The Press and Banner.

Wednesday, Dec. 10, 1879.

Sensible Speech by the Georgetown Times and Comet.

The *Georgetown Times and Comet* speaks the sentiments of Abbeville county in the paragraph below. If there is anybody in this county who wants General Hagood for Governor we do not remember to have heard him express his opinion. The tax-payers when called upon to make good the Railroad taxes which the General excused that corporation from paying, will be sure to remember him in their prayers. We want no man with such contracted ideas as would lead him to attempt to punish a whole county because the village newspaper had shown up his errors.

It seems to be considered by some of the State newspapers that the contest for the office of Governor is narrowed down to a race between Hagood and Gary. This is rather premature as a conclusion of any weight. It is premature, as we have said before, to make nominations for that office for some months yet. As for the two gentlemen named, we cannot support either, and before the State Convention meets, a more acceptable man than either will, we hope, be put before the people. Of these two, however, we believe that Hagood has a heartier and more general support throughout the whole State. The *Times and Comet* says:

The *Barnwell People*, *Kershaw Gazette* and *Kingstree Star* have indicated their preference for Gen. Johnson Hagood, for Governor. The People's choice, we suppose, arise from the fact Mr. Hagood is a native of Barnwell, for we are somewhat at a less to imagine what real, substantial claims our contemporary would set up in behalf of its favorite. Why the *Gazette* and *Star* have come out for Mr. Hagood for Governor when there are so may other men in the State infinitely more worthy of the position, we have not been informed, except that he is a good and able man, which qualities a host of other South Carolinians possess and in a much greater degree than the favorite of our contemporaries. Trot out another man friends, else you will be left.

The Way to get Cheap Reading.

Organize a literary club or a Y. M. C. A., and write to the country editors that if they will send their papers to their reading rooms that tney will be kept on file for public inspection. Long ago humbug advertisers learned to cheat us out of our advertising space, and now it seems that associations have been formed with the avowed purpose of reading our papers without paying for them. Whenever we undertake to send the *Press and Banner* to such associations without the money we shall telegraph for the fool-killer to come and discharge his duty. If reading clubs or Y. M. C. A., want to read the *Press and Banner* or keep it on file, they can do so by sending us two dollars.

The Columbia Canal.

We are glad to note the fact that the *Register* states that there are Northern capitalists in Columbia with exhibiting designs and plans of factories which they propose to erect in Columbia, provided they can secure certain chartered rights to the canal. We are much pleased at the prospect and hope that they may have all the Legislation they want, provided they do not ask for money. We are in favor of giving them any favor they may ask in reference to State aid in convict labor. Let them have as much of that as they want, but give them no money. We are gratified to learn that they do not ask for appropriations of money.

The President's Message.

The *Columbia Register* apologises for publishing the President's message a little late, but says that every reader should see it and that it should appear in the files of every paper. This is some comfort to us. Our subscribers will have the opportunity of reading it much later than the readers of the *Register*. We shall publish it in our next issue on the outside. It is true that it is late, but still we think our subscribers will thank us for publishing it.

The Legislature is doing but little of importance just now. The election for Associate Justice will come off tomorrow, (Thursday.) General McGowan and Judge Wallace are the prominen candidates for Judge Haskell's place, with the chances in favor of General McGowan.

Hitting the Mark.

JUDGE PRESSLEY.-The *Spartanburg Spartan*, having spoken of this gentleman in connection with the Supreme Bench, let us see what the *Winnsboro' News and Herald* adds; "Judge Pressley is a very able lawyer and a gentleman of highest moral character. But he does not make a specially fine judge. He is too eccentric, too wise in his own conceit, and too quick to disregard the opinions and to belittle the ability of other people."

GOOD LUCK TO CHARLESTON.

The Entire Courtney Ticket Elected--Sale and Gayer Both Whipped.

Special Dispatch to the Press and Banner.

CHARLESTON, Dec. 9, 9.30 P. M.

The Election Committee are confident that the whole Courtney ticket has been elected by a handsome majority over both Sale and Gayer. The election passed off quietly. No disturbance took place. There is heartfelt satisfaction everywhere.

LATEST FROM COLUMBIA.

McGowan's Election Certain---Willard to be Ousted---The Charleston Election.

[Special Dispatch to the Press and Banner.]

COLUMBIA, 9th Dec. 9 P. M.

The election to fill Haskell's vacancy on the Supreme Bench will take place on Thursday. The chances are in favor of McGowan, though Judge Wallace has a strong support.

No legislative action has been taken about Chief Justice Willard's term of office, but it is a foregone conclusion tkat a vacancy will be declared, and a successor to Willard elected.

We have good news from Charleston. The entire Courtney ticket is elected.

UTILIZING THE CONGABEE.

A Scheme that Promises Prosperity to Columbia.---A Large Factory to be In Working Order Within Three Years.

[News and Courier.]

