

COUNTY CORRESPONDENCE.

NEWSY LETTERS FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENTS.

Some 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, July 4.—Miss Anne M. Barnwell, of Wilmington, N. C., is on a short visit to her parents, Rev. and Mrs. W. H. Barnwell.

Mrs. C. L. Boyte, after a pleasant visit to her mother, Mrs. W. R. Flud, has returned to her home in Hendersonville, N. C.

Mr. Frank P. Burgess has lately returned, after a stay of several days with his sister, Mrs. James G. Simons, at Eutawville.

Mr. W. H. Barnwell is spending a few days at "The Rectory."

Mr. Alex Norris, of Columbia, is the guest of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Norris.

Mr. Frank P. Burgess spent Friday in Manning.

Mr. Frank B. Harris, of Thomasville, Ga., is expected here tonight. While in the neighborhood, he will be the guest of Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Holmes.

Mr. Barnwell, of Greenville, is spending a few days with Rev. and Mrs. W. H. Barnwell.

Mrs. A. M. Lee, of Charleston, has been the guest of Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Richardson, Jr., for several days during the past week.

Miss Sarah Moore was in Sumter on Friday.

Mr. Scott, who has been spending some time with Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Norris, has returned to his home at Eastover.

Mr. Murray Moore, of Statesville, N. C., has been on a visit to his bother, Mr. Screven Moore.

The daily showers continue with unabated zeal and though not as copious as those of the preceding weeks, are quite enough to interfere seriously with farm work. This is especially unfortunate just now, as the farmers are trying to "lay by" their crops in good shape and need dry weather, and plenty of sunshine to enable them to do it.

HAGOOD.

Hagood, July 5.—Rains have been very frequent in this section and farmers seem very much worried about their crops, the cotton being small for this season of the year.

Several families are beginning to go away for the summer months.

Mrs. T. P. Sanders and children are at Sullivan's Island, where they have a cottage for a month.

Mr. and Mrs. Crawford Sanders are occupying their cottage at Providence Springs.

The Misses Ellerbe will leave in a few days for Waynesville, N. C., where they will spend the summer.

Mrs. Julian Sanders has as her guests, her sister, Miss Agnes Becker, of Spartanburg, and Misses Willie and Lillian Delgar, of Sumter.

Mrs. Sanders entertained delightfully at cards, complimentary to these young ladies, on Tuesday of last week.

Miss Sarah Sanders also entertained Mrs. Julian Sanders' guests at cards last Monday afternoon.

Misses Helena Weinberg and Ida Dwight, of Wedgefield, who have been visiting Miss Mollie Ellerbe, have returned home.

Mrs. Alva Mellett is in Wedgefield for the Mellett-McMillan wedding tonight.

WEDGEFIELD.

Wedgefield, July 6.—The Fourth was a day of disappointment to our people from a weather standpoint.

On account of the picnic gotten up by the Boys' Corn Club, and ball game arranged between Wedgefield and St. Charles, everybody looked forward with a great deal of pleasure to the day.

After the address by Mr. Singleton Dwight, Messrs. H. L. Scarborough, S. D. Cain and J. Frank Williams, who has charge of the demonstration work at the G. S. M. A., preparations were made for dinner, and before the large crowd present had fully satisfied the inner man, one of the hardest rains of the season came up without much warning, and everybody had to seek shelter.

After the ground dried off the ball game commenced, and before five innings had been played, a second rain came up. The score was 5 to 2 in favor of Wedgefield.

It is hoped that the boys will try it over again at some future date, when possibly the elements will not weep

so, and our farming friends are in a better mood to entertain.

The continued rains for the past month have made it impossible to clean the crops of grass.

Miss Queenie Mobley, of Columbia, is spending some time with Mrs. R. Walker Buce.

Mr. L. T. Billups and Misses Athena and Julia Mellett, of Sumterton; Misses Mary and Alice Gasque, and Dr. E. F. Mason, of Mullins, were among those who came over to attend the Mellett-McMillan wedding.

Miss Sude Wright is visiting relatives at Rocky Mount, N. C.

Mr. A. E. Aycock is exhibiting a prize tomato grown in his garden. It weighs two and a half pounds.

EGYPT.

Egypt, July 7.—We are having beautiful weather for the grass now, and crops are growing rapidly. The corn is fine and bids fair to make a good crop; the cotton in places is very good.

