

The Watchman and Southeron.

Published Wednesday and Saturday.

—BY—
OUTREN PUBLISHING COMPANY.

SUMTER, S. C.

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\$1.50 per annum—in advance.

Advertisements:

One Square first insertion... \$1.00

Every subsequent insertion... .50

Contracts for three months, or longer will be made at reduced rates.

All communications which subserve private interests will be charged for as advertisements.

Obituaries and tributes of respect will be charged for.

The Sumter Watchman was founded in 1850 and the True Southeron in 1856. The Watchman and Southeron now has the combined circulation and influence of both of the old papers, and is manifestly the best advertising medium in Sumter.

Henry Ford, a practical and successful business man, got out of his sphere when he undertook to shepherd a bunch of visionaries, politicians, cranks, freaks and notoriety seekers on a peace pilgrimage to Europe, and he seems to have realized his error promptly. No one should question the truth of the statement that he is a sick man, but if he is too ill to continue the pilgrimage it is strange that he did not go to a hospital for treatment instead of risking the discomforts of a trans-Atlantic voyage in mid-winter. Mr. Ford is doubtless very sick of the Pandora's box of militant and irreconcilable peace pilgrims he had herded together on the Oscar II. The Oscar II must have been less to be preferred than trench fighting by a man who really loves peace and harmony at all times and under all circumstances.

The Day of Days.

Editor Daily Item.

If these words: "He that giveth to the poor lendeth to the Lord" be true, and it is only the fool who hath said in his heart there is no God, the people of Sumter, in raising such a liberal sum for the poor on last Sunday afternoon, have made a loan which will give them abundant returns and which is secured by the word of God Himself. It would be impossible to conceive of a more appropriate and beautiful way of commemorating the greatest event that has ever occurred in the history of the world, the birth of a babe in the manger at Bethlehem, or of one who destined to give his life in expiation of the sins of all the human race, and who, while on earth, went about doing good, healing the sick, giving sight to the blind and making the lame leap for joy, and who even in the time of supreme agony, while hanging on the cross, spake words of pardon to the dying penitent thief.

Then too if the passage quoted above was not sufficient to move the hearts of the people to this beautiful exhibition of their love and faith, they have in addition this promise: "Blessed is he that considereth the poor, the Lord will deliver him in time of trouble," and this promise, a definite one, will ever stand as firm as the everlasting hills.

The writer, in sending these lines of appreciation, but follows the promptings of his heart, and earnestly invokes for the good people of Sumter the blessing and protection of Him who holds the universe in the hollow of his hand, that they may enjoy a large measure of material prosperity, that as the years roll round they may grow in the knowledge and love of God and when the star of each one of them shall set at life's close, that it may set as sets the morning star, which goeth not behind a darkened west, but melts away into the brightness of the coming morn.

W. D. Woods.
Christmas, 1915.

The Rev. T. L. Cole Dead.

Greer, Dec. 23.—The Rev. T. L. Cole, a Baptist minister, died here Wednesday morning, between 4 and 5 o'clock. He was 45 years of age and is survived by his wife and five children. Mr. Cole moved to Greer last November, coming here from Rembert, Sumter county. For 12 years he had been in the ministry. Among his charges have been St. Charles and Cartersville. He came to Greer to accept the pastorates of the churches of Fairview, Mt. Lebanon and Millford. The funeral was held today at the Greer Baptist church, conducted by the pastor, Rev. C. S. Blackburn, assisted by the Rev. J. Dean Crain and others. The interment followed in Mountain View cemetery.

Florence Dispensaries Sell Out.

Florence, Dec. 24.—The two Florence dispensaries sold out every drop of liquor on hand and closed doors for good at 4 o'clock this afternoon. The sales were heavy and the dispensaries were worked hard throughout the hours that the rum mills were open.

THE TORRENS LAW.

The Farmers of South Carolina Should Awake to Their Own Interests and Demand Enactment of Land Registration Law.

Editor Daily Item.

