoralize any pitcher who was working, and should be cause for heavenly thanks to those who were on the bench.

By innings:  
Darlington . . . . .006 002 010—9  
Sumter . . . . .550 200 21—10

## Shut Out.

Anderson, June 12.—It was an errorless game and Spartanburg shut the locals out to the tune of 1 to 4. The game was a beautiful exhibition.

## GAME COCKS DEFEATED COTTON PICKERS—SEVEN TO TWO.

Orangeburg, June 14.—A rotten decision by Umpire McGrath in the second inning took all the ginger out of the locals, after which time they played in a listless fashion, losing by a score of 7 to 2. The Sumter team is a strong one and about evenly matched with the locals, so that in a fairly contested game Sumter might have won to the satisfaction of all.

Score by innings:  
Orangeburg . . . . .000 000 002—2  
Sumter . . . . .010 010 111 210—7

## Anderson Defeats Greenville.

Greenville, June 14.—Anderson took the first game of the series this afternoon by a score of 5 to 3. Armstrong was in the box for Greenville and showed poor form. He hit four batters and walked three others. Manager Stouch has a bad eye and was not in the game. Anderson played very good ball, but is charged up with five errors. The attendance was over 1,000.

## Darlington Lost Another.

Spartanburg, June 14.—The Spartans landed hard on Darlington here this afternoon, defeating them by a score of 12 to 5. In the third inning Darlington went to pieces and seven men for the Musicians crossed the plate. It was a merry-go-round for sure. Omara pitched a good game for the home team.

## ORANGEBURG WON SATURDAY.

And There Was No Complaint Made Against Umpire McGrath's Decisions—The Other Games.

Orangeburg, June 15.—Orangeburg batted out her game this afternoon with ease, while Sumter, on the other hand, found it next to impossible to

solve Landford's delivery. The game opened with Tribble in the box for the visitors and, after Orangeburg had made seven runs in the first five innings, he was replaced by Welch who gave way to Wynne in the eighth.

Score by innings:  
Orangeburg . . . . .120 232 00—10  
Sumter . . . . .000 000 100—1

## At Greenville.

Greenville, June 15.—Anderson went all to pieces in the fifth inning and the game resulted in one of the most lopsided scores of the season, being 17 to 1 in favor of Greenville.

## At Spartanburg.

Spartanburg, June 15.—Spartanburg won from Darlington in 13 innings. The game was hard fought throughout and witnessed by a big crowd. In the thirteenth inning, with score tied, and McMakin on third, Eskridge poked out a long fly which brought in the winning run. Spartanburg 3, Darlington 2.

Sumter Wins the First Game From the Cellar Champions—Orangeburg Wins in Darlington, and Spartanburg in Greenville.

Anderson, June 17.—Anderson lost to Sumter by a score of 8 to 2. Nothing deserves special mention except Gunter's excellent fielding and Bagwell's phenomenal batting. Sumter just outplayed the locals.

## Orangeburg Took First.

Darlington, June 17.—Beautiful weather and a score of 8 to 3 in favor of Orangeburg—the story in a nutshell of this afternoon's game. The Fiddlers have been perhaps practicing too much for clog dances instead of for grand ball, such as the visitors are accustomed to participating in, hence their defeat. The Darlington fans are calling for better players and we hope the request will be acquiesced in. The present team will probably be strengthened in the near future.

## Spartans Win From Greenville.

Greenville, June 17.—Until the seventh inning the game was a beautiful exhibition of fast playing; then Brahie went to pieces and was pounded unmercifully by the Musicians. He was relieved by Armstrong, but the damage had already been done. Greenville made no errors, but got only six hits off Sitton. Spartanburg 6, Greenville 2.

Orangeburg and Sumter Have Strongest Teams at Present, and Occupy First and Second Position Respectively—Anderson Team Needs Strengthening—Team Batting and Fielding Records.

From the News and Courier.

Interest in the State league still continues, and there have been, with but few exceptions, record breaking attendances at all the exhibitions given by the South Carolina teams. Several changes have lately been made on the teams and others are bound to follow as one team of the league will have to strengthen up in order to keep in the running. Orangeburg and Sumter, which undoubtedly have the strongest teams in the league at present, have been working hard, the former to keep her place at the head of the column, and the latter to supplant her. During the past week Sumter won four games out of five played, and Orangeburg lost four out of five played, therefore the Game Cocks of the State league have landed at the head of the percentage column with Orangeburg but one game behind.

As the result of the games during the past week Spartanburg and Darlington have changed places. Last Monday Darlington was third in the league, but in the next five games the Fiddlers did not gain a single victory, while Spartanburg won four games and tied one out of the five played. Only a few games, however, separate the teams.

