## THE WATCHMAN AND SOUTHRON, DECEMBER 23, 1908.

# NORD ALEXIS NO GRAFTER.

**OPPOSITION TO PILFERERS HELP-**ED BRING HIS DOWNFALL.

Certainly Looks It-His Predeces- Haytien, where his father was called sore, Early Training and Adventurous Career-Several Good Qualities As a Ruler.

When a man has reached the alleged age of ninety-seven years, and is then f sufficient political importance to have an insurrection raised against remarkable figure. Gen. Nord Alexis, until last Wednesday President of the Republic of Hayti, was, in the respect of age, at least, the foremost ruler of the Black Republic. Presidents Hayti seldom are long-lived.

Nord Alexis never erred on the side gentleness. He came to the presidency in 1902, fully aware of the people with whom he was to deal, and he he uncasiness that accompanies weara crown in his country. Of the eaider's who had preceded him, Desand Riche were poisoned; Christophe much as he was conducting an army agninst rebels at the time, even his mise is open to suspicion.

The old man who assumed this seemoffice by a villainous person, Tiresias Simon Sam, who added light-fingered qualities to the rest of his defects. Sam and left the treasury in a bad condition; the army was rebellious, as usual, when no money was forthcoming; the Firminist exiles were clamoring from Jamacia; the republic was in chaos.

Nord Alexis had ideas of his own. He was astute, even commensurate with his years, and he had no womanish aversion to the shedding of blood when he thought it necessary. There is no reason to believe that he has done anything in six years of rule with an idea less commendable than the im-

standing with the rest of the world. He

spirit generated in that very quarter. The childhood of Alexander du Nord, or Nord Alexis, was not such as would inculcate any ideas of goodness and mercy. He came from the e is Said to be 97 Years of Age and northernmost part of the island, Cape

> prince. Prince was a title which had several reigns. Faustin 1 (Soulouque)

had a marvellous court, in which there were seventy dukes. (It is solemnly attested that two of the dukes took the titles Marmalade and Lemonade.) The older Alexis held a position in him, he must be, in some respects, a the household of the Emperor Christophe. In speaking of the rulers of Hayti it is confusing to find one a president, the next an emperor; but now that this man is gone is a good it must be remembered that the counof try has been successively a republic,

an empire, a republic, empire and a republic again. But no president has ever been anything less than a dictator.

It was a strange, unhealthy atmosand some grewsome object lessons of phere into which the young Alexandre came

Christophe was a barbarlan, pure and simple, and before he committed mlines and Sainave were shot; Petion Juicide he conducted a reign of terror, in which he was guilty of deeds which dress extravagant-effects a gray committed suicide after committing the native historians blandly refer to frock coat in imitation of Napoleon. atrocities of the wildest kind; Boyer, as "many unfortunate acts." Several Boulouque, Geffrad, Domingue, Canal, stories are told to show the kind of air Calomon, and Legitime went away post Alexis breathed. Christophe doubted huste; Pierrot (well named) and Nis-, the loyalty of a chief of police of Port sige-Saget abdicated; and it was the au Prince. The emperor asked the boast of the heirs of Hippolyte that he chief if he was loyal and on receiving died peacefully in office. But, inas- a affirmative answer, ordered him to prove it by bringing him the heads of the chief's wife and daughter. The loyalty was proved quickly.

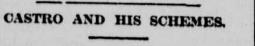
Under this sort of instruction, Alexis ly, hopeless task had been preceded in developed no very tender nature. He was brave, masterful, and alert, howover, and when he took the field, as a young man luring civil troubles, his courage and determination soon attracted attention. After he strengthened his position by marrying the daughter of President Pierrot, he became still more powerful. It had been arranged as far back as 1870, that he should be president, succeeding Domingue, but when the latter's government was overthrown, Alexis was in exile; and even after he returned to Hayti, President Salomon had him thrown into prison.