In your issue of the 22nd I see a very interesting and strong article from the Wall Street Journal on the Torrens system of land title registration, which I wish every farmer in South Carolina would read, peruse and analyze that they might see its advantages. Should they study its merits, they could see the disadvantages, inconveniences and cost they have to undergo in obtaining money and credits to do business; and after seeing those cumbersome and costly channels through which they have to pass, they would then be in a strong position to demand, as a class, the relief that is so much needed. The greatest misfortune that overshadows the majority of the farming element is, they do not read and study the vital questions pertaining to their own interest, but just leave it to the other fellow, to run things in a way that suits him best, regardless of the best interest of the majority of the voters, that majority being engaged in agriculture. Should the farmers post themselves on the needs of the day and then make the demands on the legislative bodies, in a business-like way, those bodies would heed quickly in giving the farmers what they ask; but as long as we stand supinely by, conceding to our law-makers that they have all of the brains and that we are a set of ignoramuses, contented and proud of the privilege of suffrage, gloating over the fact that we can vote for whom we please, letting personal likes and dislikes predominate, instead of considering principle and fitness, just so long will we pay for the whistle that blows for the other fellow. The Journal tells us, there has been opposition of the strongest kind in some of the States after the land title registration act was passed, that there were assertions and predictions, that it could not stand the test of the courts, and all that kind of stuff, there was railing and lamenting over it and that the effects of it would ruin the country; but yet not one of those awful predictions and prophecies have been verified. I am ready to concede that the law-making bodies of our country are a pretty bright set of men, but am not as yet ready to submit that they know it all, and will further say if they have the patriotism at heart for their constituency, as they claim, they will awaken to a sense of justice between man and man and see if they can not do something to relieve the farming element of some of the burdens they have to bear. The farmer is not asking any special advantage; or privileges over men of other vocations, but all men having been born free and equal, when it comes to a sense of justice, he only asks that he may enjoy some of the fruits of equal rights to all and special privileges to none. We need a land title registration act, that we can negotiate for money, without having to pay fees to an attorney every time we want some accommodations. We as a class have to use money as well as other people and have as safe security as can be found. We are tired of paying the cost of examining titles every time we want to negotiate a loan, or buy a piece of property, when one fee for having a piece of property properly registered sets the matter at rest for all time.

J. C. Dunbar.
Dalzell, S. C., Dec. 24.

Death of Capt. D. J. Bradham.

Harvin, Dec. 25.—Capt. D. J. Bradham, Confederate soldier, statesman and one of the leading politicians in Clarendon county during the greater portion of his life, since the Confederate war, died last night at his home in Manning at an advanced age. Capt. Bradham served throughout the Confederate war until he lost an arm at the second battle of Manassas and even then he returned for what service he could render his country in his weakened condition. He served two terms in the legislature from Clarendon and was twice elected sheriff of his county. He held on various other occasions in his long life many other positions of honor and trust and was magistrate at Manning until two years ago when he retired from active political life.

Throughout his entire life Capt. Bradham has ever been a friend of the poor and adviser and aid to those in trouble. Those who really need help always sought and secured his advice and aid. His verbal narratives of war incidents and his great mass of logical information pertaining to the entire Confederate struggle was at all times most interesting and entertaining and it is a fact to be regretted that one so well versed and so capable of having written a brief and most interesting history of the Confederacy did not during his long life write such a narrative.

A good and useful citizen, a patriotic statesman and a gallant confederate soldier has gone to his reward.

A LONG LETTER FROM WEDGIE FIELD.

All of the News of The Town Told in an Interesting Style.

Wedgfield, Dec. 21.—I notice in this week's issue of the Watchman and Southeron, Hard Times is wondering if we have gone to take a hand in the European struggle. I can only speak for one. I am still on the hills of Sumter. I have one or two acquaintances of German descent, and when they call with thin grips I feel like keeping a safe distance even from them.

Rev. J. E. Carter, who has served the Providence Circuit for two years, living in the parsonage here, much to the regret of his friends here, will leave for Florence this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Weinberg, Mrs. Carrie Brohun and J. W. Rogers visited the city by the sea the past week.

Mr. Frank Cain of Privateer, an instructor at E. M. S., Greenwood, was a visitor here on yesterday.

Mr. Jerome Weinberg, a student at Clemson, is at home for the holidays.

Mr. T. D. Brohun who is engaged in railroad survey work under the government in Pennsylvania, is at home for the holidays.

Miss Sadie Wright who is taking a business course at Draughon's Business college in Columbia, is at home for the holidays.

The Wedgfield graded school will close on Wednesday for the usual two weeks' Christmas holidays.

Prof. Henry Watkins will spend his holiday at his home near Asheville, Miss Muncaster at Florence, and Miss Irby in Virginia.

Miss Jeanette Thomas, the music teacher, gave a musicale at the residence of her mother, Mrs. F. E. Thomas, on last Friday evening. The parents of her pupils and a few invited guests enjoyed the program very much.

Mr. Alex Norris, Rural Policeman, and Mr. J. J. Geddings, deputy, have been doing some successful work in rounding up blind tigers. They bagged three on last Saturday.

Since the establishment of a dispensary at Eastover it has been a source of nuisance, and January 1st will be welcomed when those incubators of crime, will, I hope, be forever banished from our State.