Columbia, December 8—The proposed contract with Thompson & Nagle for the development of the Columbia Canal provides that they shall make a dam over the Congaree and Broad [if necessary) They are to commence work within sixty days after the passage of the bill. The contract provides that they shall develop fifteen thousand horsepower, fifteen hundred of which they guarantee to give the State, to be selected from any portion of the canal the State authorities may see fit. The lessees also bind themselves to have the canal completed and a factory of sixteen hundred spindles in operation within three years, The State is to contribute 250 convicts, their maintenance and guarding, The State is not to make titles to the water power, privileges and franchises until the work guaranteed above is completed, or approved bonds of one hundred thousand dollars given by the contractors.

The Convict Question.

A FAIR PRESENTATION OF THE OTHER SIDE OF THE CASE.

An Elaborate and Good-Tempered Defence of the Greenwood and Augusta Railroad by Senator Maxwell.

During the debate which occurred in the Senate on Tuesday in regard to the rival set of resolutions of Senators Crittenden and Taft on the manner of conducting the inquiry into the alleged abuses of convicts leased from the Penitentiary, Senator Maxwell, of Abbeville, spoke as follows:

Mr. President—I am not here to exonerate the directors, president or officers of the Greenwood and Augusta Railroad from entire blame in their management of convicts, but to make a plain statement of what I consider to be the truth of this sad history, In doing so I hope to indulge in none of the criminations and recriminations that usually attend discussions between great political parties: and in this case that has extended to the circle of friendship and marked the articles of the accused as well as the reply of the directors of said road. While admitting that mistakes in our management have been made, I hope to show thet malignant, wilful or intentional carelessness is not chargeable to our company. To do this, it is necessary to briefly review

THE HISTORY OF OUR ROAD

as well as the condition of the convicts at the time of their reception. The supplies of our road have been raised by subscription and taxation, entrusted to the care of a president and board of directors. The managing of our convicts has been entrusted to an officer commissioned by the Penitentiary, and that officer subject to the orders and commands of our president. Our board has met from three to five times per year, as our president deemed necessary.

In June, 1877, in behalf of the board, I made application for one hundred convicts. Their condition at that time was not good. The political struggle of 1876, the prostrate condition in which the Democracy found our finances, the excitement following the election, the long contest for the control of the State, the limited appropriation by the General Assembly for this institution and the impracticability of collecting taxes at the season of the year when the Democracy gained political possession of our State Government. rendered it impossible for the first board of directors of the Hampton government to give such treatment to convicts as would have otherwise been done. After a vexatious delay, we received one hundred, August 26, 1877, and we received them bare-headed, barefooted and naked. I do not say we carried them from the Penitentiary in that condition, but the latter institution did not have blankets, shoes, hats or clothing for them, and we were required to furnish these articles before we received them. We complied with this demand. We were required to build our stockade, quarters, &c., before we received them. This was done, and they were constructed according to style and dimensions specified by Colonel Parmele.

This is not all. The convicts were required to be worked under a sergeant of the Penitentiary. To this we objected, as officers of the institution were of all classes and colors, and the matter was compromised by the appointment of Sergt. Lyon, suggested by our company. The sergeant was sent to Columbia and remained in the Penitentiary a week learning the mode of discipline, character of punishment, preparation of food, &c.

THE SERGEANT'S KINDNESS AND INDULGENCE

induced him to extend to his prisoners many liberties and privileges. He allowed them to remain in stockade at night until 9 or 10 o'clock, wrestling, singing, banjo picking, worshipping, &c. They soon imposed upon his confidence and trust. Many of our convicts soon escaped; on one night, while some were singing and dancing, others, escaping the vigilance of the guard, undermined the stockade and near a dozen escaped. Others were recommended to us as "Trusties," and they were allowed many liberties, but they soon betrayed our trust and began to escape, even procuring files with which others might remove their shackles. Our sick were allowed the freedom of stockade and hospital unchained, and they escaped.

An accomplished Christian lady of our village on carrying some delicacy to the sick was persuaded by a malingering invalid that he had no shoes and needed so and so. The next day she sent him a pair of her father's shoes and some delicacy, and that night he wore them to quarters unknown. The number of escapes under this management was so great that a howl was raised against our company almost as great as that against our present mortality. The press of several counties raised a cry against us for turning loose upon their counties the desperadoes, house-burners and barn-burners of our State.

TO REMEDY THIS EVIL

our company asked the penitentiary authorities to accept the resignation of our sergeant, who was a prominent citizen of Edgefield and almost our neighbor and friend. We then asked the appointment of Capt. Cahill, who was a stranger to us, but who came with the highest testimonials as to character and efficiency, and who had managed convicts, free and slave labor, upon railroads for thirty years. He, too, was commissioned by the penitentiary. But I must be frank enough to admit that if any blame is to be attached to our commissioned officer, none belongs to the penitentiary, as they kindly appointed men suggested by our company.