So it was not until nearly eighty provement of his country, and its years after Nord Alexis had served as States for suspension of proceedings tree prohibition. Between these two

little doubt that the present rebellious not long ago he was described thus "His legs and body seem a mass of mere bone, shrunken until almost nothing is left. His hands are long and bony and themselves show great age. On one finger of his right hand he wore two tremendous diamonds in one setting, but no other jewelry.

A twisted mass of sparse hair decbeen handed out very liberally under orated the huge and long upper lip. while a small goatee appeared from the lower. He wore gold spectacles which partly concealed his eyes, and these were sunken, with the whites discolored to a kind of brown."

Nord Alexis speaks French very fluently and well, and showed much refinement, far beyond that of his country. What will happen to Hayti deal of a puzzle.



Penniless When He Usurped Presidency, He Amassed Millions.

Cipriano Castro was born in the

State of Tachira, Venezuela, in 1860. Mother a negro; father an Indian. Kept small store and cared for father's cattle. He is small in stature; in Conspicuous at social affairs for his fantastic capers. Courage illustrated when, during earthquake of 1900, he abandoned his wife in palace and jumped 29 feet to the ground,

Penniless when he usurped presidency, eight years ago; annual salary \$12,000; now has millions. Owns finest ranches in Venezeula, "houses without number," including two palaces. Also steamers of the former Orinoco Company and of Lake Maracaibo, Tachira Railway, Puerto Cabello wharf bonds, two-thirds of Dutch diplomatic debt, \$2,000,000 Venezuelan debt, and "millions on deposit in English and French banks."

1899 Castro raised a revolution, defeated the government and proclaimad himself president.

March, 1901, elected president, after putting down the revolts of various eaders who deserted him when he usurped the presidency. In 1905 electd for second term of six years.

July, 1904, seized asphalt lake ownd by New York and Bermudez Company, refusing request of the United point where each would for itself dea page in the weird court of Henri pending investigation. Property questered in hands of representative of Castro, who has since sold and retained proceeds of asphalt mined.

## IS NOT A DISPENSARVITE.

SENATOR CHRISTENSEN OF BEAUFORT JOINS ISSUE WITH SENATOR OTTS.

Option, and He is Not Rounding up the Advocates of the County Dispensary System for a Fight Against State-Wide Prohibition.

To the Editor of The News and Courier: Kindly grant me space in your columns to correct a statement made in your correspondence from Gaffney, dated the 14th.

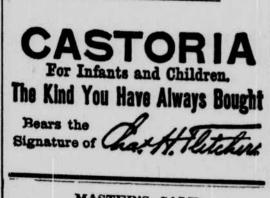
Therein it is reported that I am a county dispensary advocate, and am rounding up the dispensary forces for a legislative contest against the Prohibitionists. I am not a dispensary man. In an article published last month in the Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science of Philadelphia, I wrote: "The State did not succeed as barkeeper. Will the counties do better? That is a question South Carolina is solving. t is too early yet to say what the outcome of this decentralization will be. Decentralization has killed the lioness, and her dwarf cubs are comparativey easy to handle. However, they are not lambs. Whether the present sys-\*em will long remain clean as a hard natter for conjecture. In putting nto the hands of public officials the power to purchase liquor the door for graft is known wide open, and through t at any moment may enter corruption that will render the system as vil as the worst."

Those are hardly the expressions of in advocate of the county dispensary. In an interview published in The News and Courier and other dailies ind weeklies a few days ago I stated hat I am a local option prohibitionst. I take the liberty of again trespassing upon the attention of your ceaders, not for personal reasons, but 'n this discussion between the Statewide Prohibitionists or anti-optionists ind the local optionists.

They would establish prohibition in ion-prohibition counties by decree of the legislature. We would educate the non-prohibition counties to the

the liquor evil, and as one put in a little brief authority am earnest to exert it for tried and rational measures. So I address myself to the keen witted, sober-minded, frank and Godfearing people, who are the great majority of the people of this State, con-Declares That He is Opposed to the fident that they will stick to the guns Whiskey Traffic, but Favors Local with which liquor has been effectually driven out of half her territory.

