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After you have finished your reading lecture to the class a while for having so poor lessons, tell them they ought to be ashamed of themselves.

When school is over do not speak with your pupils, unless indeed you tell them to behave themselves on the road home.

Do not take any pains, week day, to see them or interest them. Bunch every thought of them from your brain.

Follow even a few of the above rules, and you will doubtless have a small class as you can desire.

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THE LAW OF FLIRTATION.

The legal gentlemen have begun to lay down the "law of flirtation," and if the opinion of certain judges are to be taken as conclusive, the folksome and sentimental young men and women of the day will have to exercise considerable caution.

# The Sumter Watchman.

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WEDNESDAY MORNING, MARCH 1, 1871.

NO. 44.

DEVOTED TO LITERATURE, MORALITY AND GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

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Table with columns for Train Name, Direction, and Time. Includes Cheraw and Darlington, and Florence and Darlington.

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April 13

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THE KU-KLUX-KLAN.

ORIGIN AND AIMS OF THE MYSTERIOUS ORGANIZATION.

The Real Feeling Among the people of Upper South Carolina—A Highly Interesting Letter from Union.

Union, S. C., February 16, 1871.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CHARLESTON NEWS.

The mystery which surrounds the movements of the Ku-Klux-Klan, has led the superstitious to regard them as spirits of the disembodied, while the educated, beyond the field of operation, have believed the whole story to be a myth.

Of their existence, as an organized body of living men, we who have seen them, entertain no doubt.

Of their numbers and extent, it is impossible to speak. There must be one thousand in a day's march of Union.

You have them, no doubt, in Charleston, and they certainly can be found throughout Georgia, North Carolina and Tennessee.

They occasionally leave behind them letters explanatory of their purposes. Those of them who operate in South Carolina, say that they want peace, but must have justice; that the courts are guided by weak judges; and that the jury is composed of ignorant negroes; that a thief, convicted with much cost of time, money, and labor, to the prosecutor, remains at the penitentiary secretly a week, and then returns home with a pardon, prepared to steal again.

They say that when their race have justice, and are no longer robbed by public thieves, their mission will end.

There are some erroneous opinions entertained as to the feelings of the people of Upper South Carolina towards the Ku-Klux. They are not a band of cut throats and desperadoes, as some suppose; nor, on the other hand, are they universally approved of by the white people here.

They are men of firmness and nerve, who strike because they believe it necessary for the protection of their life, property and liberty; they strike at night, because circumstances render it imperative. But very many citizens disapprove and condemn the acts of violence committed by the Klan.

We fell the oppression of the present State government, but we would not have it overturned with violence. We might indulge in hard words against the Ku-Klux, but we find that they despise our strictures, and the State officials believe all of us to be members of the band, no matter how much we abuse it.

Now, sir, before we can successfully oppose and end this evil, we must appreciate the causes. It is bad practice to administer a remedy before we make a diagnosis. If we went back to first causes, we would indicate the Reconstruction acts, the greatest political blunder of the century, as the inciter of the Ku-Klux.

In our State, however, the organization would never have taken root if we had been spared the late iniquitous election laws, the arming of negroes with guns and cartridges, (the latter being unnecessary for purposes of drill,) the gross frauds of the election in October, the numerous pardons issued by the Governor, and the wholesale robbery by State officials of money wrong from our people by enormous taxation.

And again, it is well known that Joseph Crews, prominently connected with the State government, honored by the speaker of the House, and the travelling companion of our Governor, in fact encouraged murder, arson and rapine, last summer, in Laurens. What might have been the consequence of that advice, it is fearful to contemplate. He may be more successful next summer.

In September or October last, June Mobley, member of the Legislature, informed his negro friends that ten white men should be killed for every negro murdered. Little did June think that his threat against our race would so literally be fulfilled against his own advisers towards the white people may be also gathered from the murderous plans of Crews and others (then and now State officials) towards citizens of Union and Laurens, so recently exposed through your columns by Kerrigan and his men. It was only a further proof of what we already felt, that the white race would be taxed out, driven out or killed out—by negroes and their allies—if possible.

