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The Sumter Watchman was founded in 1850 and the True Southron in 1864. 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.

When death laid his finger on the lips of G. H. Charles and sealed them in eternal silence, the tongues of heretofore meek and silent grafters were loosened and they have become as noisy and bold as roaring lions.

If Col. Felder can goad Gov. Blease into the courts as the prosecutor in a libel suit there will be interesting revelations that cannot be brushed aside with an airy wave of the hand. Col. Felder either has the proof on the Governor and knows that the latter dares not risk an airing of the dispensary graft scandal in the courts, or is playing a bold hand to bluff those who began the attack on him.

Anent the report that Maj. John Black could not raise the \$2,000 fine, the inquiry, "what did he do with it?" is pertinent. The trial at Chester revealed where he got it.

Most men would be ashamed to admit having so many friends in the penitentiary that need standing by.

The Blease-Felder controversy is rather spicy reading, but who is qualified to say how much truth there is in any or all of the statements by either party? The general public—those who have not had the privilege of a peep behind the scenes—are very much perplexed to know what to believe. There is a general impression that the wind-up commission was well advised when Col. Felder was employed to catch the grafters and force the whiskey houses to disgorge, but as to his general character and the immaculateness of his reputation most people have not a very clear idea. Not a few people believe that if Col. Felder and Gov. Blease, aided by Hub Eavns, tell all they know about each other and the dispensary it will be a messy and stenchful proceeding.

THE COCA-COLA CASE.

Chattanooga, Tenn., March 27.—The testimony of well known medical and scientific writers contrary to statements contained in their own works, was a feature of today's proceedings in the trial of the United States against the Coca-Cola Company. Dr. I. C. Witthaus, professor of chemistry and toxicology, New York, who was on the stand, continuing his testimony begun Saturday had stated that caffeine, one of the alleged ingredients of coca-cola, was not a poison. He was confronted by his own book in which he had written that caffeine was a poison. He was considerably confused and said that he had read the statements in some other work and had copied it in his own book, but had forgotten it.

Jos. C. Wood, professor of medicine in the Philadelphia Therapeutic College, had also written a book in which he had stated that caffeine was a powerful muscle poison. He stated on the stand today that he had experimented with caffeine on the muscles of frogs and that in one case poison was placed in the muscles of a frog.

He stated that caffeine was not a muscle poison, and when the passage in his own work was read, said with Mr. Witthaus, that he had copied them there from some other work. He then admitted that not everything in his book was true. It is also stated in his book that caffeine stimulates the kidneys to great activity, and the work also cites cases of caffeine poisoning.

Dr. John Marshall, professor of chemistry and toxicology of the University of Pennsylvania, declared that his last book did not treat caffeine as a poison, and cited several of these, and also cited several cases of caffeine poisoning. Dr. Marshall finally admitted that he was wrong in his statement.

Dr. Charles Chandler, professor of chemistry, Columbia University, stated positively that caffeine was not a poison. He had analyzed coca-cola and found it to contain 1-1-4 grains of caffeine to each ounce of syrup. He declared it was not harmful and would not injure health.

REFUSES TO APPOINT MOORE.

GOVERNOR SAYS HE WILL SEE SPECIAL COURTS ABOLISHED FIRST.

Hamblin Anxious to Have Court and for This Reason He Suggested Other Names.
Columbia, March 28.—Gov. Blease said yesterday that he would never appoint Ernest Moore as special judge to any court in the State. He said that he would see all special courts abolished before he would commission Mr. Moore.

He made these statements in reply to a question as to whether he would commission a special judge for the Union county court scheduled to open yesterday.

"They can not threaten me," he said, referring to the letter of Mr. Moore to R. E. Wylie, in which it was requested that Mr. Wylie secure a commission for Mr. Moore. He said that the Supreme Court had tried to tell him what to do and that the Supreme Court had nothing to do with him.

NO COURT HELD.

Hamblin Issues Statement Explaining His Position.

Union, March 27.—The special term of court ordered to convene here today for the purpose of hearing cases not requiring a jury failed to materialize on account of no judge being commissioned to hold it.

As has already been told in The State, a petition for this special term of court was circulated among the members of the bar here a few weeks ago by John K. Hamblin, a member of the Union bar. There never was a meeting of the local bar association called in this matter, but Mr. Hamblin secured the signature of a majority of the attorneys here to the petition asking for the special term and requesting that Ernest Moore of Lancaster, or some other man learned in the law, be appointed to hold this court.

There has been considerable correspondence and telephonic communication in regard to the appointment, Mr. Hamblin having it in charge, and being very anxious to get the appointment of a special judge made.

When the petition for the special term was forwarded to the chief justice of the Supreme Court, Mr. Hamblin notified Gov. Blease, who informed him in communications between them that he would not appoint Mr. Moore under any circumstances.

It was on this assurance from the governor that Mr. Hamblin wrote the letter relative to others who would be acceptable as special judge as printed in the State today.

In view of the statement made by the governor, and his giving out for publication the letters which appeared in today's State, Mr. Hamblin made the following statement this afternoon.

