

COUNTY CORRESPONDENCE.

NEWSY LETTERS FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENTS.

Items of Interest From all Parts of Sumter and Adjoining Counties.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Mail your letters so that they will reach this office not later than Monday when intended for Wednesday's paper and not later than Thursday for Saturday's issue. This, of course, applies only to regular correspondence. In case of items of unusual news value, send in immediately by mail, telephone or telegraph. Such news stories are acceptable up to the hour of going to press. Wednesday's paper is printed Tuesday afternoon and Saturday's paper Friday afternoon.

STATEBURG.

Stateburg, May 4.—Mr. H. R. Scofield, of Columbia, spent several days last week, at the Gen. Sumter Memorial Academy.

Mr. Henry Frierson, accompanied by his friend, Mr. Dunlap, is here visiting at "Cherry Vale," the home of the Friersons.

Miss Annie O. Keels, of Rembert, spent the week-end with the Misses Dargan at the Gen. Sumter Memorial Academy.

The young folks of the neighborhood gave a delightful picnic at Ruggs' Lake on last Saturday. There was a large crowd present and all seemed to enjoy themselves thoroughly.

Prof. Ira W. Williams, of Columbia, spent Saturday and Sunday with the Dargans.

Mrs. A. C. Butler has returned home after a pleasant visit in Bishopville.

Miss Sarah Dargan has been spending a few days at home.

Miss Emma Frierson, of Columbia, spent Sunday at "Cherry Vale."

Mrs. Shannon, of Camden, is visiting Mrs. Emma Canteley.

Miss Sarah Dargan returned to Columbia, accompanied by her sister, Miss Theodosia, to attend the Music Festival.

BROGDON.

Brogdon, May 3.—The agricultural prospects for this section of Sumter county so far are not at all encouraging. The lovely weather of the month of March caused early planting, but the cold dry winds have prevented the germination of seed and farmers are having a hard time getting their cotton up. Many have planted the second time, while others are still hoping for a stand. Corn is doing tolerably well, but the oat crop is almost a failure. Early vegetables are coming in, and some are enjoying strawberries, but take it all in all, the outlook for farmers and gardens is not bright, to say the least.

Rev. J. R. Funderburk has resigned the pastorate of Graham and Providence churches and will leave shortly for a new field. Mrs. F. A. Wells, of Summerton nee Miss Susie Brogdon, visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. I. Brogdon recently.

Mr. and Mrs. Graham McDonald, of Lane's, are visitors in the neighborhood.

Misses Smith and Jones have closed their school and left for their respective homes. Miss Jones to Newberry, S. C., and Miss Smith to Lynchburg, Va.

MAX.

Max, May 5.—Mr. and Mrs. Robert McElveen, of Cadis, visited relatives about here recently.

Mr. J. T. Kirby, of Columbia, was on a visit to this section recently.

Mrs. Mary E. Buddin, of Gibson, N. C., was the guest of her nephews, Dr. R. I. and Messrs. J. L. and W. G. Moore last week.

The ladies of Oanta Missionary Society will give a bazaar on the old soldiers picnic grounds in Oanta next Friday evening. The proceeds will be added to the fund for the erection of a Baptist church in that town.

A Laymen's meeting was held last Saturday at Nazareth church, Oanta, and at Bethel Sunday. Speeches by Lutet. Gov. McLeod, Dr. Covington, Hon. W. C. Davis, and Hon. C. A. Smith were greatly enjoyed by large crowds.

Rev. W. J. Truluck, in the absence of the pastor, conducted the funeral of Mrs. Percy Carmon at Bethel recently.

It was said that during the four years of the civil war, while her husband was in the army, she looked well to the ways of her household and supported herself and child by cultivating crops and was modest and pleasant.

The Wood's Mill school closed yesterday. There will be a picnic at that school house Saturday.

A gentle rain fell here for several hours last night.

CONCORD.

Concord, May 5.—After nice shower of rain everything is fresh and growing. Still it's very cool today.

Mr. D. L. Smith and son visited relatives at St. Charles last week.

Misses Lou Hodge and Lula New-

man visited the city last week, also Mr. D. H. Newman.

Messrs. Ben Brogdon and Joe Wertz were in town yesterday.

Last Sunday Dr. Durant, of Sumter, was on his way to see his father when his automobile got out of fix, and had to hire a team to take them back to Sumter.

Good many from around here will attend the picnic at Elliotts tomorrow.