Here were the causes which operate to plant the Ku-Klux in South Carolina. The murder of Matt Stevens gave them great strength. It was a foul murder—the foulest ever known in this State. A one-armed, inoffensive white man, of good character, who toiled honestly for his daily bread and did harm to no one; he was waylaid and cruelly murdered because he had a "white skin."

The murderers were a body of negro militia, at least twenty-five, and more probably forty in number; instigated, the white people of Union believe, and may in time be able to prove, by Ellick Walker, captain of militia, and June B. Mobley, a legislator. Bad as this murder was, it was a sign of worse things to come. The entire negro race of Union in active sympathy with the murderers. Had it been left with the negroes, not one of them would have been arrested, although they proclaimed their guilt wherever they went among their own people. It is within bounds to assert that two hundred negroes in Union County were accessories after the fact to the murder of Stevens; and that there are not two dozen of that class who would have refused to shield the criminals. Ten positions have been taken out of the jail by the Ku-Klux and killed, nine of whom were murderers of Stevens; the tenth was also a negro who shot the constable (Smith) on the first day of January. We condemn the act as an unadvised and unchristianlike act, but we have no sympathy. The negroes, on

the contrary, regard with indifference the deed in the abstract; their only feeling is sympathy for the murdered prisoners.

The manifesto let here by the Ku-Klux sufficiently explains the immediate cause of the last raid on our jail. To take these prisoners—two of them red to the elbow with the blood of Stevens—to Columbia, where the Legislature was in session, composed, it was believed, of men in active sympathy with the murderers, was thought to be tantamount to a release. It was unfortunate that Judge Thomas, did not order the return to the writ of habeas corpus to be made before him at Union, or at his home, which, it is presumed, is within the limits of his circuit. The letter to the judge indicates that he would sacrifice the peace of society here, and turn the prisoners loose, to save his Office. The Ku-Klux thought the escape of the prisoners would be an evil, compared to which the loss of Judge Thomas to the bench of the Sixth Circuit would be insignificant. Such escape would be a wrong to their race, and one of those wrongs which could find redress only from their hand. They were—under another name—a vigilance committee, with this difference—a vigilance committee generally have the tacit approval of their government; the Ku-Klux operate upon crimes committed by a class of citizens specially protected, befriended and honored by our State.—The vigilance committee is, however, an unlawful organization—so is the Ku-Klux. The sets of the one find an exact counterpart in the other; for, so far as known, the victims of the Ku-Klux have been bad men—dangerous citizens and well-known murderers.

We are no apologist for the Ku-Klux. Nothing here written is an apology. The reader who so construes this letter fees *excess* sufficient in what we have enumerated simply as *causes*—We cannot excuse these self-constituted avengers of white men's wrongs. Crime begets crime, but does not excuse it.—To kill a murderer is murder. To be prosecutor, judge, jury and sheriff is a fearful sin—a sin legally and morally, and a sin in His eyes to whom belongeth vengeance. We may have no justice, but let us suffer and to wait. A bad government is better than no government at all. Injustice is better than anarchy.

Negro militia can never stop the evil, no matter how strong in numbers. The Columbia Union advises that they be sent, and the county taxed to make a calculation of the cost of maintaining a thousand soldiers for a year, and compare it with the assessed value of property in this county. The proposition is ridiculous. Negro militia are powerless against them. They may be stopped, but only in one way—remove the causes which made them fancy their organization a necessity; restore good government; give the State upright and able judges and honest officials; stop the frightful expenditure of public money in Columbia; prosecute, indict and bring to trial such men as Neagle, Parker and Crews; disband the negro militia; give the people intelligent jurors, and let convicts be punished, and then will the Ku-Klux be a thing of the past. But let the Legislature and the State officials go on as they have gone on, and the time will soon be when raids into Columbia, and around that capitol building, will cause our highly virtuous and intrepid legislators to forget Union and Union murderers.