Next let us refer to our stockades. I do not know the accurate, specific dimensions of them, but think I am reliably informed that all are about the measurements given in newspaper reports. The first, second and third comply with the requirements of our instructions, and afforded ample air space for our number of convicts, unless No. 3 chanced to be crowded on the reception of additional laborers. Each was carefully inspected by Colonel Parmele on his visit in 1878, and no dissatisfaction was expressed. As I am more familiar with stockade No. 1, I propose to go somewhat minutely into its management. At this stockade, Sergeant Lyon was in charge about one-fourth his time, Capt. Cahill about three-fourths. The stockade was constructed according to specifications from the penitentiary.

THE CONVICTS HAD AMPLE ROOM.

Their beds were made of straw, covered with bagging, and they were covered by blankets. The sick had the medical aid of four physicians, and were nursed by an intelligent, bright mulatto convict from Charleston. He was required to keep them clean and make them as comfortable as possible. He was further required to keep their quarters as free from dirt and dust as possible, They (the sick) had extra treatment, kindness, attention, food and indulgence; but they abused the trust and indulgence, and our heavy bond forced us to abridge their privileges and liberties. The rations of the well were good bacon, beef and meat.

At this stockade we only lost one case. He came to us with consumption; never worked a week on the road. I sent the certificate of three medical gentlemen stating the condition of the convict, and asking that he be pardoned or received back at the Penitentiary. On arriving at Columbia in November I went to Col. Parmele and Governor Hampton, stating the case, but in hunting up the convict's offence and number time elapsed and he died upon our hands. Well, are we to be held responsible for the death of a convict who never performed a day's work? I impute no blame to the authorities, but I do not wish to be held responsible for the death of one who never served us.

Beyond this stockade personally I know little of the treatment of the convicts. While it may have been rough, and while mistakes were made, it is not at all equal to

THE WILD RUMORS

of the day, if we are to believe the most reliable citizens of our county.

So much complaint was raised against our escapes from Stockade No. 1, by consent and authority of the Penitentiary we began a heavier mode of chaining. A shackle was attached to each ankle with chain, giving the regular military step of twenty-eight inches. In marching to and from work this chain was attached by a short chain of two feet to the long or gang chain. They slept shackled in the same manner, and to this cause I am inclined to impute much of the mortality. The shackling was severe, yet it was a duty forced upon us by their frequent escapes, and by authority of the Penitentiary. The shackling was certainly the severest harshness to which I have ever known them subjected.

At Stockade No. 2 there was no excessive mortality, but at No. 3 it greatly increased. The cause of this increase I will give further on. Both Nos. 2 and 3 were under the medical charge of our ablest county physicians, who were efficient medical officers of Bragg's army, and one of them afterwards of Kershaw's division. Stockades No. 4 and 5 were under the medical charge of physicians comparatively strangers to me, but who were as prominent, successful and scientific as those who practiced at other stockades.

At Stockades Nos. 1, 2 and 3 good wells of water were in the yard, with troughs for bathing and washing, good bakers' ovens for cooking, &c.

In the vicinity of Stockades No. 4 and 5 live some of the best citizens of Edgefield, and they were

BOUNTIFUL IN THEIR SUPPLIES

to the convicts, furnishing them from their own orchards, tables, fields and gardens. The bacon and meal instead of being bad, as claimed, was purchased from the most reliable mercantile houses of Augusta.

Next let us inquire to what extent the directors were negligent. The president's statement shows that he purchased in abundance of food of good quality. The cooking was done first by a white man and afterwards by a convict, who was once a cook at the Hamburg Hotel and afterwards at Aiken.

The secretary's minutes exhibit that the directors issued strict written orders to prevent any officer striking them with anything except the strap used in the Penitentiary, and then only when absolutely necessary, and never unmercifully. They further show that the convicts were to have ample time for washing, &c. Orders were issued that they were never to be taken to work too soon or returned too late, and that they were to have ample time to rest at noon and recesses in summer. That the sick should not be put to work except by the consent of the physician in charge.

When complaint was first made to Judge Kershaw, the directors offered every facility for investigation. Again, when complaint was made by a correspondent in the *News and Courier* in 1878, we asked an investigation, which Col. Parmele promptly made. Again, we invited an investigation by Col. Lipscomb as soon as we learned the frightful mortality this year. Well, now I would ask in reason and justice if this looks like intentional wrong? Does it look like efforts to conceal any of our management? On the contrary, does it not establish, that upon every hint or rumor of inhuman treatment, the board adopted what they regarded as adequate measures to ascertain and suppress any such treatment?

Mr. President, we next invite your attention to

THE CAUSES OF THE MORTALITY.

1st. We claim that the character and previous life of the average convict renders him more liable to disease and death.

2d. That the mental depression produced by taking convicts from the comparatively comfortable quarters of the penitentiary and heavily shackling and putting them to hard work, had a tendency to produce disease and death.

3d. That it was impossible to treat convicts shackled as described before as successfully as civilians.

4th. That the directors did not and could not make their camp hospital as comfortable and cleanly as a charity or penitentiary hospital.

5th. The location of Stockade No. 3 was in a malarial section in which there has been much fatal congestion.

