

COUNTY CORRESPONDENCE.

NEWSY LETTERS FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENTS.

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

ACTON.

Stateburg, May 11.—Mr. R. M. Jenkins, Jr., of the G. S. M. A. spent Saturday and Sunday at his home in St. Charles.

Miss Janie Nelson has been visiting the Frasers at "Cherry Vale."

Miss Margaret Brearley, of the Sumter Memorial Academy spent the week-end at the home of her schoolmate, Miss Helena Weinberg, in Wedgefield.

Miss Lottie Nelson has returned to the neighborhood, after a very pleasant visit to her sister, Mrs. F. H. McLeod, in Florence.

Mr. Yeardon Pitts, of the G. S. M. A. spent Saturday and Sunday at his home near Sumter.

Mr. R. M. Canteay attended the music festival in Columbia last week.

Memorial Day was observed by the people of our community on Tuesday afternoon, (May 10th), at the cemetery of the Episcopal Church. There was a good attendance and much interest was shown in the enjoyable programme that was carried out.

Mr. Thomas Moore, a student of the G. S. M. A. spent the week-end at his home in Horatio.

On last Saturday at Halle's Creek, the young men of Hagood gave a picnic in honor of the Misses Dargan. A large crowd was present and a most bountiful, and delighted dinner was served and the whole day, in every detail, was a great success.

SMITHVILLE.

Smithville, May 12.—No wonder we have poor gardens, corn and cotton. If we have a rain of any consequence comes these hot dry winds that dry and wither everything it touches. We are having a dry storm this afternoon. Perfect clouds of dust and sand are flying everywhere. Cotton will look bad sure enough after such a storm of sand. Farmers in this section are not cotton crazy by any means and if the government and bears join hands there will be more attention given home products. They have begun to realize that cotton can't be marketed successfully against such high handed treachery and base opposition. Some day there will be a mighty conflict between labor and capital and what then?

Mrs. T. C. Robertson has returned home after spending several days very pleasantly with friends at Brogdon, Lamar and McColl.

Messrs. T. M. Bradley and S. M. Ross, of Braun, were in Camden Friday.

Mr. W. T. Hawkins, of Pisgah, was in Camden Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. W. N. Dunlap were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. T. S. Dunlap on last Sunday. He has built quite a neat and attractive little residence on his farm near Marshalls.

Mr. D. J. Hatfield and family visited friends at Smithville on last Sunday.

Mrs. B. M. Robertson has returned home after spending a few days with Mrs. Sallie Robertson.

Mother's Day was observed at Pisgah on last Sunday.

Miss Jessie Brown sang a lovely little song in behalf of mothers. She was accompanied by several little girls. Miss Jessie has a beautiful voice and her music was perfect on last Sunday. So touching and pathetically rendered.

Mr. Cole's address was perfectly grand. But then we are not surprised. He is ever ready when called on and gives you something worth listening to.

CONCORD.

Concord, May 12.—The recent copious showers are improving the crops and gardening. But some cotton in this section looks very disheartening, it seems to be dying in spots. The hail last Sunday afternoon was heavier in the lower country than it was here.

Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Smith, of St. Charles, spent last Friday and Saturday with Mrs. Smith's parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Newman, of this place.

Mr. Sam Jones, of Salem, is spending a few days with his nephew, Mr. W. J. Jones, of Concord.

Messrs. D. H. Newman and Clarence Jones paid a very pleasant visit with friends at Lynchburg last week.

A few farmers from here attended the union picnic at Elliotts last Friday.

Miss Mamie Kinney is spending a few weeks with her brother, Mr. Ned Kinney, of Bishopville, S. C.

STATEBURG MEMORIAL EXERCISES.

Universal Peace the Theme at Stateburg—The South Furnished the Only Possible Government Basis For a Federation of the World.

Stateburg, May 10.—The second observance of Memorial Day at Stateburg was remarkably well attended and those gathered showed a great

deal of interest in the exercises. The General Sumter Memorial Academy was out in full force, the faculty and pupils taking an active part in the exercises of the day. The ladies had asked Col. Dargan to preside and carry out the exercises with suitable explanatory words, as the several parts were announced. Rev. W. H. Barnwell was called on to open with prayer and this was done in brief, appropriate words. It was then explained that the 10th of May had been selected as Memorial Day, because it was the day on which Gen. Stonewall Jackson died and this was the 47th anniversary of this sad occurrence and that the next number on the programme would be the song which Mrs. Margaret J. Preston composed in memory of the last words of Gen. Jackson, "Let Us Pass Over the River and Rest Under the Shade of the Trees." The song was beautifully sung by the pupils and faculty of the General Sumter Memorial Academy.

