

The Watchman and Southron.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1, 1908.

The Sumter Watchman was founded in 1860 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.

South Carolina Pythianism has lost one of its most distinguished and best loved officers in the death of Dr. Jas. H. Thornwell, the Presbyterian church a consecrated minister and the State a citizen whose life and example inspired all who fell within his sphere of influence to higher ideals and better living.

Mr. J. L. Alnutt, who assumes the role of champion and defender of the proposed Municipal League, undertook, some days ago, in a communication to this paper, to prove that that proposed political organization is unobjectionable and that it would be beneficial to political conditions in Sumter. It is possible that we may be prejudiced against the proposed league and cannot therefore see the matter clearly in the light that Mr. Alnutt would have the people of Sumter view it, but we are not conscious of any undue bias unless a matured and deliberate conviction that the proposed league is undemocratic in principle and plan and will inevitably lead to greater evils and more pernicious political practices than this town has ever endured, can be termed prejudice. We have read Mr. Alnutt's communication with care, but have failed to discover in it a single sound reason for the creation of a faction within the city democracy, nor an argument from which a logical conclusion can be deduced that conditions are such as to require or even make desirable so reactionary a departure from the present satisfactory primary plan. The proposed league is to be either a reversion to the old convention plan of nomination or it is to be a clique or faction composed of a select membership. In either contingency, it is objectionable because it will nominally deprive a minority of the democratic voters of any voice in the government of the town, but will actually center all power and control in the hands of a very few men—the dominant spirits in the pledge-bound municipal league. The primary may not be an absolutely perfect system, but it is democratic and in it one man's vote is as good and as powerful as another's. It may not always do what it is claimed the league will accomplish—but only intelligent, strong, influential, progressive, public spirited citizens in office, but thus far the people, acting through the primary, have managed to vote for and elect men who stand well in the community and measure up fairly well when compared with any other average lot of men we can think of. We know what the primary is and what it has accomplished, but the proposed league is a pig in a bag, of which we know nothing, save the sugar-coated promises and predictions of its advocates. We know also what the old mass meeting or convention plan was and how it was operated, and reason leads us to the conclusion that the league, in operation, could not possibly partake less of ring rule. Being a more compact, better organized and pledge bound body it will offer and invite ring rule of a more effective, more centralized and more permanent description than Sumter has ever known or cares to put up with. For these reasons we are opposed to the league and will lend it neither aid nor encouragement. However, this is a free country and those who are of the opinion that good will follow the organization of a league are within their rights to organize a league and pledge themselves to vote for the ticket named by the league. But the balance of us who think otherwise are likewise free to vote solidly against the league ticket as a protest against ring rule, no matter how intelligent, progressive and influential the men named on this ticket may be. There will be just as good men outside the league for whom we may vote as there will be in it.

TO MAKE PRETTY PARK.
Grounds Between Court House and Harvin Street to be Beautified and Converted Into Pretty Civic Park.

Supervisor Seale is making preparations to convert the grounds in the rear of the court house, or rather between the building and Harvin street, into a pretty civic park. He is now moving the seats used in the old court house to this place and hopes to build a band-stand soon in the park. If possible, electric lights will be installed on the grounds and the place otherwise converted into a beautiful little park, something badly needed in Sumter.

The location is ideal and the grounds sufficiently large enough for a good-sized park where the public may enjoy a pleasant evening in the summer or during good weather in the winter.

LOOK! READ! ACT!

A CLEAN SWEEP

OF ALL WINTER Clothing, Hats and Furnishing Goods At a Discount of 25 Per Cent. Off.



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XTRAGOOD

Think what a large discount this is. The ORIGINAL PRICES, marked in PLAIN FIGURES, are now on all goods. Come in, select what you want, deduct ONE-FOURTH, pay the CASH, and the goods are yours.

We want to emphasize the CASH part of it. No goods will be sold on time at the reduced prices.

Everything Strictly Cash.

Stocks must be cleaned up this month---and we will do it by the means of cut prices.

We will soon have to be thinking of "Spring Things." We'll want room---and, besides, we never carry over stock from season to season if we can possibly help it.

Make a note of what you are shy in wearables and come to our ONE-FOURTH OFF SALE at once.

Sale Commences January 2d.



FORM THIRTY-TWO
COPYRIGHT, 1907
THE FECHHEIMER FISHBEIN CO.
NEW YORK
"EFF-EFF"



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The D. J. Chandler Clothing Co.,

Phone 166

Sumter, S. C.

John Washington Shot by Jim Ross
Near Passenger Station.

John Washington and Jim Ross, both colored, became involved in a difficulty Wednesday on Divine street, near the passenger station, and as a result Jim Ross shot John Washington, inflicting a serious wound. Washington is in the Sumter Hospital. Ross had not been captured this morning.

The shooting seems to have been caused over some one of the usual negro causes of trouble.

If you want the family healthy, strong and active during the winter, give them Hollister's Rocky Mountain Tea. 'Twill surely make and keep the whole family well. 35c, tea or tablets. Sibert's Drug Store.

Yesterday was the last day for payment of taxes, State, county and city, without penalty and County Treasurer Lee and City Treasurer Hurst were busy issuing tax receipts to those who had waited until the last day. A large amount of money was collected in both offices.

A crowd of roller skaters, boys of course, have found that the concrete pavement in front of the court house is an ideal place to skate. However, Supervisor Seale does not think so, and the boys may be told to "skidoo" when they next come around to their would-be rink.

This is the season when your blood needs purifying; if the blood is pure and healthy you'll be well. The most reliable blood remedy is Hollister's Rocky Mountain Tea. Nothing can do more good. 35c, tea or tablets. Sibert's Drug Store.

An alarm of fire from box 27 yesterday about 12.30 was caused by a small blaze at the residence of Mr. Gainley, 101 North Magnolia street. The damage was slight, from all accounts. Both companies responded as usual, but only No. 1 stretched any hose.

LEE & McLELLAN,
Civil Engineers and Land Surveyors.
Office:—Harby Building, old Court Square, Sumter, S. C.
1-1-6m

FOR SALE—Several horses, mules and colts, and some farming implements. Apply to W. J. Norris, R. F. D. No. 2, Sumter, S. C. Telephone, seven rings, Stateburg line. 12-18-3t w.

DR. JOHN H. MORSE,
VETERINARY SURGEON.
OFFICE—111 1-2 W. Liberty Street.
Office Phone 471.
RESIDENCE—214 N. Main Street.
Residence Phone 78.
9-25-9m