6th. Stockade No. 4 was near the banks of Savannah River, in the triangle formed bythis river and Stephen's Creek, a region peculiarly liable to malignant disease, produced by fogs, dampness and decaying matter.

7th. That our officer may have unwittingly required fresh and new convicts to do as much as old veterans. In proof of this, every military and medical officer of the Confederate cause knows the fatality among our troops on first enlisting. Every Captain in the Confederate service knows the mortality of the recruits and conscripts brought to our army and required to do the hard work of trained soldiers. Well do I recollect that in General Johnson's peninsula campaign forty recruits were brought to the right rifle company of Kershaw's regiment and put in the hard active service that ensued after leaving Richmond for Yorktown, and in less than six months thirty-three per cent. were dead. I see upon the floor of this House battle-scarred veterans of the same command who could bear testimony to a similar history in their own companies and regiments.

8th. I think our officer may have unintentionally required convicts to roll dirt too far in wheelbarrows and to pitch it too far with shovels; for there is an extent to which human strength and muscle can exert itself daily, but if it is forced beyond that capacity continually disease follows. To illustrate my position, a game cock will exhibit a certain amount of force and power in his first fight, but make him repeat it once and his power and endurance are gone: or a blooded horse will travel sixty miles per day if traveled five miles per hour, but force him to eight or ten and he fails. Thus a convict may do an extra amount of work per hour or day, but if forced to that standard daily, exhaustion or worse follows. But, in opposition to this opinion, the most practical farmers along the line of route say that the convicts do not move as much dirt as ordinary free labor.

9th. We received many diseased convicts. Now I am far from believing that either of the boards of directors or either of the superintendents intentionally sent us a diseased man. On the contrary, the three boards of directors have been kind to myself and usually to our road. Col. Parmele was always indulgent, and our present excellent and successful superintendent, Col. Lipscomb is a warm personal friend to myself, as well as of other directors. But the fact is undeniable that we received many who were diseased. In our first detachment I have already stated that one died without doing a day's work, and others were sick. The second squad of fifty was carefully examined by Dr. Neill, our physician, yet Messrs. Sheppard and Klugh, two of the most reliable citizens of Abbeville, who chanced to be in Colnmbia, and kindly assisted in guarding them to Greenwood, informed me that a large per cent. were suffering with diarrhœa, and it became necessary for them to stimulate one or two before reaching home. This squad was carried to Stockade No. 8, and here our first terrible mortality began with diarrhœa. They were treated by two of our most successful county physicians, who were efficient medical officers of the Confederate army. One of them says they died of an epidemic fallculous diarrhœa, similar to and as severe as that which decimated Bragg's army around Corinth. The small squad of fifteen I examined on reaching Greenwood, and insisted that several should be returned to Columbia, as they were utterly unfit for railroad work. But my advice was not heeded. In December, 1878, we applied for fifty, and Colonel Parmele succeeded in finding only forty, and hesitated to let them go, as he thought there was little service in them. The last detachment of seventy-five, sent us by Colonel Lipscomb, were regarded as the most desperate men in the penitentiary, and two of them, to my knowledge—McGarvey and a man with epileptic convulsions—were unfit for rough railroad work and too dangerous to be trusted to camp duty.

10th. The mortality was largely due to the hardship of marching to and from work so heavily shackled.

11th. The directors erred in feeding too much upon bacon and meal, yet we provided such vegetables as could be procured in a rural district in the dry year. There are senators upon this floor who well recollect the amount of sickness in Lee's army after the winter at Fredricksburg and the trouble to which surgeons resorted to procure wild onions, cress, polk salad and everything conceivable in the shape of vegetables to prevent sickness and death. They also recollect the rapid improvement in the health of that army after the battle of Chancellorsville when we were fed upon the fruits and fresh meats north of the Potomac. They also remember the terrible diarrhœa that afflicted Longstreet's corps after leaving the beef, flour and vegetable diet of the Gettysburg campaign, and going to drink the muddy waters around Chicamauga and Chattanooga and subsist upon the corn meal of Georgia. In dieting our convicts, I regret that we fed them too long upon the same diet, and while they had an abundance of the best food. they have not had a sufficient variety. The scorbutic condition produced partially by this diet has largely caused the fearful mortality, and while many of the deaths were not direct scurvy, they were from disease the sequel of scurvy; for there is no disease to which an unfavorable or fatal terminus may not be produced by a scorbutic diathesis.

12th. Without positive knowledge I suspect that many of the deaths were from Bright's disease, produced by the exposure of a hard winter. Any medical man familiar with the large hospitals of New York or Philadelphia knows the large per cent. of the above disease due to the previous life and history of the patients and to a winter's rough exposed life. Thus, our convicts were men of previous bad history, habits and diet, and probably after an exposed hard day's work in mud and water, slept without drying their clothing and produced disease. If any of these had Bright's disease they were beyond the aid of medicine, and every day's work upon the road hastened them to the grave. Without positive knowledge that a single case died with Bright's disease, I claim that no medical man knows to the contrary, as a thorough examination has never been made. All the examinations have been hurried and imperfect. A microscopical or chemical examination has never been made by our stockade physicians, by the visiting physicians, or in the Penitentiary. The reports of both Drs. McKie and Merriwether indicate some affection of the kidneys.