One more word. We are all suspected of active sympathy with the Ku-Klux, because we do not bring them to trial. The thing is impossible. They shroud themselves in a mystery which no one can unravel. Whence they come and whither they go, no one knows; their voices are not recognized; their horses are not known. They are never seen in daylight; only in night. It would seem that negroes would know when their masters left home, and took their horses out of the stable; would sometimes see their disguises, notice the jaded appearance of man and horse, after a night of wakefulness and hard riding. But it is not so. No negro knows a single member of the band; if they did, they would tell it, if not here for fear, at any rate in Columbia. The whole negro race desire the suppression of the Ku-Klux; but they can make no discoveries. Is it singular, then, that the white man, who spends his evenings at home—whose opportunities for detection are so much less—should fail to find out names? We do not say that all condemn the Ku-Klux. Many see the immediate good, and think not of the consequent evil. But many, very many, oppose and abhor these deeds, committed without any legal sanction, and they express their abhorrence in unmeasured terms.

This letter has been made too long. We wrote, however, to show that the Ku-Klux were combating evils as dangerous to the peace of society as the counter evils they perpetuate; and that these fearful counter evils were not approved of by all the people of upper South Carolina.

BAUTUS.

—An imagination quantity—A lady's age.

—Of what trade are the bees?—comb makers.

—An impossible quantity.—Too much money.

—Geometrical Progression.—Acting on the square.

—What is the key note of good breeding?—B natural.

—A wonderful aerial phenomenon.—A flight of stairs.

—When does a chair dislike you?—When it can't bear you.

—How to make time go fast.—Use the spur of the moment.

LETTER FROM JUDGE THOMAS.

Why the Stevens Murderers were to Have Been Removed to Columbia.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CHARLESTON NEWS.

As a judge should, I have remained silent until efforts are made to make me the scape-goat to bear the responsibility of the Union troubles. Allow me to make a short statement.

On the morning of the first Thursday in January, I left Columbia for Spartanburg. In passing up the railroad, I found that the people of Union were very much excited by the murder of a one-armed man by a detail of the State militia—all colored—because he would not give them whiskey. Upon passing Union, I found that a large band of armed men, in disguise, had taken out five of the prisoners who had been put in the jail, killed two, and badly wounded three. Upon inquiry, I found that the impression of the people was that, had they been tried, they would have been pardoned and escaped. I also found that a large meeting had been held that day, condemning the action of the night before. As soon as I had finished the object of my visit to Spartanburg, I hired a vehicle and went to Union, not waiting for the Monday train. On Monday I held court at Union, and I succeeded in spreading the Aegis of law once more over the community. I shrank from no responsibility, and brought away with me the assurances of many of the best citizens that quiet had been restored.

On arriving in Columbia I sent for Governor Scott, and informed him I had held the civil courts in Union, and thought that law and order was restored.

On the first Tuesday in this month, being in Columbia, and ready to leave for Charleston, three influential citizens desired me to have a personal interview with Governor Scott, and give him a plain statement of what I thought of the troubles in the up country. My idea was that the disease was constitutional, and not local. I did so, and as a part of the interview, succeeded in having some of the best men of the up country appointed to office. One of the difficulties which had presented itself to my mind was that this class of citizens took no interest in the government, and I had found an apathy among them so far that they would not risk their lives when called upon to act as a posse to execute the laws in some respects.

This interview detained me until after the train left for Charleston, and while waiting for the next train, General Anderson, of the State militia, approached me with a petition for habeas corpus for three prisoners at Union, the petition alleging that they were insecure in their lives at Union, and asking to be removed to a place of safety. Mr. Brawley, the solicitor of the Sixth Circuit, went with me to the Governor, and he guaranteed us that they should be returned to us at Union for trial.

Being surprised at the allegation in the petition, I had Mr. Brawley to make inquiries concerning the condition of affairs at Union, and I found that those who came down that night were not uneasy, and apprehended no trouble. Upon reflection I concluded that some thing other than their safety was the cause of the application for removal. The three men sought for removal were the first raid on the jail, and were likely to know the raiders if any one did. Knowing the distrust which many of the citizens had in the State Government, I stipulated with General Anderson that the prisoners should be kept in separate cells so as not to concoct a story, and secondly, that no one should see them except by special order from him or myself.

