

**The Watchman and Southern.**

Entered at the Postoffice at Sumter, S. C., as Second Class Matter.

**PERSONAL.**

Miss Margie Pringle, of Charleston, is visiting Mrs. George D. Shore.

Mrs. R. T. Gillespie, of Rock Hill, is visiting Mrs. Rosa Jenkins.

Miss Lucy Williams, of Walterboro, who has been visiting her sister, Mrs. T. S. Doar, left Wednesday for Kingstree to visit friends.

Mr. Charlie Gaillard, of Dalzell, was in town Wednesday.

Mrs. R. M. Jenkins, of St. Charles, spent Tuesday in town.

Mrs. B. E. Bultman and Mrs. M. K. Burghart, have returned home, after a pleasant stay in Summerton as the guests of Mrs. Joel Benbow.

Mr. H. N. Spann, of Rocky Bluff, was in the city Wednesday.

Mr. Phillip Ard is taking in the Music Festival at Atlanta.

Miss Maude Aman, of Bishopville, passed through the city Tuesday afternoon on her way to Florence.

Mr. J. D. Stuckey, of Bishopville, was in the city Wednesday.

Dr. Joe Watson, of Columbia, after spending Tuesday in the city, went to Bennettsville Tuesday afternoon.

Mr. Edward Reams of Bishopville, passed through the city Tuesday evening on his way to Florence, where he was taking his wife to the hospital for treatment.

Mr. Jake Hill, of Bishopville, was in town Tuesday.

Mr. Harry Dickson, of Bishopville, was in the city Wednesday.

Messrs. C. K. Huff and Dave Witherspoon, Jr., of Camden, were in the city Wednesday.

Mr. John B. Miller and son, who have been visiting the family of Mr. E. F. Miller, has returned to Washington, D. C.

Mrs. O. E. Bostick and Miss Kathleen Bostick have gone to Charleston for a two weeks stay, during which time they will visit Magnolia Gardens.

Misses Mamie Edmunds and Cornelia McLaurin and Francisca Teicher have gone to Spartanburg to attend the Music Festival at that place.

Mr. R. M. Cooper, Jr., of Wisacky, was in the city Thursday to attend the baseball games.

Messrs. Rowland Heaton and William Reid, of Bishopville, were in the city Thursday.

**Kolb-Kolb.**

Mr. J. M. Kolb and Mrs. Ruth Kolb, both of Privateer, were married at the parsonage of the Bethel Baptist church at Privateer Wednesday afternoon by the Rev. William Haynsworth.

The newly married couple left shortly after the ceremony on the 6 o'clock train for a bridal trip.

**In The Police Court.**

There were only three cases to be heard by Recorder Lee in the Police Court Wednesday morning, when time came for the court to meet.

The cases that were heard were: George Elliott, riding a bicycle on forbidden sidewalk, \$1.00.

Hattie Drayton, cursing, discharged.

Blanche Wright, assault and battery, \$10.00 or 25 days.

**In The Magistrate's Court.**

The case of Joe Evans, colored, vs. W. B. Costin, white, came off in the Magistrate's court Tuesday afternoon, with R. D. Epps, Esq., representing the plaintiff and C. Capers Smith, Esq., the defendant.

The jury after hearing all of the testimony returned a verdict in favor of the plaintiff. The plaintiff sued for a horse, valued at \$75, and for \$25 damages.

**Has Corn Tasseling.**

Mr. A. H. Weeks a former policeman of this city, is perhaps the only man in the county who can say that he has corn tasseling and silking at this time. He is also the proud owner of a garden from which he is now reaping the reward of his labors in the shape of snap beans, which he has been eating for a week.

Samples of the corn, which were seen on the street Wednesday, looked like some variety of small mutton corn. The stalks were not more than three feet tall and were fairly well developed. The beans were full grown and larger than the usual variety.

**Ice Cream Festival.**

The ladies of Bethesda M. E. church, near Hagood, S. C., will have an ice cream and strawberry festival at the church on the afternoon of May 5th. The public is cordially invited.