Little Miss Alice Josey has returned to her home in Sumter after a very pleasant stay with her grandmother, Mrs. Josey of his place.

Messrs. Otis Pittman, Eugene Josey and Arthur Hatfield were in this community last Sunday, from Rocky Bluff.

The health of this community is somewhat improved.

HAIL AT SUMMERTON.

Geese and Chickens Are Killed by 'Hail Stones and Crops Are Utterly Destroyed.

Summerton, May 5.—A severe wind and rain storm swept the lower section of this county yesterday afternoon. News has just reached here that to the south of Summerton, on the Santee river swamp, the rain was accompanied by a terrific fall of hail and the destruction of all crops and vegetation was complete.

The stones were very large, stripping the trees of their foliage and in many instances geese and chickens were killed. Many house roofs were badly damaged. It has not been possible so far to determine the area damaged, but the path of the storm appears to have been from two to four miles wide. All crops in the section visited will have to be replanted.

Some fishermen unable to reach shelter were badly bruised by the falling hail.

Halley's Comet Seventy-Five Years Ago.

Abraham Kalinski is a resident of Baltimore, Md. His antecedents are sufficiently disclosed by the bare mention of his euphonious name; but he is entitled to special consideration by virtue of the fact that he is probably the oldest man living today in the United States.

Recently he passed his 116th mile stone and for one of his patriarchal years he is in excellent health.

When Halley's comet last visited this neck of the universe Abraham Kalinski was a man in the prime of life and hence the impressions which he retains of the celestial wanderer are still most vivid.

The peasants of Russia, according to this revered father in Israel, were completely unnerved by the appearance of Halley's comet; but we will let the old man tell his own tale:

"It was on a Sabbath day that the bright star was first seen," the old man began in Yiddish. "We were in the synagogue, and as I looked through the window I beheld a bright ball of fire. In a few minutes we were on the street looking skyward with deep and benign reverence. Some one shouted that God was not satisfied with the conduct of the inhabitants of this mundane globe and would destroy all. We ran to the synagogue." At this juncture Mr. Kalinski ceased talking and for a long time sat in deep thought. Mrs. Kalinski, who, by the way is only 50 years old, approached the chair and patted him on the shoulder. "Near Roddyshalm, the village in which I lived, there had been slight earthquake," continued Mr. Kalinski, "and it struck us that the two events were warnings from the Almighty. We returned to the synagogue and prayed that we be not destroyed."

"We saw the blaze of fire for several weeks, and in our country the end of the world was expected momentarily. There was much talk and apprehension and business was entirely suspended."

Probably there are few men alive today who retain anything like as distinct a recollection of Halley's comet as does this old Russian Jew, and what he says upon the subject possesses considerably more than passing interest.

Playground stock will never pay any direct cash dividends, but the increment of public health, public morals and civic development will mean more than money.

Even Kermit seems to have become an indistinguishable part of the general background effect.—Washington Herald.

Character is the result of a system of stereotyped principles.—Heine.

A Dakota man says hogs are high because they are scarce. Judging from the increase in price during the past month, somebody must have made a big killing.

New York Republicans are hunting for a leader. Leaders are born not made.

Furthermore, the dog that bit the census enumerator was not the only creature with teeth that was tempted.

ADVISES WHERE TO LOOK FOR THE COMET.

A Word to Those Who Have Not Yet Seen the Celestial Visitor.

Editor Times—So many people have wished to see Halley's comet and did not know where to look for it, that I have written out a few plain directions whereby they can easily find it.

For the benefit of those Florentines who have not yet seen our latest celestial visitor—Halley's comet (so called after the celebrated Dr. Halley, who first successfully predicted its periodic return) we will give a few directions whereby and one can easily locate it. About 4 o'clock a. m. near the Eastern horizon are to be seen four stars of about the second magnitude. These stars form what is astronomically known as the Great Square of Pegasus, the Flying Horse, these stars forming a nearly perfect square. Not far from the lower right hand or Southeastern corner, may be seen a bright, very white star, and by looking steadily at it for some time, a thin, hazy, cloudlike tail of considerable length can be seen streaming away towards the southwest. A line drawn parallel to the tail, and continued for enough East would touch the sun. Most of our star gazers have mistaken Venus the Queen of the morning, who shines now with the greatest brilliancy and is distant only about nine or ten degrees to the southeast.

