

The Press and Banner

By W. W. and W. B. Bradley.

HUGH WILSON, Editor.

ABBEVILLE, S. C.

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NOTICE

This Item, Please

Will you kindly hand your copy in to the Press and Banner office by Saturday coming. The Press and Banner force have not enjoyed a Christmas for twelve months and expect to go to press Monday evening so as to join in the hilarity beginning Christmas eve.

All of Our People Are Prosperous.

This is one year when the croaker has refused to croak. The kicker has failed to kick. Debtors have paid their debts, and our farmers have a large amount of their own cotton in their own warehouse at Abbeville. Very few of them have drawn money on their warehouse receipts. And their receipts would bring about two hundred thousand dollars. The result of the year's farming breaks all former records. If any man has failed to pay expense of making the crop, we are ignorant of the fact. In no year in the past do we recollect that there were no lame ducks who couldn't get up to "the Captain's office" with the necessary shekels. Not since the world began has this people made such good crops of all kinds. The corn crop is the best ever made; the potato crop is the best that has been taken out of the ground since "the stars fell" in 1858. The cotton crop was all that land, sunshine and rain could make. The fall was the fairest and the best for gathering the staple, nearly all of which found its way into the bales before the rains could stain it. People who couldn't hire it picked went to work and gathered it themselves.

If there is a lame duck who hasn't come to time on his lien, we do not know of the fact.

Our banks are not the largest on earth, but they are the solidest. Our merchants may not sell as much as the wholesale merchants of New York, but they collect what is coming to them. They are happy and prosperous.

The railroads have given us low excursion rates. And we are all happy with a sufficiency of this world's goods to eat a good dinner or go on a journey during the Christmas.

Another Noise About Jurors.

We see that Anderson county is making a noise about the necessity for better jurors—that is to say, that the jury shall be composed of a higher class of the citizenship.

The opinion of this editor is, that no degree of personal excellence on the part of jurors will bring the enforcement of the laws, until after our judges set the example. As long as judges grant bail to the bloody handed man-slayers while the smell of blood is still on their hands, the law will not be enforced for crimes against the person. And as long as judges grant the necessary new trials to secure an acquittal, men will be acquitted. The Constitution of the State provides that—

"All persons shall, before conviction, be bailable by sufficient sureties, except for capital offenses when the proof is evident or the presumption great."

It seems that our judges have overlooked this paragraph of the Constitution. If anybody has been refused bail, we have forgotten the fact. The people may judge "if the proof is evident or the presumption great," when the slayer admits the killing, as a reason for being set free of prison bonds.

The judges would lead us to believe that they thought the slain man was guilty every time and that the slayer was innocent of crime.

If you want to see the law enforced, turn your eyes on the imprisoned negro who is charged with any sort of crime against property, namely, the robbery of a hen roost, or the stealing of a pig. The slayer of the owner of the pig generally suffers no greater punishment than the price of a lawyer to defend him. But let some poor hungry negro steal the pig, and it is quite certain that his postoffice address for the next five years will be in care of the Captain of the chain gang.

Dr. Quigg.

The Associate Reformed Presbyterian of last week notes the death of Rev. Henry Quigg, D. D., of Conyers, Ga., and speaks very kindly of the deceased who graduated from Erskine College, and received a theological training in the Seminary of the A. R. P. Church. He was a big Irishman, with a big brain, and with a big heart, which loved his fellowman. He had been a preacher of the gospel for more than fifty years. At the age of eighty his spirit returned to the Father of us all, and his friends laid the deserted tenement away in the bosom of mother earth. "Blessed be the turf that wraps his clay."

Dreams.

If reports be true, some of our pretty young ladies have been giving an attentive ear to the recital of the old, old story. It is said that nothing is half so sweet as love's young dream.

Sometimes ago the Press and Banner said that Charles Petty of Spartanburg was the best preacher in the State. And now we wish to add, that he is also the best farmer.

The Newberry Observer thinks it is about time to bring out advice to the Legislators. We have none to urge, except that they let the lion law alone. A little masterly inactivity along that line might be best for the country.

The Florence Times always has something in it. The editor seems to express his own opinions, without effort to follow the crowd.

Senator Tillman thinks William Billy Bryan a presidential nominee, certainly, and a presidential possibility.