"Not caring to take part in a newspaper controversy, I have heretofore refused to have anything to say as to the appointment of a special judge to hold an extra term of court for the purpose of getting the equity docket of our court somewhat cleared. I now feel it my duty to make a statement of the facts in the matter in justice to myself and the members of the Union bar, with whom I have acted in this matter.

"The equity docket of Union county has for a long time been congested. Cases have been passed over at regular terms of court from time to time, until they have become almost an eye-sore to those of us who desire to see our causes speeded. It seems impossible to get relief through our regular terms of court, so the members of the bar agreed upon an extra term of court to relieve the congestion.

"It was further agreed that Ernest Moore of Lancaster should be recommended to hold this court, the recommendation being without dissent from any member of the bar approached on the matter.

"The petition for such court and the recommendation of Ernest Moore to hold such court were accordingly filed with the chief justice and the governor notified of the recommendation.

"The governor, in a conversation over the telephone and in reply to my letter informing him of the recommendation, stated most emphatically that he would not appoint Ernest Moore to hold the court, and mailed to me a list containing the names of those whom he would appoint. As stated, the need of the court was urgent, and while the members of the bar of this county signing the petition for a special term of court were unanimous in the recommendation of Mr. Moore, yet, in order to avoid conflict in the matter and obtain the court, we were willing to withdraw our recommendation of Mr. Moore and ask the appointment of some other suitable and available lawyer to whom there

TO GO AS FAST FREIGHT.

MAGAZINES WILL BE TRANSPORTED BY MAIL IN CARLOADS.

Postmaster General Takes Leaf Out of Publishers' Books, Adopting Their System of Shipping.

Washington, March 26.—Magazines and other bulky periodicals, after July 1, will be transported by the postoffice department in carloads as fast freight.

Postmaster General Hitchcock is developing as rapidly as possible a plan to utilize fast freight in the transportation of magazines when practicable and in instances where a saving to the government in transportation charges may be effected.

The quadrennial weighing of the mails in the third contract section of the country, comprising Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa and Missouri, is now in progress. By direction of the postmaster general, given in accordance with his plans for transporting periodical mail by fast freight, the weights of monthly and semi-monthly periodical mail matter originating in large publishing centres are being taken and kept separately from the weights of other mails. The great publishing centres are Boston, Springfield, Mass.; New York, Philadelphia and Chicago.

From July 1 next periodicals that can be transported in carload lots by fast freight through the section weighed without disadvantage in delivery will be carried in this manner and paid for at freight rates.

ENGINEER FREELAND HURT.

Engine Runs into Log Cart on Crossing Between Black River and St. Charles.

This morning Engineer Joe Freeland, of Orangeburg, but formerly of this city, had his ankle knocked out of place in jumping from his train when it ran into a log cart at a crossing between Black River and St. Charles. Mr. Freeland saw the cart when he was very close upon it and jammed on the brakes before he jumped, but the train was already so near that it was not prevented from running into the cart and knocking it off the track.

Very little of the accident could be learned, but it was stated this morning that the only damage done, besides the injury to Engineer Freeland, was the tearing off of the pilot of the engine and the demolition of the log cart.

Mr. Freeland completed his run to Sumter where he was taken from his train and carried to the hospital where his ankle was put in place and bandaged. He later left on the 11 o'clock train for his home in Orangeburg.

MUST REMAIN IN PRISON.

No Clemency Yet for Morse and Walsh, Says President.

Washington, March 27.—Executive clemency will not be extended at present to Charles W. Morse, the New York banker, and John R. Walsh, the Chicago banker, who are serving 15 and 5-year sentences, respectively, in Federal prisons, for the former at Atlanta and the latter at Leavenworth. It was learned today that the President will follow the recommendations of Attorney General Wickersham.

It is understood that the recommendations held that the ends of justice would be served by allowing these prisoners to complete their sentences.

An official statement was issued today declaring that Morse is in a critical condition.

It would be no objection. This I understood to be done, and the name of Mr. Moore to be withdrawn. However, as to the withdrawal, there seems to have been some misunderstanding between the chief justice and ourselves, which it is not necessary to state, as that misunderstanding does not enter into this controversy. The name of Mr. Moore was withdrawn for the reason, and only reason, that the governor notified me that he would not, under any circumstances, be appointed.

"My letter to the governor bearing date March 22, 1911, and published in the Columbia State of the 27th inst. was based upon the previous notification from Gov. Blease to me that he would not appoint Mr. Moore, which notification was given to me by way of reply to my letter bearing date of February 28, 1911, and also published in The State of the 27th inst.

"If Gov. Blease had published all of his letters to me and related our conversation over the telephone, it would have appeared, beyond any doubt, that the sole and only reason for Mr. Moore's not opening court at Union this morning is because Gov. Blease would not commission him under any circumstances. We would be glad to have Mr. Moore or some other judge to convene court at Union tomorrow, if we could get him."

HIS FRIENDS MAY USE PROBE.

THE OLD COMMISSION WELCOMES THIS WORK.

Bleese Vetoes Act Creating Special Committee for Dispensary Investigation.