13th, That in the year 1878-9, the section of country from Stockades No. 2 to 5 had been subject to much fatal sickness, in families a large percentage of the sick having died. This had been probably due to the long and continued droughts, to the absence of electricity, and to the want of ozone in the air. If the mortality was not due largely to some local, climatic or atmospheric cause, I would like to inquire why did the great bulk of deaths occur during the months of June, July and August, three of the sickliest months of the year? If due to silent torture, cruelty and starvation, why was there not the same percentage in other months? It must have been largely owing to local causes or to accidental over-crowding by the reception of new convicts. In making the above

MEDICAL STATEMENT

I merely give my own opinion—an opinion which I believe I am able to sustain by the best of medical authority. I do not set myself up to be infallible; but while making this admission I claim that no other physician or body of physicians are absolute authority upon any medical subject. In concluding this medical part of the defence I would say for myself that I regret that a single word has been said in this controversy that would reflect upon or wound Dr. Taylor, Trezevant or Pope. From each I have been the recipient of many personal and professional courtesies, and from the former the kindest of medical attention in hours of suffering. While I am forced to differ from their medical theories and conclusions, I have the highest esteem for them as gentlemen and physicians, and exonerate them from all intent to injure or misrepresent our road or its directors.

As to the condition in which the visiting physicians found our stockade and hospital, I am not familiar. For the want of mattresses and feathers we are not responsible—for any want of cleanliness we are. The sight of a manacled man is

NATURALLY HORRIBLE,

of a sick manacled man is still more repulsive, but the management of our road is not altogether to blame; if one escaped from hospital our bond suffered. The much-talked-of McGarvey did escape while sick once, and I believe his shackles were filed in hospital a few months before his death. Besides, we were working in what had been the most lawless part of the State during the Republican administration; were working in a country known as the locality of "Butler's War," where Ned Tennent's gang still survive. We were in a country sparsely settled by white men, and working, according to Col. Lipscomb, the most desperate men of the Penitentiary.

In conclusion, I admit there were many, many mistakes—palpable abuses. I regret that the law and our contract did not prevent us from keeping over fifty in any one stockade, however large. I regret that at all times we were not required to keep two full suits of clothing. I regret our directors did not meet once per month, and that the superintendent of the Penitentiary, or his surgeon, was not required to inspect our convicts equally as often. These were mistakes, but they were the mistakes of the law and contract as well as of our Board. For two years monthly reports have gone from our company to the Penitentiary, giving escapes, deaths, &c. More ought to have been known in Columbia of the death rate than by our directors. Again

IF SUCH TERRIBLE ABUSES EXISTED,

why was not complaint made to our board? Not a man has ever come to us to complain of cruelty. The complaint hos been made in every instance to some third party. The first is Judge Kershaw, and he very properly ordered an investigation by the grand jury of Abbeville. Upon that grand jury, were men interested and living along the line of road. They were excluded from the jury and men from Abbeville village and the northwestern section of the county made the investigation. If a railroad can possibly injure any section, it injured the homes of these gentlemen, and yet at Stockade No. 2, they found nothing wrong. They made a close examination. They inspected stockade, prisoners, hospital, sick, food, &c. They called before them Capt. Cahill, the overseer, guard, and every farmer through whose plantations the convicts had been working, and they found nothing to report to Judge Kershaw.

Shortly after this, at Stockade No. 3 complaint was made by a correspondent of the *News and Courier*, and again we invited an investigation, and Governor Hampton sent Col. Parmele. The latter inspected Stockades Nos. 1 and 2, then vacant, and found the dimensions, culinary and sanitary arrangements all that could be wished. He then visited Stockade No 3 and found it as good and capacious as the others, and inspected the hands at work, the quantity of work they were doing, examined the muscles and general appearance of the convicts, inspected the cooking, the facilities for cooking, water, modes of washing, &c. He only made one suggestion, that with regard to diet of the sick. This visit was made at a time when our sick were dying rapidly.

No other complaint was raised, and in August of the past summer, on a meeting of the directors, we learned that our mortality was frightful, and with the assistance of Drs. Burckhalter and Merriwether we examined the convicts discovering their diseased condition, and immediately, by order of the board, made a statement of what we believed to be their condition, and asked an investigation. In every instance of rumored complaint, and as soon as we learned the reality of the mortality, we have asked an investigation. As to the mors about

CAPT. CAHILL'S CRUELTY

we know nothing; no one has ever made a charge to us; we have made inquiries and found nothing to sustain the suspictions. He denies them to us, and has always defied any one to prove them. We propose to cloak no cruelty; he has always expressed himself as willing for any investigation. He is a hard worker and may have done things of which we know nothing, but it is hard for me to believe that any one as true to his employers as he is, who takes every care of their interests, can be wantonly cruel. I can hardly conceive of one who takes such care of horses, mules and implements being the unmerciful tyrant represented. He is impetuous I know, but how one whom I have seen exhibit such tenderness and anxiety for his own sick family can be brutally cruel to a chained convict I cannot comprehend.