**DR. SNYDER'S LECTURE.**

**Large Audience Hears Dr. Snyder on Shakespeare at Masonic Hall on Tuesday Night.**

A large audience gathered Tuesday night in the Masonic hall to hear the lecture delivered on Shakespeare by Dr. Henry N. Snyder, president of Wofford College. Dr. Snyder's lecture was listened to with great attention and was decidedly a treat to his audience.

Dr. Snyder began his lecture by saying that Prof. Edmunds had a reputation for always being on time and as he was fifteen minutes late on this occasion he thought that he ought to make some explanation. He said that the lateness was due to the fact that he could not get here any sooner as his train was that much late.

The lecture was complete in its outline of Shakespeare's work although it did not go into details and was replete with glimpses of humor here and there and there were pathetic touches that made it even more interesting. Dr. Snyder first took up the life of the man, Shakespeare, and went through it, here and there touching on all of the salient features that were known about him but not dwelling on any of them. He said that he was always reminded whenever anyone brought up the Baconian theory that the inventor of it died in a mad house.

Dr. Snyder told of how Shakespeare had the practical instinct that belongs, hereditarily, to his race. He was not only a writer of plays, but an actor, an owner in one theatre and stockholder in several others. Everything that he handled made money for him as he was a shrewd business man and a good investor, though a poor spender.

Dr. Snyder then went into a detail of the plans of several plays to show that all of the works of this master writer of plays were on a moral basis. He showed how the man Shakespeare was one of the most versatile of men and how he got his ideas for his plays out of the things that were of interest and that were being talked about during his time. He took in everything that came to his mental view, and his view was greater than that of most other men, and transmuted it from the dull lead to gold. He showed how all of the characters were as distinct as night and day, each of them having a personality different from everyone else.

Dr. Snyder showed that Shakespeare was the greatest of artists as a play writer, for there was nothing anywhere to show that he had allowed anything to prevent nature's laws from being played out as ordered by nature.

Dr. Snyder showed how impartial a writer Shakespeare was by his not letting his own instinct change the inevitable results that naturally followed their acts. He then went on to show how this impartiality was carried out in the plays of Romeo and Juliet and McBeth, and others.

Dr. Snyder was applauded several times during the course of his lecture and was given a full round of applause when his lecture came to an end. He was introduced by Prof. S. H. Edmunds of the city schools. After his lecture Prof. Edmunds stated how it was that Dr. Snyder had come here. The D. A. R. had asked him to come here for this purpose which Dr. Snyder had consented to do. As soon as the Ladies' Literary Society had found that Dr. Snyder was coming, they had asked that he also lecture to them on Shakespeare. As there was no residence in town sufficiently large to seat those that desired to hear Dr. Snyder when he had consented to give the lecture on Shakespeare, the ladies of the Eastern Star had kindly consented to give up their hall on that night so that it could be used for the lecture.

Dr. Henry Snyder, President of Wofford college, Wednesday delivered an address on "Citizenship" to the pupils of the high school. The lecture was made at the request of the D. A. R. belonging to the local chapter and was attentively listened to by both the pupils of the school and the citizens from town who attended the lecture.

Dr. Snyder laid stress upon the things that tended to make a good citizen: reliability, truthfulness, honor and steadfastness. He spoke for almost three quarters of an hour and throughout he held the attention of his audience. His address was interspersed with anecdotes and humorous sallies which kept his audience in a good humor and enlivened the more serious parts of his lecture.

At the close of his lecture he was given a vote of thanks by the high school students. The students of the high school opened the exercises by singing, and a song was sung after the address.

The position of Charwoman has been created at the postoffice building at a salary of \$300 per annum. Applicants for the position are to be called by the postoffice.

**PLAYS GAME ON FRIENDS.**

**Prominent Farmer of Dalzell Tries to Scare Thief in Original Way.**

A well known farmer in the Dalzell section played a practical joke on friends and foes alike last Saturday that for a while made everybody sit up and take notice, although it made them feel somewhat small, and their anger rose, when they finally found out the hoax that had been practised.