Then the fight must be kept up until we have national prohibition, then a wave of prosperity such as we have never dreamed of will sweep over our country.

The hunters report partridges as being plentiful this season, and some report good luck.

It is a pity something could not be done to stop the useless slaughter of non-game birds. So many people of both color, when they go out with a gun, shoot anything that is in the shape of a bird.

The greatest enemy though, to bird life is one that so few people seem to know anything about, we call him the Jack Daw. It is the same size of a crow and can only be detected by his out-cry of "Egg-nog." They will light in a tree and make a business of hunting bird nests to destroy the eggs and young birds. They spend the summer here but go South in the winter.

The snow which began to fall this afternoon brings joy to the hearts of the youngsters. I hope I will live a long time, but I am sure I shall never forget the joy it used to bring to my life when the snow began to fall, and I think it is unfair for parents now to put on a long face, expressing sorrow, when it gladdens the hearts of the youngsters so much. Let them enjoy it. Unless I am mistaken, Brer Rabbit will have a hard time of it tomorrow.

Mr. Editor, this is wishing you and your faithful co-workers and all of your correspondents a happy Xmas, and let us try and keep sober and begin the New Year with a resolution to do our part in making The Daily Item and Watchman and Southeron better papers; our homes happier, our community and towns more attractive, and for a general prosperity for our county and State.

Philadelphia Grip Epidemic.

Philadelphia, Dec. 27.—The grip epidemic continues, a hundred new cases being reported.

The Most Appropriate Xmas Present

Is Jewelry and silverware because it is the most beautiful of all arts and the most lasting gift.

Let us show you our stock of these goods, we think it is the best we have ever shown, if you can't come write us you want. Our prices are reasonable. We will be more than pleased to show you and help you with your suggestions.

W. A. THOMPSON
Jeweler and Optician
Phone No. 333 6 S. Main St.

Will Preach at Baker School.

Rev. W. E. Thayer of the First Baptist Church will preach next Sunday afternoon at the Baker school house at 3:30 o'clock. The public is cordially invited to attend.

The people of the community will observe Watch Night service at the school house Friday night.

The Big Event.

The Schwartz clearance sale is now on. Come during the entire week. Supply your needs. The clean-up is through the entire store. Schwartz Bros.—Advt.

The holiday trade, especially on Christmas eve, was good, all of the merchants handling Christmas goods having had a rushing trade and succeeded in disposing of practically all of the holiday stock.

The Great Schwartz Clearance.

The clean-up sale at Schwartz's is now on. Continues throughout the week. We want you all to supply your wants. Sale is this week only. Schwartz Bros.—Advt.

WANTED—To sell a gentle home-raised horse, with harness, single and double; also a brood mare, weight almost 1200 pounds. Both at a bargain. Apply F. M. Dwight, Wedgfield, S. C.

Tax Return Notice

I will attend in person or by deputy at the following named places, and on the dates mentioned, for the purpose of receiving tax returns, on all personal property, polis, roads, and dogs:

- Tindal, Tuesday, January 4.
- Privateer, Wednesday, January 5.
- Levi Siding, Thursday, January 6.
- Wedgfield, Friday, January 7.
- Claremont, Monday, January 10.
- Hagood, Tuesday, January 11.
- Rembert, Wednesday, January 12.
- Dalzell, Thursday, January 13.
- Brogdon, Friday, January 14.
- Mayesville, Monday, January 17.
- Oswego, Tuesday, January 18.
- Pleasant Grove, Wednesday, January 19.
- Shiloh, Thursday, January 20.
- Norwood's Cross Roads, Friday, January 21.

My office will be open for the purpose of receiving tax returns from January 1st, 1916 to February 20th, 1916, inclusive.

R. E. WILDER,
County Auditor

A Welcome Xmas Present

Will be a membership card in the Xmas Savings Club. Old and young will appreciate such a good start for another year.

Take out a card in the lucky one's name, make one or more payments and put it in his or her stocking for Christmas.

The National Bank of Sumter,

ESTABLISHED 1889

"SAFEST FOR YOUR SAVINGS"

Lumber, Lime, Cement,

BUILDING MATERIAL GENERALLY AND FEED OF ALL KINDS.

BOOTH & McLEOD,

Successors to Booth Shuler Lumber & Supply Co.
Geo. Epperson's Old Stand Opp. Court House

The COST SALE

Our Big Annual Cost Sale

BEGINS

Monday, December the 27.

Our stock consists of Coat Suits, Coats, Skirts, Dry Goods, Blankets & Comforts

Also a General Line of Notions and

Shoes

This is the Opportunity of the Year to Supply Your Needs

Shaw & McCollum Merc. Co.

SUMTER, S. C.