Greenville is still fifth in standing, but has gained somewhat during the past week. In the five games played the Mountaineers have won four and lost one, and have gained 20 points. She is not far behind Darlington.

Anderson had another week of hard luck and only managed to win one game. Three games were lost, and one with Spartanburg ended in a tie. There is no doubt but that the Anderson team is far behind the other clubs in the calibre of the players and will have to make certain changes before the team makes a good showing. It is understood that the Anderson club owners underestimated the strength of the league and did not put a strong team in the field at the start. However, as the season is young it is not too late for the management to get players that stack up with others in the league, and then the Electric City can still make the other teams take notice.

## Record of the Teams.

Orangeburg leads the league in batting, with an average of 268, and is closely followed by Sumter, with an average of 251. In fielding Orangeburg also leads with an average of 939. Greenville comes second, with only 19 points separating her from Orangeburg. The following tables will show the team batting and team fielding averages:

| Team Batting Averages. |      |      |      |
|------------------------|------|------|------|
| Names.                 | A.B. | B.H. | P. C |
| Orangeburg . . . . .   | 714  | 191  | 268  |
| Sumter . . . . .       | 712  | 179  | 251  |
| Greenville . . . . .   | 779  | 189  | 243  |
| Spartanburg . . . . .  | 748  | 159  | 213  |
| Darlington . . . . .   | 747  | 155  | 207  |
| Anderson . . . . .     | 708  | 142  | 201  |

  

| Team Fielding Averages. |      |       |       |     |
|-------------------------|------|-------|-------|-----|
| Names.                  | P.O. | A. E. | P. C. |     |
| Orangeburg . . . . .    | 575  | 247   | 64    | 939 |
| Greenville . . . . .    | 593  | 259   | 71    | 923 |
| Sumter . . . . .        | 545  | 265   | 72    | 918 |
| Anderson . . . . .      | 538  | 260   | 74    | 915 |
| Spartanburg . . . . .   | 571  | 268   | 82    | 911 |
| Darlington . . . . .    | 598  | 262   | 80    | 906 |

## ROBBED IN TEXAS.

A Columbia Woman Relieved of \$61,000 By Rufus Williams, Also of Columbia.

San Antonio, Texas, June 14.—Rufus Williams of Columbia is in jail here, charged with robbery and assault with a deadly weapon upon Mrs. Sallie Gibson. He made the following confession today:

"I came to San Antonio on the 13th inst. from Columbia, S. C., via St. Louis, Mo. Mrs. Sallie Gibson came with me. We hired a horse and buggy to ride around and drove out in the country some five or six miles from town.

"We came to a stream of water and she said: 'Let's take a bath in the stream.' We turned and drove up along the stream about 25 yards from the road into a kind of open space. I got out and hitched the horse and went and sat down on the edge of the stream.

"We got to talking about our trip and I told her that I knew I was doing wrong and that I was going back to my wife and children and that she had no business to persuade me to go with her. She said that I was the only man that she cared anything about and that she would kill me if I went back. I should have mentioned that before this.

"She took \$50,000, all in \$1,000 bills from her bosom and laid it by her grip, the money wrapped in a paper, but I knew that it was \$50,000 as I had previously had it in my possession. I also knew that she had \$11,000 in the grip, something over \$7,000 in gold. I knew she had this money because I had sold several pieces of property in and around Columbia belonging to her and this was the money.

"After she got down by me on the edge of the stream we got to talking about our trip, and after I had told her that I had made up my mind to go back to my wife she said that she loved me better than any other man on earth and that if I did go back she would kill me.

"Then there were several words passed and I got up and picked up a stick and just as she was about to get up I struck her on the head with the stick once and knocked her down. She fell in the edge of the water. I then took all her money and put it in the buggy and started to drive off and just as I started she hollered and said: 'Don't leave me, you have nearly killed me.' I did not reply, but drove back to town, put the horse and buggy in the livery stable, where the manager of the stable hooked up another horse and buggy and we drove around town a while. All this time I kept the grip and the money in the buggy with me. After driving a while with the manager I asked him to let me out at a barber shop to get a shave. I got my shave and walked on to the depot and bought a ticket to Atlanta, Ga. I got into the train, but was arrested before it started."

Williams had \$61,000 belonging to Mrs. Gibson in his possession when arrested. Mrs. Gibson declares that Williams had hypnotized her and that this explains his power over her.

She is in a local hospital and will go back to Columbia as soon as she is able, but the district attorney will have her held as a witness.—This State.

Lancaster, June 13.—A difficulty occurred last night at West Pond in Kershaw county between two young men from the town of Kershaw, Steve Welch and Frank Truesdale, in which the latter was shot twice, both balls entering just below the heart. The wounds are serious. The weapon used was a magazine pistol. Particulars of the affair are not known here.