The poke, not intended as such, but was put up in dead earnest for a purpose by the perpetrator, a man who has always hitherto been looked upon as a very serious minded person and a man whose word could be relied upon. The joke consisted of a quart of blood, scattered about indiscriminately, five shots in the bushes, and the statement from the gentleman that someone had probably repented of stealing his corn. It came about somewhat in this way:

Every Friday afternoon one of the merchants of Dalzell, who also carries on a meat market, had his man to butcher a beef as was his custom so that he would have fresh beef on hand for sale on Saturday, which is generally a busy day. The well known farmer purchased a quart and a-half of beef blood from the butcher and took it on home with him. Nothing, however, was thought about the matter until later on. Late Saturday night as one of the neighbors of the well known farmer was returning from town and passing the house of the farmer he heard someone yell, "Halt, halt," and then he heard two shots fired. Again he heard the voice call, "Halt! Halt!" and then three more shots were fired. He at once jumped out of his buggy and ran in the direction of the shooting and found the prominent farmer coming out of the edge of the swamp just back of his barn, with a smoking gun in his hands. The neighbor asked what was the matter and was informed by the well known farmer that someone had been stealing corn from his barn for some time and that he (the prominent farmer) was tired of it and had watched for the thief and had caught him trying to get into the barn. He had called to him to halt, but the thief had refused and fled, whereupon the prominent farmer had fired at his legs and later, when he refused to stop when called on the second time to do so, had fired at his head. The prominent farmer had used a shotgun loaded with duck shot. It was too dark then to hunt in the bushes for the thief, whom the well known farmer stated that he had wounded, so it was not known whether he was armed or not, and the neighbor went on to town to tell the people there how the well known farmer had fired at and probably wounded a thief who had been stealing corn.

That was Saturday night. Early Sunday morning the neighbors from all around who had heard about the shooting went to the scene and found the bushes where the shooting had taken place bloody for a considerable distance into the swamp. The well known farmer joined in the search and stated that he was certain that he had badly wounded the thief and he would not be surprised if he was found dead somewhere in the swamp. The neighbors listened and then looked and asked innumerable questions and the well known farmer was obliged to tell about the shooting time and again. Much blood was found on the bushes but no wounded man was found among them. Down in the swamp the trail of blood grew less and gradually died out.

The shooting was discussed and talked about everywhere in the neighborhood and it was even suggested that the prominent farmer ought to be arrested, but as no complaint was made by any one against him, and as nothing except the blood was found and the reliable farmer's statement that he had shot a man was showed in his crime it was deemed best to wait for further developments. In the afternoon a still larger crowd turned out to view the blood and look for the body, it being the general consensus of opinion that the man must be dead somewhere in the swamp as so much blood was scattered about on the bushes. One of this crowd, who had visited the scene in the morning, ran around ahead of the party and throwing himself down on the ground pulled his coat up over his head and lay there until the searching party arrived. One of the members of this party when he stumbled across this man's body let out a yell that could have been heard for half a mile and everybody thinking that he had discovered the object they were looking for, ran up to find the supposed dead man nearly dying with mirth at the sheepish looks of the party.

It was still later on in the day that a nephew of the prominent farmer heard about the shooting and at once declared it to be a fake. He said that he had heard of people doing such things before and he knew now very well what his uncle had wanted with the blood he had purchased Friday night. These were still a great many

that could not quite believe that so sedate a citizen as the well known farmer would stoop to such a trick and they were skeptical of his nephew's opinion. That evening, however, at church some of the skeptical ones asked the well known farmer what he had done with the beef blood and, as he was unable to give a plausible answer and did not deny that he had scattered it about in the bushes where the shooting was supposed to have taken place, they came to the conclusion that they had been hoaxed.

What the neighbors of the prominent farmer said about him was a caution and a person not knowing his reputation would have thought from what was said during the next two days that he was something on the order of Ananias and that he was not the reliable man that he had always been suspected of being. It turned out, or it was the conclusion arrived at by those who discussed the matter, that the farmer had wished to frighten off any negroes who had been stealing his corn and had tried this method of doing so, and instead of letting his white neighbors on to the joke he had hoaxed them as well as the negroes upon whom he had set out to play a skin game. Most of them confessed to having been made to feel very cheap, but they got it back on the prominent farmer in saying things about him behind his back.

**THAT DALZELL HOAX.**

**Mr. S. F. Moore Makes Statement in Explanation of the Joke.**

Editor Daily Item:

Please allow me space in your columns to make a brief reply to a communication which appeared in the Item on the 25th.