GEN. P. H. BRADLEY,

the president of the road, to whose direct care our management has been entrusted, is a gentleman of the highest character and intelligence. For years he has been an officer and member of a church of the most rigid discipline; he has served as foreman of the grand jury oftener, perhaps, than any man in our county; has always been a member and once or twice the president of our agricultural fair; he contributed liberally to the construction of the Greenville and Columbia Railroad, though living fifteen miles from its line; has always taken an active part in the schools and colleges of our county; he has given nearly the last two years, as a salaried officer of our company, looking to its wants, condition of convicts, &c., and, I believe, will present such an array of evidence as to his management that will put the many rumors to blush and flight.

AS TO THE DIRECTORS.

I simply state we shirk no investigation, whether it be before an impartial committee of the General Assembly or before the Courts; and instead of oppressing prisoners, we claim that we have done as much for suffering humanity, as much for the poor white and colored man, as any equal number of citizens in our State.

The Wisdom of Silence.

Under the above head the *Charlotte Observer* says some good things to the people of North Carolina, as to the impolicy of so soon starting a heated controversy as to the merits and demerits of particular candidates, and closes by citing the present condition of affairs in South Carolina. That paper says:

"The South Carolina Democracy is the victim now of this policy of too early taking sides among candidates of the same faith. The papers and their correspondents are warmly discussing the relative claims and availability of different gentlemen who desire to be governor and the people are being cut up into Gary and anti-Gary, Hagood and anti-Hagood, McGowan and anti-McGowan factions, so that by next November, if this continues, it will be exceedingly difficult if not impossible to unite them upon any one man. We desire to see our people avoid this danger, and it is a pleasure to be able to say that they are now enjoying the fruits of good government without a thought as to next year's candidates, and that their press is not distracting them by urging upon them thus prematurely the claims of this, that or the other man as a candidate for President, Governor or Congressman."

Disastrous Incendiary Fire

NEW ACADEMY OF MUSIC BURNT.

Heavy Loss to Merchants---Insurance, &c.

Greenville Daily, Sunday 7th.

About 3 o'clock this morning, we were aroused by a still small cry of Fire! followed by three pistol shots. What the shots indicated, we are unable to say; whether for alarm, or fired at fleeing incendiaries, we are unable to state. Our first thought was that the Mansion House was the place; but upon reaching Main Street, we could see nothing of it. Passing down, as we approached the

ACADEMY OF MUSIC

we found the store of Sloan Bros. filled with smoke.

The fire broke out about 3 o'clock, but if we are to judge by the amount of heat in the store when we entered, the fire had been burning in the cellar some time, and when it did burst forth the heat was intense, and we knew that our Academy of Music—the pride of Greenville—was no more. The flames leaped with forked tongues from all the openings, and at one time we feared our beautiful city would be laid in ashes, and a deep gloom had settled upon us.

The Cleveland House, on Main Street, took fire, but was extinguished with only damage to the piazza, though the heat was so intense, that we thought it a matter impossible to save so quickly did the blaze, and so quickly did the heat burst forth, that at one time we feared the hose of the steamer would be burnt.

Beattie's Block was in great danger, and the same fear we entertained for the Cleveland we felt for that. The three brothers were on the spot, working and directing to save their property.

F. W. POE & CO.

The store under the Academy of Music, on the corner of Avenue and Main streets, was occupied as a clothing house by the above firm—young men of business ability and worth, with great promise of success. Our impression is that they will suffer no material loss, except damage from removal of goods. Their consequential damages from loss of trade and interruption in business will be greater. They were insured.

SLOAN, LEE & TAYLOR,

Occupying the store adjoining lost everything. The smoke and heat was so great, and the fire had been burning in the cellar so long, that all concluded that it was unsafe to enter. The smoke was almost suffocating. This firm occupied high standing in the community and have its sympathy in the loss they must sustain. They are insured.

SLOAN BROTHERS'

Drug Stock was what may be called a total loss. These gentlemen had just received one of the largest and prettiest selections of fine Christmas Goods we have seen in the city. Only last night we were inspecting it. Tom Sloan and Mr. Edwards had them all arranged in a tasty manner. They have a host of friends who sympathize with them. They were insured.

W. C. HUMPHREY'S

Boot and Shoes House—goods damaged by heat. We congratulate Mr. Humphrey on so narrow an escape. Insurance.

VARDRY MCBEE

Moved out his entire stock of saddles and harness, in which labor his friends nobly assisted him. We think the help, and watching given to him in such a time of excitement is a great compliment to him. Insurance.

B. WEHRLE

Had his small frame store on Avenue first damaged by fire, and afterwards demolished by falling walls. Insurance.