A word was then spoken in reference to the meaning of flags, how they are meant to embody and symbolize the nation to which they belong and how Father Ryan had so impressively expressed our love of the Confederate flag, which is "wreathed around with glory and will live in song and story and go sounding down the ages, furl its folds though now we must." This poem was finely recited by Miss Gena Dargan, the teacher of elocution in the Academy. Col. Dargan then asked the people if it were not time to use these memorial occasions to incite the younger generations to the performance of the duties of their day, using the memories of the past devoted service of the soldiers of the Confederacy as an inspiration to the performance of the tasks that time has brought to their hands and then said that the committee of arrangements had decided to utilize this occasion to impress the importance of the great peace movement of the hour and the credit that we would bring to ourselves in the future, if we would perform our parts in this momentous undertaking of doing away with war in the settlement of national differences and disputes. He declared that we could certainly use the inspiring and enlightening words of our great leaders in Southern life, in this new task of public service, and he would call upon the President of the Poinsett Literary Society to read a few words from the speech made in the United States senate by John C. Calhoun in 1846. That Mr. Calhoun was as much recognized as a prominent leader in Southern statesmanship, as Robert E. Lee was in the line of military service. That this reading by the President of the Poinsett Literary Society would have an added interest as he was standing almost at the foot of the grave of Joel R. Poinsett, a compatriot of Mr. Calhoun, a co-temporary and an admired and respected leader in the ac-

tivities of his day. This reading was done by Mr. Oliver Plowden of the senior class, in admirable manner, an extract being in the following words: "But I am opposed to war, not simply on the patriotic ground of a citizen looking to the freedom and prosperity of his own country, but on still broader grounds, as a friend of improvement, civilization and progress. "If we should now succeed in setting the example of free trade between England and the United States, it would force all other civilized countries to follow it in the end, and the consequence would be to diffuse a prosperity greater and more universal than can be well conceived, and to unite by bonds of mutual interest the people of all countries. But in advocating the cause of free trade, I am actuated not less by the political consequences likely to flow from it than the advantages to be derived from it in an economical point of view. I regard it in the dispensation of Providence as one of the great means of ushering in the happy period foretold by inspired prophets and poets when war shall be no more. "I am finally opposed to war, because peace—peace is pre-eminently our policy."

Mr. R. M. Jenkins, President of the Ravenel Literary Society was then called on to read an extract from a letter to Gen. Robert E. Lee written in 1866, expressive of his great desire that war should not be resorted to by the nations in the future. In this extract, so well presented, were the following words: "But what a cruel thing is war to separate and destroy families and friends and mar the purest joys and happiness God has granted us in this world: to fill our hearts with hatred instead of love for our neighbors and to devastate the fair face of this beautiful world. I pray that on this beautiful day (Sunday) when only peace and good will are preached to mankind better thoughts may fill the hearts and hasten the day when war with its sorrows and suffering shall cease."

Col. Dargan then said these readings are convincing proofs of how the South stands on the peace question and has long stood. These undisputed representatives of the South in the two great lines of effort, the military and the law-making power, leave nothing to be desired in the way of guidance for the Southern people in the present hour. It is known to you, he said, that an ex-President of the United States, Mr. Roosevelt, is traveling over Europe and arranging as he goes, from nation to nation, to have a systematic and uniform disarmament of all nations in the near future, on land and sea, and is claiming justly and admittedly that the American people are the best prepared to enter upon this federation of the world, because of their experiences in living under a Federal sys-

tem of independent States for the last hundred years and more and it must be a profound satisfaction to Mr. Roosevelt to know that he is a half Southerner—and that on his material side there were furnished to the South some of her most renowned leaders; because the instrument known as the constitution of the United States, and which he is using with such effectiveness to bring about this larger federation, is a Southern production, for it is conceded to be so nearly this, as to make any qualifications of the statement unnecessary. If any intelligent person has ever raised his voice to say that any "plan" other than that of Virginia, through James Madison, or of South Carolina, through Charles Pinckney, has entered largely into the Constitution, we have never heard of it. Some say that Madison is the "Father of the Constitution," and some think, as I certainly do, and as you all do, in all probability, that Charles Pinckney's plan is practically the Constitution of the United States today. However, it is a Southern production indisputably and right proudly are we watching our half-Southern President using it as an agency to effect what our great Calhoun long ago said it would bring about, if its provisions were properly respected. In fact the South, so far as this instrument goes, and the later and better instrument, the Confederate Constitution, is leading the world today in the grandest manner in which it has ever been led and toward achievements most in accord with the great teachings of the noblest philosophy and religion of all times. Alexander the Great, three hundred years before the Christian era, it is true, tried to unify the world under an absolute despotism, that he might have universal peace and an exchange of the products of the various kinds, both of matter and mind, that the world possessed. The flora and fauna were to be exchanged between Asia, Africa and Europe and all that was best in each was to be bestowed on all. This was a failure, because the vital principles of local self-government was denied and it remained for America to form the only possible basis for a federation of the world and it is coming to light that the Confederate Constitution will be the real basis, instead of the United States Constitution, because it is such a marked improvement, though both came from the same—the Southern brain—the last with such amendments as a hundred years of experience had made desirable to the intelligent study and observation of the workings of the first. We congratulate our friends of the North, that they exhibited through one of their most intelligent journals, an appreciation of the Confederate Constitution, a few days after it was published and did this permit me I would quote in extent from the "New York Herald" of March 16th, 1861, in which the Con-