In the production of cotton South Carolina is fifth in number of bales, and first in amount to acreage.

The Union Times seems to be opposed to the opening of a dispensary in that town.

A department for teaching counting has been inaugurated in the public schools of Greenwood, Lincoln—Anderson Mail.

The Press and Banner has been intending to give lessons along this line. This editor can speak advisedly on this important subject of how not to succeed. By telling them how he has done they may learn what to avoid.

Mr. Hugh K. Aiken has been elected cashier of the bank of Laurens.

Congressman Aiken
Champion Bill Passer.

South Carolina Representative Leads in Number of Measures Which Have Gone Through Congress and Become Law.

Washington Cor. New York Evening Post.

"Who is the most successful bill passer in Congress?" was a query propounded the other day to Speaker Cannon by an inquisitive Representative. As a rule Mr. Cannon can answer questions of this kind without reference to reports and records, but he admitted he was "up a stump."

"If I had two guesses," he said, "I should guess Babcock, or Sulloway." Mr. Babcock, of Wisconsin, was for many years chairman of the Committee on the District of Columbia. Mr. Sulloway, of New Hampshire, is the chairman of the Committee on Invalid Pensions. By reason of holding these chairmanships Mr. Babcock and Mr. Sulloway had many calls on their time from persons outside their respective districts, and it was natural that the Speaker should have selected them as the members who would be shown by the records as charged with the passage of many bills.

Mr. Cannon did not make a good guess, for it appears that Representative Wyatt Aiken of Abbeville, S. C. led all his colleagues in bill passing last winter. Mr. Aiken is a Democrat, and naturally, is "agin the administration." Thirty bills introduced by him passed both branches of the Republican Congress last winter and were signed by a Republican President. Mr. Aiken never held political office until his election to Congress four years ago. He has not been active in the Congressional debates and probably not one of his colleagues is aware of his success in securing the enactment of bills in which he is interested. None of the thirty Aiken bills is a measure of large public concern, most of them being private bills, or bills of special interest to the Third district of South Carolina. Nine of them provide for the building of bridges over S. C. navigable streams.

Representative Don C. Edwards, of Kentucky, was a close second to Mr. Aiken. Twenty nine measures introduced by Mr. Edwards found their way last winter to the statutes of the United States. Mr. Edwards is a Republican. The Fifty-ninth Congress was his first appearance in Washington as a national lawmaker.

Messrs. Aiken and Edwards completely outclassed veterans and leaders like Speaker Cannon and Representative Payne, Dalzell, Williams, and Clark. Only nine of Mr. Dalzell's bills became laws last winter. Representative Payne, the Republican floor leader, had twenty one of his bills favorably reported fourteen of which became laws. John Sharp Williams, the minority leader, succeeded in having five of his bills pass both houses and receive executive approval. Nine bills offered by Mr. Williams were favorably reported from committees. Seven bills fathered by Champ Clark became laws, while thirteen of Mr. Cannon's measures were approved by both branches of Congress and the President.

Representative Brownlow of Tennessee, introduced more bills in the last Congress than any other member of the body. In the first session of that Congress he proposed nearly 400 bills, and in the second session he offered about fifty more. Most of the Brownlow bills were private pension measures.

Only two bills introduced in the Fifty ninth Congress by Representative Bourke Cockran were enacted into law.

Representative Sulloway, who, the Speaker thought, might lead the list had twenty four of his bills passed last winter. Fourteen of Representative Babcock's bills became laws. Representative Jenkins, of Wisconsin, chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary, had ten bills favorably reported, but only two of them passed the House.

Several years ago a critic of Congress divided the members into two classes, namely, "those who do," and "those who dine." This classification is not accurate or just, but it would appear that those who are most prominent in the public eye in the debates, and in the framing of legislation are not the men who can measure their success as lawmakers by the number of their bills that run the gantlet of Congressional and Executive approval.

To Our Friends and Patrons :

We wish you a Merry Christmas and prosperous New Year. Thanking you for past favors and wishing for a continuance of your patronage, we are,

Very truly,

Smith Dry Goods Co.

ALGERNON S. SIMMONS, Manager.

Cabbage Plants.