Neils Christensen, Jr. Beaufort, S. C., December 15, 1908.



#### MASTER'S SALE.

Ey virtue of a Decree of the Court of Common Pleas for Sumter County, in the State of South Carolina, in the of Andrew H. "'bble against case John E. Harmon, Gertrude E. Richardson and H. T. Edens, I will sell at public aution, to the highest bidder at the Court House in the City of Sumter, in the County and State aforesaid, on Sale Day in January, 1909, being the 4th day of said month, during the usual hours of sale, the following described real estate, to wit; All that lot or parcel of land situite, lying and being near the western limits of the City of Sumter, in the County and State aforesaid, containing one acre. more or less, and bounded on the North and East by land formerly of N. G. Osteen, now said to be of Burns, on the South by Hampton Avenue, and on the West by land of A. White, Trustee, for Mrs. Gertrude E. Richardson, being the lot of land conveyed to me by Mrs. Gertrude E. Richardson.

Terms of sale: one third cash, the balance in equal installments of one and two years, the said cash payment to be applied to the debt of Mrs. Gerrude E. Richardson and of Plaintiff herein, and a mortgage be executed by the purchaser for the balance unto the Master for Sumter County, at the rate of eight per centum per annum, payable annually, with privilege to purchaser of paying all in cash.

12-15-3t.

EXCURSION RATES Via ATLANTIC COAST LINE Account CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

Tickets on sale December 18th 19th, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 30th and 31st 1908 and January 1st, 1909, limited to return not later than January 6th, 1909.

For further information, reservations, etc., call on nearest Ticket Agent or write W. J. Craig, Passenger Fraffic Manager; T. C. White, General Passenger Agent, Wilmington, N. C.

The McLees ginnery, in Anderson County, was destroyed by fire. Loss about \$5.000.

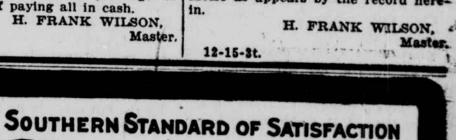
#### MASTER'S SALE.

By virtue of a Decree of the Court of Common Pleas for Sumter County, in the State of South Carolina, in the case of Alston Westberry and Friday Kershaw against Robert Ramsey and others, I will sell at public auction, to he highest bidder, at the Court House n the City of Sumter, in the County and State aforesaid, on Sale Day in January, 1909, being the 4th day of aid month, during the usual hours of sale, the following described real esate, to wit:

"All that piece, parcel or tract of and, situate and being in said County ind State, containing one hundred acres, more or less, lying on the public .oad leading from Sumter Court House via Providence to Camden, and adjoining lands now or formerly of the Estate of Furman, Joshua Myers, Henry Williams and others; being the ame land conveyed to me by said Alton Westberry and Friday Kershaw, he description of said premises in said leed of conveyance being herein incorporated into and made a. part hereof in all respects."

Terms of sale: one half cash, balince on a credit of twelve months rom day of sale, the time portion to be secured by the bond of the purhaser and a mortgage of the premises old, the bond to draw interest from he date of sale, the dwelling house to o insured and policy assigned.

The judgment in this case has been heretofore assigned in part to Marion Moise as appears by the record here-



whole, dangerous to the independence way; that when President Hippolyte of the country; and though he did was involved in civil strife, Alexis took nothing on the offensive, he was ever the field against him. Tiresias Sam careful of granting trade concessions. Here is an instance of a craftiness delphis, who had assayed a lot of copper-bearing rock said to have come from Hayti, went down there to look over the ground. He found a fine oremountain, but it was far in the interior and quite inaccessible for business purpones unless a railroad could be built.

The Germans had a railroad from Port au Prince to the Salt Lakes, and naturally wanted no competition, and tive talent." a German steamship line saw possible rival steamships connecting with the rail end. They began to work on the president.

Alexis took his particular view of "I don's mind giving you a concession," he said, "but I don't want to run the chance of giving you the whole island." He had evidently heard something of concessions.