Rev. R. E. Sharp spent yesterday in Egypt.

The ladies of St. John's church are serving ice cream every second and fourth Saturday afternoon, proceeds to furnish the new church.

Miss Louise Simmons, of Sumterton, is visiting Mrs. W. A. White, of this place.

Mr. J. R. McLeod spent Saturday in Camden.

The Fourth passed off quietly at this place.

The negroes gave a baseball picnic, and during the day a fight occurred which gave work to Judge Munterlyn. Willie Young was sent up for 60 days and James Green for 80. The county needs the labor as the roads are in terrible condition.

The new church at Spring Hill is being rapidly finished.

The health is unusually good. No sickness in Egypt.

On Saturday afternoon, July 30, there will be an ice cream festival at the home of Mrs. F. G. Peebles, proceeds for the new church. Public cordially invited.

ROCKY BLUFF.

Rocky Bluff, July 7.—What a time our farmers are having, almost before the land gets dry enough to plow we have more rain, but then we can't complain, God's will must be done.

Last week seems to have been very unfortunate for the chicken eaters or for those that steal. On Sunday Mr. J. M. Fogle killed a very large chicken snake in his chicken house, on Thursday Mrs. J. J. Hatfield heard the chickens making such a fuss in the poultry yard that she ran out to see what was the matter and found a large snake in one of the coops. She called in help and they succeeded in killing it and it measured six feet one inch; and on Thursday night something caught one of Mr. Josey's chickens and they set a trap expecting to catch a dog, but instead caught a large owl.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Broadway, of Oswego, visited Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Barfield Saturday.

Mr. Johnson White and family spent from Saturday night until Monday morning at Mr. Bennie Michels, and Monday and Monday night at Mr. J. K. White's.

Mr. and Mrs. Fogle went to Sumter to preaching Sunday morning.

Mr. J. J. Hatfield and family spent Sunday at Mr. W. F. Baker's.

Mr. and Mrs. Josey spent Sunday afternoon with Mr. and Mrs. J. L. McLeod.

Mr. and Mrs. Fogle and son spent Sunday afternoon with Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Wells.

Mr. Eugene Josey visited relatives at Concord Sunday.

Mrs. R. R. Ardis spent Sunday and Monday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Geddings at Wedgefield.

Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Barfield and little daughter spent Monday in Sumter.

Mrs. J. M. Fogle spent Monday with Mrs. Wells.

Mrs. W. F. Baker and children spent Monday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Hatfield.

Mr. W. R. Wells and son Richard, went to the picnic at Wedgefield Monday.

Mr. J. M. Fogle and little son James attended the picnic of the K. of P. at Poca Springs.

Mr. Fred Geddings, of Wedgefield, is visiting his sister, Mrs. R. R. Ardis.

REMBERT.

Rembert, July 6.—The many friends of Hon. A. K. Sanders are glad to know he will make the race for State Senator this year. He is no stranger to the people of Sumter County. He is a cultured gentleman, a man of marked executive ability, which shows his fitness for the management of the affairs of all business pertaining to the interest of all classes throughout the entire county. He is a logical man, a friend to the poor, and a farmer's friend, and I trust the voters of Sumter County will support him this year, as it is time now for a change.

Cotton has improved some and is growing nicely. Still our crops here are three weeks late. Very lit-

tle grass, and with good seasons from now on, we will yet come to the front.

Corn is not so good, badly spotted. Mr. H. C. McLeod has the finest I have seen this year.

HOW TO AVOID FIRE.

A Few "Don'ts" To Prevent Catastrophes.

From Good Housekeeping.

Attics and closets are the breeding places of many fires. An attic is generally the asylum for all sorts of inflammable material, and as it never is properly ventilated it becomes a fire incubator when the summer sun strikes the roof.

Among the odds and ends that make up the contents of the average attic are old varnished furniture, dry as tinder; rags, many of them greasy and ripe for spontaneous combustion, painting oils, liable to take fire when the sun beats on the roof; broken toys and old cloths, the pockets of which may contain matches. Attics and garrets often have a temperature of 110 degrees Fahrenheit, which is the ignition point for matches.

Floor sweepings under furniture or in a closet are liable to take fire spontaneously or from a flying match head. Sawdust used in sweeping floors, if left in a corner where there is no current of air to carry off the heat it generates, is very likely to become hot enough to light itself.