So much has been published in the newspapers concerning the possibility of the nucleus, or head of comet, striking the earth and the near probability of the earth's coming in contact with the tail of this one, that many of our colored, (and some white) citizens, have become unduly alarmed.

Should such a catastrophe occur, this beautiful earth of ours, so resplendent with energy and life would be crushed and silent and lifeless and mankind would cease to exist and go down to the "tongueless silence of the dreamless dust."

To those alarmed, we will remind them that He, who holds the waters of the mighty deep in the hollow of His hand and whose immutable law holds the giant planets in their ceaseless course around their central sun, will not forget us and we shall sleep calm as an infant slumbers, confident that all is well.—J. K. Steele in Florence Times.

Speaker Cannon has been studying a set of burglar tools. If he leaves politics, of course it will be necessary to have some other gainful occupation in view.—Philadelphia Ledger.

For a man who has done nothing wrong it takes Ballinger a long time to explain.—Charleston News and Courier.

WILL DEMOCRATS CONTROL?

ALL-ABSORBING QUESTION NOW IN NATIONAL POLITICS.

House of Representatives Now Made Up of 216 Republicans and 175 Democrats—Where the Democratic Increase Must Come From—Leaders Already Speculating as to Places On Committees—"Down With the Tariff."

Washington, May 4.—The political checker board all over the country never presented a more interesting game than at this time. From Maine to California the game is going merrily on, and will not end until the result of the Congressional elections in November have been made known.

The chief question being asked in connection with the playing of this great and absorbing game is: "Will the Democrats get control of the next house, and will they be able to maintain it if they get it?" Where are they to get the men necessary to overcome the present Republican majority of forty-two members, which now exists, and will the expected gains be made in New York, Pennsylvania and other Eastern States or will they come from the West?

As constituted at present, the National House of Representatives is made up of 391 members—216 Republicans and 175 Democrats.

Democratic leaders in the house say that while they expect the increase in members from that party in the next Congress to be elected generally from both the Eastern and Western States, they would not be surprised to see several of the Southern States, namely, Virginia, Tennessee, North Carolina and Georgia increase the number of Representatives in the house. North Carolina, it is said, may increase the number of Republicans from that State from three to four; Virginia from one to two, Tennessee from two to three or four, and Georgia, possibly, swap a Democrat or two for a Republican, due to local conditions.

A close analysis of the situation as viewed by these Democratic leaders at this time is this: the present Republican majority is to be cut down, for the simple reason that whether or not the Aldrich-Payne tariff is responsible for the present high cost of living, wage earners are inclined to place the blame of this high cost on the present administration. In other words, north of the Mason and Dixon line and east of the Rocky Mountains, where the people are closely allied in various commercial interests and enterprises, a general alarm has been sounded to ring the death knell of any party—Democratic or Republican—which is responsible for present conditions.

In the States near the Canadian border, where wage earners and

workmen see the effect of the tariff in such a way that food stuff may be bought just across the Canadian line considerably cheaper than on the American side, big gains in Democratic strength are to be expected. New York will, according to the minority leaders in Congress, show slightly reduced Republican majorities. Slight cuts, but enough to give a good Democratic majority are to be made in nearly all the other States, with the exception of those mentioned in the South and in Pennsylvania, in which latter State it is said that the "machine" has things so fixed that little Democratic headway is expected this year.

So firmly are the Democratic leaders assured that they will have control of the legislative machinery in the next house that already there is a considerable amount of skirmishing going on inside the minority lines by members, who, by reason of seniority, would be entitled to committee chairmanships. There has also arisen the question of dividing important committee places between Democrats from the North and those from the South. In the present congress, Southern Democrats largely predominate, and there is little possibility that they will be outnumbered in the next congress, even if there is a political upheaval in the congressional elections. Champ Clark, as speaker of the next house, will be beset by sectional demands. If he follows invariable precedents, he will recognize sectional lines in so far only as they relate to the proportion of Democrats from the North and South.

It will be a comparatively easy matter to take care of the Southern Democrats, but in handling those from the North another and more difficult proposition will be encountered. Men like Fitzgerald, of New York; Sulzer, of New York, and Rainey, of Illinois, all of whom are leaders in the minority side of the house in the present congress, cannot be ignored, neither can the claims of their friends, whom they are expected to bring into the next house and place on the Democratic side from their own State, be ignored.