The Germans spent a good deal of money in Hayti over this matter, it is reported, but finally Nord Alexis, after an interview in which he showed a keen business sense, though asking nothing for himself, granted the con-He signed the papers and sent them to Congress. The gentlemen at the Legislature, however, had "seen," and though they did not to involve themselves with the president, they delayed and delayed until they found a way out. Enough of them to break the quorum left the capital and went down the coast. Nord Alexis merely sent his gunboats after them, with a courteous request to come back. They came back. They knew Nord Alexis.

#### Amnesty His Undoing.

Another instance of the tactfulness had been followers of Gen. Firmin. In 1903 Alexis granted them amnesty and they returned. He had a double motive in this; first that they were possibly to be won over to his side, and also that he wanted no insurrectionary interference with certain plans of civil improvements that he had in mind. This was more clear when, in reply to censures from Congress for not proceeding against the disturbing Alexis refused the resignations. He wanted a free hand to hunt down the frauds in connection with the issue of

President Sam and several national Alexis was at least striking. Forty the bowels. You cannot promptly in Cherokee. 1906 \$315,206.46 So far as I know there is no effort 1907 \$378.262.51 bank officials were implicated. years ago he must have been a mighty cure a cold until you do this. Ken-But like many other strokes of dip- waterior, over six feet in height, and cough by allaying inflammation of the out of the legislature, and I have not 1908 \$443,026.16 lomacy, though this permission of the powerful in build. His features are throat and lungs, and it drives the planned or attempted such an organi-Progressive and Conservative, we are steadily growing return of Firmin's followers was for those of a central African, his color cold from the system by gently mov-Accounts, large or small, both Savings and General zation, newspaper reports to the coning the bowels. Children like it for it time a brilliant one, it was really the coal black. Solicited. undoing of the president. There is , When he was seen by an American Sold by all Druggiet tastes nearly as good as maple sugar. trary notwithstanding. But I have become interested in the fight against WENNERS STREET, STREET

in the persuasion that the Christopher that he gained the height proximity of white people was, on the of his ambition. It came about in this had the best hold on affairs, and for another few years the coming of Alexcombined with a real feeling toward is was delayed, but when finally Sam progress. A mining expert in Phila- fied from the country the old man gained the palace.

> The "palace" is a two-story building in the southern part of Port au Prince, distinguished from the pink disharmonies around it by a modest slate color, surrounded by a high iron fence, and filled with monstrosities in the way of paintings and sculpture, which have been contributed by "na-

Here came Alexis in his glory at the reputed age of ninety-one. At various times it has been reported that he meant to set up an empire, that he was to have a gorgeous court, that he meant to expel the white people from the island, and that his fingers were near the scant treasury. There has never been much foundation for these stories. All in all, he is a sensible old man, especially when compared with his predecessors. There is not the slightest evidence of graft connected with him personally. On the other hand it has been offered as a reason for the revolution against him that he was too persistent in his effort to keep the other piratical souls of the country off the treasure grounds.

Now, this point alone was sufficient to cause the downfall of Alexis; for the army, a collection of pitiable scarecrows, ununiformed and badly equipped, had little hopes of getting salaries when the head of the government was so "parsimonious." The manner of paying off the men precluded anything coming to them; for when pay day comes, the money goes from general to general, each trans-

mitter whittling off a little for himof the old man was given soon after self. By the time it reaches the prihe came into office. There were 100 vate, acute evaporation has taken or more rebels exiled in Jamaica. They place. And considering that for years there have been almost as many generals in the army as privates, the unlucky underlings get no chance.

Then, the southern part of the republic was against him on general principles. His very name suggests that they could never love him. Gen, Antoine Simon, who conducted the operations against him, was the vigorous ruler of the south; and when Alexis saw that he could not hang on much element, the cabinet resigned, and longer, he proposed that the general of the northern department, Gilles one of his own men, should succeed him. The fighting was really on that

1902, as result of policy of despoiling foreign industry, Great Britain, Germany and France, joined by other power, blockaded Venezuelan ports, December, to enforce claims of citi-Puerto Cabello bombarded zens. December 13, San Carlos bombarded January 17, 1903. Castro extricated from this difficulty by insistence of the United States that disputes be arbitrated. Protocols signed February 13 provided for payment of \$400,000, adjustment of remaining claims and arbitration of preferential treatment question.