While there some few misstatements in the article in the main the facts are correct. The only trouble is the writer has made a molehill a mountain and his assumptions are preposterous and absurd as can be easily seen by anyone who has a minimum of brains. No sane man would utterly lose confidence in a man's veracity simply because he ran a joke too far. I am the prominent farmer referred to, who did the shooting. For some time I have suspected that some one was pilfering around my lot. I have been watching for some time. Last Saturday night I was on guard and did considerable shooting. Sunday morning quite a number of citizens came and joined in the search. Not knowing the outcome I was very reticent in the matter. The crowd joined in many speculations. Yesterday I learned that many rumors were afloat.

To my surprise some smart "Alec" wrote the whole thing up as a hoax, making some gross misrepresentations.

Whether it was a hoax or a reality, I neither deny nor affirm. Who your soul is or what he thinks I neither know or care. When he says it was a hoax he does so without authority from me. Had he made a true statement and stopped there, I should have ignored the matter. As to the severe criticisms he writes of, will say I am in total ignorance. All communities are more or less afflicted with a class of envious backbiters. Dalzell is afflicted to a certain extent with such an element, hence there may be foundation for this.

To your anonymous correspondent will say I have been here nearly half a century and make him this offer. He may employ all the sleuths in America in connection with his fertile (?) brain and he may search my record from infancy and if he can find that I ever told a falsehood or did a dishonorable act I will pay him \$100.00 reward. (The money is in the bank.) Will you please publish the above.

Yours truly,  
Samuel F. Moore.  
Dalzell, S. C., April 26.

The story mentioned in the above article was written by me with no intention at all of reflecting upon Mr. Moore's truthfulness or reliability, but was written as it was considered a good joke and something that would make a good newspaper story.

Mr. Moore admits that most of the statements are correct, while a few of the details are incorrect. Perhaps, I may have added a little to the facts in the writing of the story, or I may have been told a little more than bare facts when the joke was related to me. I was first told the story by a reliable person who stated at first that he thought it would make a good story—which I also thought—but later stated that it would probably be best not to publish it. Later I heard the same story from other persons and finding that the matter was generally known I decided to write the story which was published in Tuesday's Item.

I did not state that Mr. Moore was unreliable nor that he was anything but the prominent citizen that he has always been and is. I stated that it was because of Mr. Moore's reliability and because he was a serious minded citizen that nothing of the sort was expected of him, this being the reason that there was so much talk. I have always heard Mr. Moore spoken of in the highest terms and have always respected him as the highest type of citizen and nothing in the article was meant to impeach this reputation. The citizen from whom I had most of the details stated himself that it was because of Mr. Moore's reliability that nothing of the kind was expected of him and it was for this reason that everybody

was so fooled by the joke, which, as stated, was the conclusion arrived at by the citizens of the place and which, I will maintain that it was, until Mr. Moore makes some statement to the contrary. As to the criticisms referred to, they were nothing more than could be expected when the citizens found that a hoax had been perpetrated and they had been the victims.

L. C. Bryan,  
Reporter for Item.

When a medicine must be given to young children it should be pleasant to take. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is made from loaf sugar, and the roots used in its preparation give it a flavor similar to maple syrup, making it pleasant to take. It has no superior for colds, croup and whooping cough. For sale by all dealers.

**FOR SALE**—At once, 22 head of fine mules. Sold cheap for cash. Apply to E. P. Pitts, or phone 384.

**AS I EXPECT**—To be away several months this summer, I offer for sale a fine combination horse. Can be seen at Boyle Live Stock Co., C. A. Ellerbe, 4-27-11 W

**SEED CORN**—A few bushels of Prize seed corn from Boys' Corn club (Gherrick Prolific), will be sold in small or large quantities. Apply Sumter Seed Store, M. E. Brown, Prop., 113 North Main Street. 4-25-3t.

**MONEY MAKER COTTON SEED**—Will pay you, if you are raising cotton. If you are not posted, it will pay you to investigate. We can furnish a limited quantity of pure seed, raised on our farm where there has never been any blight. \$1.00 per bushel. Let us book your order at once if you intend to plant Money Maker. C. P. Osteen Co., Sumter, S. C. 2-1-tf

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