I am again ready to fill your orders for Cabbage and Beet Plants. My plants are all grown from the same grade of seed I set my crop from. I have all of the leading varieties: Early Jersey Wakefield, very early, Charleston Wakefield, about ten days later. In flat varieties I have Succession, a medium early, and Short Stem Late Flat Dutch. Prices up to 5,000 \$1.50 per thousand. Write me for special prices on larger lots. These plants are all grown near salt water in open air and will stand severe cold without injury.

W. F. CARR, Meggetts, S. C.

Christmas Holiday Rates.

The Charleston & Western Carolina Railway will sell excursion tickets, account of the Holidays at very low rates for the round trip. Tickets on sale December 20th to 25th, inclusive, 30th and 31st, 1907, and January 1, 1908. Final limit returning January 6, 1908. For further information apply to ticket agents or

ERNEST WILLIAMS,
General Passenger Agent,
807 Broadway, Augusta, Ga.

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The usual cheap round-trip rates will be made between all points in this territory this season.

Tickets will be sold December 20th to 25th, inclusive, 30th, 31st, 1907, and January 1st, 1908, final limit of all tickets January 6th, 1908.

Information as to schedules, rates, etc., will be cheerfully furnished upon application to

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For ladies, misses and children as good as your money can buy. 10c, 15c, 25c and 50c. 16 button Kid Gloves, black, tan, brown and white.

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Ladies Embroidered Handkerchiefs. Lace and Silk Collars, Elastic and Silk Belts, Feather Boas, Pillow Tops, Laundry Bags.

Fine Silk Umbrellas.

Collar Cases, Post Card Albums, Ink Stands, Glove and Handkerchief Boxes, Work Boxes, Pictures, Jewel Boxes and number of other acceptable Xmas gifts.

SHOP WITH US AND SAVE MONEY.

Smith Dry Goods Co.

Notice to Tax-Payers.

For the Purpose of Accommodating the Public in the Matter of Making Their Tax Returns, I Will Visit the Places Mentioned Below on the Dates Indicated in Schedule:

ALL RETURNS MUST BE MADE UNDER OATH, AND ALL PERSONAL PROPERTY RETURNED AT ITS TRUE MARKET VALUE.

Persons not making their returns between January 1st, 1908, and February 20th, 1908, are liable to a penalty of 50 per cent. This penalty will be enforced against delinquents; for the failure to enforce it heretofore has put a premium on neglect of the law.

The returns of those who conform to the law are placed before the Townships and County Boards, while those who disregard the law come in after the meeting of the Boards and return to suit themselves. The enforcement of this 50 per cent. penalty will correct this evil.

Employers are requested to return all of their employees after notifying them and getting a statement of their property.

Returns will not be taken by mail unless they are sworn to before some proper officer. This does not apply, however, to persons returning only land.

All improvements on and transfer of real estate must be reported to the Auditor.

My Appointments are as Follows:

Calhoun Falls, Wednesday, January 22d.
Lowndesville, Thursday and Friday, January 23d and 24th.
Mt. Carmel, Tuesday, January 28th.
Willington, Wednesday, January 29th.
Bordeaux, Thursday, January 30th.
McCormick, Friday and Saturday, January 31st and February 1st.
Donalds, Tuesday and Wednesday, February 4th and 5th.
Due West, Thursday and Friday, February 6th and 7th.
Office open at Abbeville, January 1st to February 20th.
Also R. O. McAdams, John T. Bryant and Foster Calvert will take tax returns at their respective places of business from 1st January to 20th February.

RICHARD SONDELEY,
County Auditor.

Go to Link's for furniture and sewing machines.

"Skat" is the best hand soap made. Makes grease fly. Dargan's 5 and 10c Store.

Only 7 Days till Xmas!

Have you selected your Christmas present?

You are going to give some, of course.

Have you decided what they shall be?

"A thing of beauty is a joy forever."

Let your gifts be a nice ones.

Anything that you may buy at Johnson's Jewelry Store will be appropriate, for he only keeps such things as are valuable both from the standpoint of art and utility.

Johnson's stock is larger than ever. A larger business calls for a larger stock.

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JOHNSON'S Jewelry Store.

Take notice of the many wagon loads of furniture leaving our store. It sells like circus tickets. S. J. Link.

Why pay \$60 for a sewing machine when we will sell you a beauty, fully guaranteed for ten years for \$30. S. J. Link.