THE CIRCULATING LIBRARY

Was endangered, but all the books were removed. Insurance.

THE ACADEMY.

What can we say of this? The pecuniary loss falls upon the proprietors, it is true, but it is also a loss to our community. On the streets and in the houses, this loss is upon the lips of all. When we consider the year of thought and labor bestowed upon this work by our worthy citizen, Capt. J. W. Cable, our sympathy is deep and expressionless. A citizen of Greenville in speaking to us this morning said, "Excuse me, but my tears are shallow when contemplating this." Out of pure sympathy, ours came to the surface.

THE FIRE COMPANIES

did noble work, and too much can not be said in their praise. We heard their actions criticised, but that was under the excitement of the fire. We all thought the business portion of our town at least was gone, and the loss of only the Academy was a monument to good firemen's work. The Steamer did good work, as is to be expected, but our colored firemen seemed almost as tireless as the Steamer. With all the evidences before us, we think we can boast a good department.

THE ORIGIN

was evidently incendiary, and from Policeman Newman, who gave the alarm, we learn that the light of fire was seen in the cellar under both Sloan Bros' and Sloan, Lee & Taylor's stores. Mr. Lee states that they had no occasion to use the cellar yesterday.

INSURANCE.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—Gower, Shumate & Reilly's agency, $4,000; W. L. Maulden's, $6,000 T. B. Ferguson's $4,000.

SLOAN BROS.—T. B. Ferguson, $1,000; Gower, Shumate & Reilly, $2,000.

SLOAN, LEE & TAYLOR.—T. B. Ferguson, $3,000; Gower, Shumate & Reilly, $800; J. C. Smith, $2,000.

F. W. POE & CO.—J. C. Smith, $2,000; Gower, Shumate & Reilly, $1,500; A. H. Jenkins, $1,500.

VARDRY MCBEE.—J. C. Smith, $3,000.

Christmas Primers, Books &c. &c.,

Uncle Tom Series, 5 cents,
Father's Series, 5 cents,
Little Pet, 5 cents,
Golden Series, 5 cents,
Familiar Series, 10 cents,
Cinderella Series, 10 cents,
My Indestructable Primer, 25 cents,
Aunt Lucia's Series, 25 cents,
My Primer, 30 cents.
The Child's Favorite Series.
Stories for Little Jack Tar, 50 cents,
Stories and Pictures for Little ones, 50 cts,
Fur Pet Lambs, 50 cents,
Little Snow Ball Albums, 50 cents,
Stories for Little Troupe—The House, 50cts
Pictures for Blue Eyes.
A Young Rover, 50 cents,
Sandford and Merton, 65 cents,
Childs Own Magazine, 50 cents.
Happy Homes in Picture Land, 50 cents,
See-Saw Margery Daw, 30 cents,
Little Lottie's Picture Gallery, 50 cents,
Robin Red Breast, 30 cents,
Jennie Wren, 30 cents,
Wee Willie Winkie, 30 cents,
My Young Soldier, 50 cents.
The new Tea Things, 50 cents,
Our Romeo, 60 cents,
The childrens Treasury, 50 cents,
The favorite nursery Series, 25 cents,
Walk through child land
Little Snow Flakes, 40 cents,
Daff a Down Dilly, 30 cents,
Dick and I, 25 cents,
Games.
Old Maid and Bachelor, 10 cents,
The merry game of Old Maid, 25 cents,

The Dewdrop Series, (12) 15 cents,
A. B, C, Cards and blocks, 5 to 25 cents,
Vases, Toilet sets and Albums,
Writing Desks, $1,40 to $1,75.
Work Box, $1,50.

EDWIN PARKER.

December 2, 1878.

Card.

AT a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Greenwood and Augusta Railroad recently held at stockade No. 6, the undersigned were appointed a committee to make the following statement of facts:

First, A full report from the President and Treasurer showed the financial condition of the company to be sound. We are out of debt and have some money left.

Second, The Board unanimously resolve to prosecute the work until its successful completion.

Third. We have graded thirty-six miles of road with about twenty thousand dollars.

Fourth. There are still fourteen miles to grade, mostly light work.

Fifth, Although we have had but little money to accomplish what we have done, and will not need a great deal to complete the work, *still we must have some.* We therefore call on our friends and the friends of the road to pay promptly their railroad tax, as well as their private subscriptions. If they will do this it will give us ample means. To those who have not paid their tax we are instructed by the Board to say the Treasurer, Capt. J. W. Perrin will indulge till the 1st of January next, after that they will be collected by law.

P. H. BRADLEY,
J. N. DENDY,
T. F. RILEY.

November 29, 1879.

Just Received

PRETTY SCARFS, White and Silver Card Board, Zephyr Worsted, Tuck Combs, Ruffllings, Fancy Buttons, Kid Gloves, Zephyr Shawls, and other valuable goods very cheap, at the

EMPORIUM OF FASHIONS.

Dec 3, 1879, tf

HOUSE TO RENT.