A preparation advertised for sweeping carpets is composed of sawdust, sand and a mineral oil to give it color, together with tincture of benzine to give it odor. Fires have frequently started spontaneously from heaps of this material. Greasy overalls kept in a light wardrobe have been known to ignite.

The most dangerous closet is that under a stairway, because inflammable materials may hide there, and if a fire starts in it the best avenue of escape from the upper stories is cut off.

Furnace ashes in the cellar have in them so much fine coal and litter that they are liable to spontaneous combustion if an open window permits them to get wet by a rainstorm. The fine coal from the winter's supply may ignite if wet.

Playing with the fire and matches by children is a prolific source of fires in residences.

One's ability to extinguish a starting fire depends on intelligence and self-control. If the blaze is just starting throw water on the burning material, not on the blaze. One bucket of water will do more good if thrown on by handfuls or with a broom than if dashed on at once. A small fire may be smothered with a rug or blanket, or beaten out with a wet broom.

If you cannot put out the fire in a minute then give an alarm at once. Do not leave a door open when you run out to give an alarm. If the doors and windows are closed when a fire starts you may be able to get the firemen there in time to put it out while it is in only one room. The fire soon consumes all the oxygen in a closed room and may die out if it gets no fresh air.

Decline of Lying.

(From the Louisville Courier-Journal.)

Nowadays the line is fairly well drawn between fact and fiction, because it has to be. In the good old days when there were no telegraph, and when transportation facilities were indifferent, the credulity of the audience could be safely trusted to anyone with a penchant for picturesque narration. Marco Polo adhered to the truth pretty closely because he actually saw more surprising things than even the vivid imagination of an untraveled man could picture, but many invented interesting detail, feeling sure that their readers or hearers would not find out for themselves the falsity of their narratives. A modern explorer in Africa set it down in his book that the gorillas carried torches to guide them when they went on midnight foraging expeditions, and libraries are full of books with yellow leaves that show a similar carelessness of truth based upon a similar feeling of security from exposure. Nowadays everybody reads and many persons travel, and the monumental liar cannot hold an audience even at a crossroads' store. It has become dangerous to describe the superior ragout to be had in an out-of-the-way restaurant in Paris, a roast to be found in a certain inn of ancient appearance in London, or the blood pudding that one gets in a minor German city. One must stick to the verities in anticipation of successful contradiction at once or in future through the medium of a souvenir postcard.

Do you need printing of any description? Come to headquarters—Osteen Publishing Co. For nearly fifty years Osteen and good printing have meant the same thing in Sumter.

ALL AT COST BIG Everything At Cost
COST SALE

Beginning Monday, July the 11th. For Four Days

About \$30,000 WORTH OF Dry Goods, Notions, Shoes, Matting, Rugs, Trunks, House Furnishings, Etc. ALL AT COST Nothing Charged at Sale Price.

SHAW & McCOLLUM MER. CO. 13 S. Main St. Phone 68 Sumter, S. C.

ON ASTRONOMY.

By Bill Nye.

There is much in the great field of astronomy that is discouraging to the savant who hasn't the time nor means to rummage around through the heavens. At times I am almost hopeless, and feel like saying to the great yearning, hungry world: "Gropo on forever. Do not ask me for another scientific fact. Find it out for yourself. Hunt up your own new laid planets, and let me have a rest. Never ask me again to sit up at night and take care of a new-born world, while you lie in bed and reck not."

I get no salary for examining the trackless void night after night when I ought to be in bed. I sacrifice my health in order that the public may know at once of the presence of a red hot comet, fresh from the factory. And yet what thanks do I get?

Then, again, you take a certain style of star, which you learn from Professor Simon Newcomb is such a distance that it takes 50,000 years for its light to reach Boston. Now we will suppose that after looking over the large stock of new and second-hand stars, and after examining the spring catalogue and price list, I decide that any one of the smaller size will do me, and I buy it. How do I know that it was there when I bought it? Its cold and silent rays may have ceased 49,000 years before I was born and the intelligence be still on the way. There is too much margin between sale and delivery. Every now and then a new astronomer comes to me and says: "Professor, I have discovered another new star and intend to file it. Found it last night about a mile and a half south of zenith, running loose. Haven't heard of anybody who has lost a star of the fifth magnitude, about thirteen hands high, with light mane and tail, have you?" Now how do I know that he has discovered a brand new star? How can I discover whether he is playing an old thread-ber star on me for a new one?