"The effect of the present tariff—that is the present high cost of living—will be our target when we get into the field during the next month or so," said a member of the Democratic campaign Congressional committee today, "and unless all signs fall we will entirely overcome the present majority of forty-two and place a neat balance on the Democratic side of the next congressional ledger."

"We employ no men with whiskers," say the Illinois butter makers. But they must employ ladies with long hair.

About all that is left of the "conservation" policy is the Administration's almost frantic zeal to conserve Ballinger's face.—Kansas City Times.

DUNCAN BELLINGER DEAD.

Former Attorney General Passed Away at Home.

Columbia, May 5.—George Duncan Bellinger, former attorney general of the State, died at his home in Shandon last night at 9:15. His fatal illness had been brief, although Mr. Bellinger had been in ill health for quite a long time.

His general health had appeared to be improved by a stay at Hampton Springs, Fla., and his friends were totally unprepared yesterday for the announcement that he was desperately ill with blood poisoning. The malady made rapid progress and at 9:15 last night he passed away.

Mr. Bellinger has been a resident of Columbia ever since he entered the office of attorney general, and upon retiring from office he made his home here, entering into the practice of law and meeting with much success. He had many warm and lasting friendships, and his death removes one who had become a devoted and loyal citizen. Mr. Bellinger had many of the elements of a great public character, and had he been less of a man and more of a compromiser, he might have gone high as a public officer, perhaps to the United States senate. But with the fearlessness which was his greatest characteristic there was a hatred of the mean and the low, and his candor and boldness were also proverbial.

He was regarded generally as a skillful advocate and a man learned in the law, but his first great hold upon the people of South Carolina was when he prosecuted the "Broxton Bridge" case. White men of Colleton county were charged with a serious crime and they threatened all sorts of retaliation if Mr. Bellinger should prosecute them. Mr. Bellinger, attended only by a newspaper correspondent who was a close personal friend, passed gallantly through that memorable trial, and the next summer he bravely faced the same desperate men in his campaign, even though it were tempting violence at their hands for him even to appear in Colleton county.

Small of stature, he was the very embodiment of gameness, and while not of a quarrel seeking nature, yet his bearing was enough to convince malefactors that he was not playing at the law. As attorney general, he handled a number of important and difficult cases, among them the charges against W. A. Neal, who had been a dominant factor in the political affairs of the State.

The news of the death of Mr. Bellinger will be received with sadness as well as with surprise by his many friends throughout South Carolina.

The comet surely doesn't expect us to get up at 4 o'clock in the morning to meet him.

ARE YOU FEELING OUT OF SORTS?

No Doubt Your Liver and Kidneys Are Out of Order. Take Dr. Hilton's Life for the Liver and Kidneys.

More than half of all sickness is caused by a derangement of the liver and kidneys. At least half the deaths are caused by inattention to these vital organs.

Don't neglect your liver and kidneys. You feel tired and worn out; have no energy and little ambition—"good for nothing," as you say. The trouble is that your liver and kidneys are not working as they should.

You Need Dr. Hilton's Life for the Liver and Kidneys

It is a thorough curative agent in all cases of Dyspepsia, Indigestion, Constipation, Biliousness, Bright's Disease, Dropsy, Gravel, Rheumatism and all disorders arising from a diseased condition of the Liver, Kidneys and Urinary organs.

If you are weak and debilitated, or nervous, take Dr. Hilton's Life for the Liver and Kidneys. It regulates the entire system, invigorates the body, purifies the blood, puts you on your feet. It is pleasant to take, mild and certain in its effect.

Some It Has Benefited

Prolonged Her Life

"I have used Dr. Hilton's Life for the Liver and Kidneys for a good many years and feel that it has prolonged my life. It is the best Liver medicine I have ever taken, and I could not get along without it."—Mrs. S. C. Haynes, Glendale, S. C.

Has Sold It for Years

"I consider Dr. Hilton's Life for the Liver and Kidneys the best Liver medicine I have ever taken. Have sold it for years and have never had a complaint yet."—T. A. Lockman, Glendale, S. C.

Rhode Island Testimony

"I pronounce it the best I have ever used. Please send me two (2) dozen of the large bottles."—J. N. Pearce, Providence, R. I.

From Afar Delaware

"I have used your Liver and Kidney medicine for indigestion and feel that it did me lots of good. It is safe, pleasant and sure laxative, and I get quick relief from it, and commend it to all my friends."—Edward H. Beck, Middleton, Delaware.

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