Columbia, March 28.—"The new dispensary commission will do the work that the legislative investigation committee was to do and will save the State that much money."

Making this statement Gov. Blease vetoed the measure passed by the last general assembly providing for a commission to investigate the acts and affairs of the old State dispensary commission, which act was requested by the chief justice.

"I have turned over all papers in my possession to the new commission," said the governor, "with the instructions to investigate all of the affairs of the old State dispensary and those connected with the winding up of it. I instructed the members to spare no one.

"While the members of the new commission are all friends of mine and personal supporters, I have asked that they make a rigid investigation of all of my acts as State senator, private citizen and governor of the State. I want everything to come out.

"The new commission will subpoena T. B. Felder of Atlanta and require him to tell everything that he knows about my record as a member of the State senate, as governor and private citizen."

This is the way Gov. Blease commented upon the work of the new commission.

The members of the new dispensary commission which met yesterday in the office of Gov. Blease are: John V. Wallace, Charleston; Thomas P. Brantley, Orangeburg; Fred H. Dominick, Newberry; B. F. Kelly, Bishopville, and James Stackhouse, Marion.

These are the members that Gov. Blease has ordered to make an investigation of the affairs of the old State dispensary and pass sentence upon the old members of the commission.

Just when and where the work will commence has not been announced. The new commission held its first meeting yesterday, when an organization was perfected by the election of James Stackhouse as chairman, B. F. Kelly of Bishopville was elected secretary. The commission received all of the papers held by the old commission which was dismissed by the governor several days ago and will take charge of the affairs of the old State dispensary.

Gov. Blease said that he would turn all of his papers over to the commission to be used in the investigation. Several days ago the governor said that he had a "mountain of testimony" that he would produce at the proper time. He said that all of his evidence would be used by the new commission in its work.

The members of the old dispensary commission who are to be investigated by the new commission are: Dr. W. J. Murray, chairman, Columbia; John McSween, Timmonsville; A. N. Wood, Gaffney; J. Stee Brice, Yorkville, and Avery Patton, Greenville.

These members served the State of South Carolina for four years and saved from the wreck approximately \$500,000, which has been turned over to the State treasurer. They invited investigation.

Shortly after taking the oath of office Gov. Blease sent a message to the general assembly intimating "crookedness" on the part of the members of the dispensary commission. He requested that a commission be named to make a thorough investigation of all of the acts and affairs of the commission. Upon the request of the governor the general assembly passed an investigation act. There were to be three members from the Senate and three from the House. Before the Senate adjourned President Smith named Senators Carlisle of Spartanburg, Clifton of Sumter and Sullivan of Anderson as the committee from the Senate.

Mendel L. Smith, speaker of the House, refused to name his committee until the act had been approved. Gov. Blease upon hearing of the names of the Senate members refused for the time to sign the act. He gave as his reason, "Oh, that mine adversary would write a book," stating that all of the Senate members of the committee had written books about him. He then asked if any one thought that he would let men like the Senate's committee make an investigation of the dispensary commission and himself.

Several days ago Gov. Blease said that he was making a little investigation himself and that when he got through an investigation committee would not be needed. Following this he announced the alleged Felder series of letters, all of which have been printed.

T. B. Felder of Atlanta, on being notified of the action by the governor, wired that he deemed it inappropriate

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ate to make any statement at this time.

SUICIDE IN CHARLESTON.

The commission was in session several hours during the day. A conference was held with Attorney General Lyon and Dr. Murray the retiring chairman. Arrangements were made whereby the records held by the old commission will be turned over to the new body today.

Rufus L. Hasell Buys Revolver on Way to Office and Shoots Himself in Head.

Gov. Blease said yesterday that it was very probable that the new commission would hold an open court, summon witnesses and examine into the details of the work of the retiring commission.

Charleston, March 27.—Rufus L. Hasell, bookkeeper for Welch & Eason and a well known young man, committed suicide this morning at the office of the grocery company shortly after he had entered the place. He was the first, as usual, to enter the office on the second floor and a few minutes later the report of a pistol was heard, and upon a couple of the clerks rushing upstairs Mr. Hasell was found on the floor by his desk with an ugly wound in his right temple. He had placed the weapon close to his head and pulled the trigger.

"I want the commission," he said "to examine thoroughly into my record as a State senator. I never received any money from the Lanahan company while a member of the senate."

Hasell bought the pistol with which he committed the act on his way to his office, the weapon being a new one. Only one cartridge was used, and death was probably instantaneous. No cause was assigned for the deed, and in rendering its verdict the jury, which promptly viewed the body, declared that Hasell had killed himself while temporarily insane.

In The Police Court.

There was only one case heard in the police court on Saturday by Recorder Lee, but this one case helped the city treasurer to look a little more complacent.

Rebecca Spann was charged with assault and although she plead not guilty she was found guilty and sentenced to pay a fine of \$25 or to serve 30 days. She paid the fine rather than visit the jailor.

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Did you know it was a matter of record that more sickness and loss of stock last spring was occasioned by damaged corn and sour corn chaps than all other causes combined?
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