We are told that there has been no perceptible growth or decay in the star business since man began to roam around through space, in his mind, and make figures on the barn door with red chalk, showing the celestial time table.

No serious accidents have occurred in the starry heavens since I began to observe and study their habits. Not a star has waxed, not a star has waned, to my knowledge. Not a planet has season-cracked or shown any

of the injurious effects of our rigorous climates. Not a star has ripened prematurely or fallen off the trees. The varnish on the very oldest stars I find on close and critical examination to be in splendid condition. They will no doubt wear as long as we need them, and wink on long after we have ceased to wink back.

In 1860 there appeared suddenly in the northern crown a star of about the third magnitude and worth at least \$250. It was generally conceded by astronomers that this was a brand new star that had never been used, but upon consulting Argelande's star catalogue and price list it was found that it was not a new star at all, but an old faded star of the ninth magnitude, with the front breadths turned wrong side out, and trimmed with moonlight along the seams. After a few days of phenomenal brightness it gently ceased to draw a salary as a star of the third magnitude, and walked home with an Uncle Tom's Cabin Company.

It is such things as this that make the life of an astronomer one of constant and discouraging toil. I have long contemplated, as I say, the advisability of retiring from the field of science and allowing others to light the northern lights, skim the milky way and do other celestial chores. I would do it myself cheerfully if my health would permit, but for years I have realized, and so has my wife, that my duties as an astronomer kept me up too much at night, and my wife is certainly right about it, when she says if I insist in scanning the heavens night after night, coming home late with the cork out of my telescope and my eyes red and swollen with these exhausting night vigils, I will be cut down in my prime. So I am liable to abandon the great labor to which I have intended to devote my life, my dazzling genius and my princely income. I hope that other savants will spare me the pain of another refusal, for my mind is fully made up that unless another skimmist is at once secured, the milky way will henceforth remain unshaken.

The Wide, Wide World.

An old dweller in the hills of Arkansas who had lived all his life in one township, recently took a trip to Little Rock, forty miles away, and was full of his subject on his return. "By ding," said he, in voicing his impressions, "if this hyar world's as big crossways as hit is f'm hyar to Little Rock hits shore a whopper!" —Success.

LINEMAN ELECTROCUTED.

B. C. Graves Killed in Columbia Today.

Columbia, July 7.—Lineman B. C. Graves, of the Bell Telephone Company, who came here four months ago from Harriman Junction, Tennessee, was electrocuted today by coming in contact with an arc lighting circuit. He was twenty-eight years old and unmarried.

REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK, OF SUMTER.

At Sumter, in the State of South Carolina, at the close of business, June 30th, 1910.

RESOURCES.	
Loans and discounts,	\$478,784 80
Overdrafts, secured and unsecured,	5,276 38
U. S. Bonds to secure circulation,	25,000 00
Premiums on U. S. Bonds, Bonds, securities, etc.,	500 00
Banking house, furniture and fixtures,	8,000 00
Other Real Estate Owned	3,000 00
Due from National Banks (not reserve agents),	3,499 06
Due from State and Private Banks and Bankers, Trust Companies, and Savings Banks,	8,178 13
Due from approved reserve agents,	128 52
Checks and other cash items,	11,692 91
Notes of other National Banks,	2,633 35
Fractional paper currency, nickels and cents,	1,830 00
Lawful Money Reserve in Bank, viz:	1,225 98
Specie,	16,360 30
Redemption Fund with U. S. Treasurer, (5 per ct. of circulation,)	1,250 00
Total,	\$562,359 43
LIABILITIES.	
Capital stock paid in,	\$100,000 00
Surplus fund,	50,000 00
Undivided profits, less expenses and taxes paid,	35,603 86
National Bank notes outstanding,	25,000 00
Due to Other National Banks,	1,206 86
Due to State and Private Banks and Bankers	3,704 41
Dividends Unpaid,	4,000 00
Individual deposits subject to check,	342,844 30
Total	\$562,359 43

State of South Carolina, }
County of Sumter, }
I, J. L. McCALLUM, Cashier of the above named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.
J. L. McCALLUM, Cashier.
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 7th day of July 1910.
GEO. L. RICKER, Notary Public.

Correct—Attest:
NEILL O'DONNELL, }
R. D. LEE, } Directors.
GEO. D. SHORE, }