Upon the evening when the writ was to have been returned with the prisoners, and after hearing that the sheriff would not obey it, I was waited on by Mr. Dunbar, the attorney of the prisoners, with another writ of habeas corpus. This I declined to sign as mere "bantam fulmen," but indicated to him that all that was left of civil authority was for me to "rule the sheriff." He said he would prepare the rule and return that night with it. This was not done, and the rule was issued of my own motion late that night and sent off on the cars. One of the leading members of the bar of the Sixth Circuit, and the candidate of the Conservatives for the seat on the bench, was present, advising and urging this as my only course. I had consulted with two of my brethren on the bench at several lawyers, who agreed with me in the view that, as a judge of the State, I had nothing to do with the execution of the processes of the court. These were for the sheriff and the coroner. If they could not carry into execution the processes by calling out the posse, then the responsibility was upon those who refused to act as a posse, or upon that constitutional difficulty which directed these people of the interest they had in obeying the orders of the sheriff or executive officer.

On Sunday night, the sheriff's guard at the jail in Union was overpowered, and the three prisoners who were named in the writ of habeas corpus, with five others, were killed.

The position of judge at present is thankless enough, and if I have failed to discharge my duty, I am ready to resign. I feel that I have done all that was in my power, and if there is a responsibility anywhere, except on the armed band who violated the jail, it is not on me.

Who is responsible? It may be the sheriff; it may be those who organized the militia in such a way as to make it liable to such acts as committed this carnal of blood, and now renders it inefficient as a posse? But I think the

true cause will be found in a constitutional deficiency, which occasions the apathy of leading citizens, to wit: taxation and no representation. This is contrary to all republicanism, and should be removed by those in authority by a change in the constitution of the State, making a tax-paying qualification for one of the branches of the Legislature. This is a slow remedy for a bursting boil, but when the patient sees the physician apply the proper remedy, he may not be so restless.

Very respectfully,  
Your obedient servant,  
W. M. THOMAS,  
Judge Sixth Circuit.

POMPEII.

New Discoveries—How the Excavations are Conducted.

An "excavation picnic" took place at Pompeii last month, in honor of the arrival of Professor Peirece and the other members of the American Eclipse Expedition. A correspondent of the Boston Advertiser describes the scene:

On arriving at Pompeii, the party were first conducted to the present limit of the excavations, that they might witness the entire process of the labor. The wheel-barrow is still unknown to the Italian laborer, and his rude, broad pick and his *sappa*, which serves alike for hoe and spade, would be disdained by the meaneast of an American's "adopted fellow-citizens." Men and women, boys and girls, are employed indifferently, and go scrambling and chattering up the steep bank, with their little basketful of dirt upon head or shoulder. A miniature railway, operated by boy-power, is laid near the edge of the cutting, and as fast as the cars are filled they are pushed away beyond the lines of the city walls, and beyond the amphitheatre, where there contents are dumped. Close upon the diggers follow another set of workmen. There: prop up crooked walls; repair breaches, made by tearing down the roof-supports and ladders, if these are of such extent as to threaten the crumbling of the partitions; cut out carefully and carry away such mural paintings or tablets as have any unusual value, and can be removed in good condition, or roof over or otherwise protect such as must be left in place, but might suffer from exposure.

Just at present the excavators are revealing nothing of any intrinsic value. For the street now opening appears to have been almost exclusively occupied by minor shopkeepers—some of them business in the military equipment factory, for a portion of a full-length and life-sized painting of a Roman legionary in a complete armor has recently been brought to light beside one shop door. In many other places in the neighborhood are painted up what seems to be the names of candidates for various local offices; so that perhaps this district was the haunt of the war-policitians of an older day. According to Professor Peirece's party were warned that they must not anticipate the finding of any treasures, nor even be disappointed if nothing were found, for this is the case with many buildings, everything having been either carried away or destroyed.

The street itself must have been a pretty one, for the buildings throughout nearly its entire length were painted in high alternate panels of red and black relieved with some light ornament. Doubtless it was also a lively one, for beside all its shops, it boasted a lively business, in front of whose board doorway the sidewalk was sloped to the roadway that the chariots might roll out freely. The more modest art of donkey riding, too, found its opportunities here, for a great room in the rear of the stable indicated by its frescoes, that the proprietor did not content himself alone with "carriage customers."