1905-1906 Castro's hostility toward the French Cable company and insults to French minister led to severance of diplomatic relations January 10. In April he resigned the presidency, but resumed office three months later. It was generally supposed that his retirement was due to the desire to saddle his successor with the responsibility of enforcing laws which were distasteful to the Venezuelans.

In March, 1907, he refused to arbltrate the Jannet claims. He also annulled various contracts made by his government with other foreigners, including two English companies and a French company. In July, 1908, he expelled the Dutch envoy, resulting in the breaking off of diplomatic relations. The origin of this trouble was due to the breaking out of the bubonic plague in Venezuela. A quarantine was established at the Dutch colony of Curacao, and Castro retaliated with a number of repressive measures. The relations became so strained that, at one time, war was expected between the two countries, but hostilities never materialized. From time to time, before stro sailed for Europe, rumors were current of a movement to oust him from the presidency. He had knowledge of the dissatisfaction of the Venezuelans with his administration, and with characteristic cleverness, he avoided such a contingency by becoming ill and deciding to go abroad and consult surgeons. He sailed from Caracas November 24.

\*Nearly everybody knows DeWitt's Little Early Risers are the best pills made. They are small, pleasant, sure Little Liver Pills. Sold by all Druggists.

Dr. O. E. Bramlett, a well known druggist of Pelzer, is dead at his home.

\*You should always remember that ists were not whiskey Sirens when as shown by Daily Exhibit Oct. 31. most cough and cold cures are constigovernment securities for \$2,000,000. point. pating. Yet the most important thing Senator Otts was leading their chorus As a result of the investigations, ex-1905 In appearance, during his last years to do when you have a cold is to move - - - \$226,712.00

ays to a common end is a great diffrence, all the difference, we local optionists maintain, between ultimate success and failure.

Says Senator Otts, for whom I have espect and liking: "The way to stop he liquor evil is to stop and not to temporise or compromise with it." He wishes to carry the citidel by one grand picturesque assault. We point to the experience of generations that proves sapping and mining to be more effective against this particular enemy. if the State prohibition law is passed it will be a hollow victory in many of the present dispensary counties.

On the other hand, wherever a county adopts prohibition the gain is real, genuine and lasting. We local option prohibitinists advocate the same course of action Senator Otts and his friends have been following up to this time. They are branching off, hand in hand, with old State dispensary leaders, as anti-optionists. We want to be allowed to travel the same road, his county of Cherokee took in getting a prohibition that prohibits. He says that kind of prohibition is fine. Then why does he insist in forcing another kind on other counties?

I tell him, and nine out of every ten thinking, sober men in this lower section of the State will tell him, that a State prohibition law cannot be enforced here with any success at this time. It is folly for Senator Otts to assert, as he does, that "two or three determined men can enforce the law in any county." There are many more than the number of men in this county who would do all they can to enforce prohibition here if it becomes a law, and we know before hand that our efforts will be futile.

Face conditions. Come down here and help us educate our people as you did in Laurens and we will do for ourselves what you cannot force us into. Senator Otts says again: "I have Ø seen the results of prohibition, I have n seen the law enforced, I have helped to enforce it." He refers to his county, that was first educated up to the law, and was then allowed to enact it. He would have had different experiences in an anti-prohibition county upon which prohibition had been enforced. It is characteristic of certain Prohibitionists to charge all who may differ with them as being allies of the liquor interests. Senator Otts refers to the local option arguments as "this song of the Whiskey Siren." Yet the National Liquor League, which has just closed its annual convention in Washington, in one of its resolutions wrote: "Local option is but another name for prohibition." Local option-

1

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