federate Constitution appeared in full and on the 19th of the month appeared editorial recommendations that it be accepted as a basis of peaceful reunion between the two sections, declaring that "the new Southern Constitution is the Constitution of the United States with various modifications and some very important and most desirable improvements, with certain stringent provisions, which it would be extremely difficult" the Journal feared, "to persuade our Northern fishermen, manufacturers and lobby-corruptionists to swallow, even to re-establish the Union" and then it declares that "President Lincoln should call Congress together and lay before it this new Constitution of the seceded States and the peace proposition of their treaty commissioners and perhaps there may be wisdom enough in the two Houses to provide the ways and means for peace and the purification of the Government at Washington, even if there be no way to absorb the Government at Montgomery, Alabama, and goes on to say that "if these excellent Constitutional amendments in the Confederate instrument had been enforced, in Washington during the last ten years they would have prevented the wasteful squandering, in swindling lobby jobs, contracts, etc., from three to five hundred millions of dollars of public money and public property that have been squandered to the enriching of lobby-jobbers and the general demoralization of our Northern political parties and politicians, to the lowest level of moral debasement and corruption."

This is indeed a handsome tribute from a Northern source at the approach of the conflict between the sections, forty-nine years ago, which is of exceeding value to us today, if it be properly utilized to bring about a study of the Confederate Constitution, as the best possible basis of that federation of the world of which Tennyson so beautifully prophesied: "When the war-drums throb'd no longer, And the battle-flags be fur'd In the Parliament of man, the Federation of the world."

A peace song was then sung, copies being distributed through the crowd that they might follow the students of the Academy, who know its every word by heart, as they have been singing it for years. The graves were decorated and the crowd dispersed going to their home feeling that the memorial hour had been employed to great profit at Stateburg.

that the Supreme Court will pass upon the constitutionality of the Cotton Tare Act, which was acted at the last session of the legislature. A warrant has been issued against W. G. Mullins, a cotton buyer of this city, charging him with violation of the Act. It is thought that this is purely a test case. The suit is of vital importance to all cotton farmers. "Section 1. That from and after the approval of this Act it shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation engaged in the business of buying cotton in this State as principal or agent to deduct any sum for bagging and ties from the weight or price of any bale of cotton when the weight of the bagging and ties does not exceed 6 per cent of the gross weight of such bale of cotton. "In the event that the weight of the bagging and ties exceeds 6 per cent of the gross weight of such bales of cotton only the excess over the said 6 per cent may be deducted. "Section 2. For each and every violation of this Act the offender shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined in the sum of not less than \$5 nor more than \$25, or imprisonment not less than ten days nor more than thirty days. Provided, this Act shall not apply to what in trade is known as round bales and bales of cotton which weigh less than 300 pounds." The Act was approved on February 25, of this year. When this Act came before the legislature there were representatives before the committees of the House and Senate on the part of the farmers in the State. It was urged that the farmers were being done an injustice by the deduction for tare on cotton. The Liverpool cotton men were assailed in speeches on the floor of the Senate, where the matter created considerable discussion. Chairman Carpenter, of the Senate committee on agriculture, made the statement that the farmers wanted this bill passed and begged the Senate not to throw this Act out. Col. Alan Johnstone, the Senator from Newberry, was another who urged its passage. After considerable debate in the closing days of the session, and with some amendments, the bill was passed in substance.

Corn Club Meeting! The Corn Club of Sumter County will hold its next meeting at the Court House on May 21st, at 12 o'clock. All members are requested to attend. J. SINGLETON DWIGHT, President. Stateburg, May 12, 1910. Age is a matter of feeling, not of years. Columbia, May 11.—It is probable

"VISITOR." TO TEST "COTTON TARE" ACT. Case Against Columbia Buyer May be Heard by Supreme Court.

Columbia, May 11.—It is probable

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2 Pcs.-- Our 36 in. Black Taffeta Silk. The quality usually sold at \$1.25 yd. While we have these in stock we make a Special Price of... ==89c Yd.

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