THE parsonage and lot now occupied by Mr. Rogers is offered for rent, from the first of January next. Apply to

T. G. Enright,
Calhoun's Mills.

Nov. 21, 1879, 2t.

NOtice.

THE rebuilding of a bridge across Wilson's Creek near Dr. Calhoun's on Ninety-Six Road will be let to the Lowest Bidder on 30th of December next. Plan and specifications given on the day.

G. M. Mattison,
Commissioner.

Novbember 26, 1879. 4t

NEW GOODS! NEW GODDS!!

Received and to Arrive.

DRESS GOODS, black CASHMERES, black ALPACAS, black brocade ALPACAS, Silk and Worsted FRINGES, Trimming SILKS, fancy BUTTONS, &c,

Price these goods.

R. M. Haddon & Co.

Nov. 26, 1879.

THE FIRST OF THE SEASON

WHITE BROTHERS have received a lot of NEW CROP NEW ORLEANS MOLASSES, also SELF-RISING BUCKWHEAT FLOUR.

Nov 19, 1879.

A BEAUTIFUL line of DRESS GOODS at 12½ cents.

R. M. Haddon & Co.

Sept. 24, 1879, tf

JEWELRY! JEWELRY!!

IN beautiful styles, and new designs. just received, at the

EMPORIUM OF FASHIONS.

Nov 26, 1879, tf

JEWELRY! JEWELRY!!

Ornaments!! Ornaments!!!

A Beautiful assortment of

JET, GILT, and CORAL JEWELRY,

ALSO,

VEIL PINS, SCARF PINS, HAIR ORNAMENTS, COMBS, &c.

Price these goods.

R. M. Haddon & Co.

Nov. 26, 1879.

Ladies Cloaks!

ZEPHYR SHAWLS, Worsted SACQUES &c. Price them.

R. M. Haddon & Co.

Nov. 26, 1879.

The Best

A SSORTMENT of Misses and children's HOSE, to be found at

R. M. Haddon & Co's.

Nov. 29, 1879.

5 Dozen Ladies UNDERVESTS,

R. M. Haddon & Co.

Nov. 26, 1879.

The Best

ASSORTMENT of Ladies' and children's SHOES to be found at

R. M. HADDON & CO'S.

Cloaks! Cloaks! Lady's Cloaks!

CALL and see them. Bargains offered at

W. JOEL SMITH & SON.

Nov 26, 1879, tf

W. C. BENET,

Attorney at Law

Law Range, Abbeville C. H. S. C.

STARVED OUT.

WITH A GOOD PRACTICE.

IT is a singular fact, but such is the case. I do not collect enough money to feed my family and horse. Consequently I am under the necessity to stop my country practice and sell my horse, and decline to see those who are disposed to settle their accounts, with the promise of paying "In a Few Days."

This must stop. I will work for those who will pay me, but sue and collect what I can from those who do not pay up. This refers also to Parker & Perrin's notes., Settle before the first of December.

EDWIN PARKER.

Nov. 12, 1879, tf

WHITE BR THERS

HAVE an extensive Stock of LADIES' CLOAKS, which they are offering at reduced prices. Persons in want of a garment of this kind would do well to supply themselves at once.

White Brothers.

Nov 19, 1879, tf

FOR GENTLEMEN.

A LARGE stock Ready-Made Clothing, Fancy Cassimeres, Hats, Gent's Underwear, Collars, Cravats, &c., Hand-Sewed Gaiters and Boots at

W. JOEL SMITH & SON.

Nov 26, 1879, tf

Wanted.

FIVE HUNDRED BUSHELS OF COW PEAS, for cash.

A. BEQUEST.

Nov 19, 1879, tf

UPLAND LONG COTTON.

I HAVE a quantity of the celebrated Cobb Cotton Seed for sale at low prices. These are the

BEST AND MOST PROLIFIC SEED

ever planted in the county and the lint made from them sells from a cent and a half to two cents higher to the pound than any other cotton sold in this market.

For further information cotton planters are referred to John Knox.

L. H. RUSSELL.

Nov 19, 1879, 5t

Stop Chewing Tobacco

OR it may kill you. Use Lange's Plug, a substitute for tobacco, 10ct a Plug at

Edwin Parker's.

Nov. 12, 1879.

FRESH ARRIVALS THIS WEEK

—OF—

MILLINERY, Dress Goods, Kid Gloves, Fancy Buttons, Trimming Silks, Silk Scarfs, Jabots, Zephyr Worsted, &c, cheaper than ever.

—AT THE—

EMPORIUM OF FASHION S.

Nov 12, 1879, tf

TRUNKS

ALL sizes for Ladies' and Gents, can now be found, at the

EMPORIUM OF FASHIONS.

Nov 12, 1879, tf

Notice.

ALL persons indebted to the undersigned are requested to come forward and settle by the 25th instant. We must have the money in order to pay our debts.

W. W. & J. W. ROWLAND.

Nov. 10th 1879, 2t

Sewing Machines.

IN Order to reduce our stock of SEWING MACHINES Will offer bargains for 30 days.