Two or three of the more promising shops and houses had been reserved by the superintendent for particular attention, and in front of them chairs were placed for the company. The debris had been left, as I have intimated above to the depth of two or three feet over the floors, and the door ways had been blocked by large stones to keep the looser dust from rolling out into the clean-cut street. A dozen men were immediately set to work, and about as many *custodi* stood by, watching with all the sharpness of their long-trained eyes that nothing might be caught up and concealed. Experience has taught the directors in what parts of each particular kind of building objects are most likely to be found; and therefore, while one man was digging away with the utmost *insouciance* his fellow, close beside him, would be upon his knees carefully scraping away the dirt with his fingers.

The first building was evidently a shop, with a living room at the back but there were no external indications of its character. Digging upon developed a great iron furnace or oven, laden covered, and set in brick in the centre of the front room; and the most popular surmise was the owner had been a cook for a few bronze vessels of the sauce-jar type were found near the furnace, together with the bones of two or three dogs and cats, which imagination figured as having sought the shop, after its master's flight, in search of pit-pickings, and as having paid for their glutinous morsels dearly by a beating.

A couple of wine *amphorae*, a lamp, a bit of money, a bronze ring, some ivory plectils for the hinges of doors and amovables, a door key, and a few nails, completed the treasure-trove, the back room but absolutely empty.

Fragments of the red tiles, and some charred bits of the wood work, which throughout the city was almost all ignited by the blazing cylinders of the *dioc*—were mingled with the ashes-pumice, as also were a few broken jars

and lamps; but all these latter pieces were broken to atoms as fast as found, that nothing recognizable as a bit of Pompeii might so elsewhere than into the museum. The next door neighbor of our shopkeeper had left nothing for posterity but his simple mosaic pavement; perhaps, on the other hand, we thought, his friend had left his trifles behind him in order to take his stone carpet with him, for in his two rooms we had found nothing but the base earth for flooring.

HOW TO HAVE A SMALL CLASS.

The Sunday School Times has some capital bits at lazy and negligent teachers under the above caption, which we copy for their admonition. If you would have a small class, first come to Sunday School late—so late that the superintendent is about looking for another teacher, and the scholars are beginning to think, "we might as well go home."

Having commenced your exercises, ask any random questions you can call to mind. If there is any thing that you cannot well explain, read from Scotts Commentary, or Barnes' Notes, which you will probably find it convenient to have at hand.

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After you have finished your reading lecture to the class a while for having so poor lessons, tell them they ought to be ashamed of themselves.

When school is over do not speak with your pupils, unless indeed you tell them to behave themselves on the road home.

Do not take any pains, week day, to see them or interest them. Bunch every thought of them from your brain.

Follow even a few of the above rules, and you will doubtless have a small class as you can desire.

BOYS THAT SHOULD NOT STAY ON THE FARM.

If the only good that a boy ever did about the farm was to repair the pumps, hang gates, make mole traps, put in rake teeth, file the saw, and hang the grinders, and he did these things well, obviously the farm is not the place for him, but a machine shop is.

If a boy will walk a half dozen miles after the day's work is done, to hear a political speech; if he takes time from play to attend trials before a justice of the peace, and sits up half the night when he is going to school to learn declamations which bring down the house at spelling school, most likely he will do the world more good if you put a law-book and not a manure fork into his hand.

If he earns more money trading jack knives and fish-lines on rainy days, than he does hoeing potatoes and cutting grain in fair weather, give him a chance at the yard stick, and not have him around troubling the other boys who are handling horse rakes and pitchforks and the like employment.

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THE FIRST SALE.

The authorities of Memphis, Tennessee, have proceeded in a manner which has engaged the attention of every community where education is regarded and it is estimated that the exclusion from the people, so far as the regular channel of trade can be controlled, of the flash sensational papers of the East.

The news-ealer of Memphis who shall sell these papers is liable to indictment for a criminal offence, and properly so. For manly, the man who disposes of these publications over his counter is only in degree less criminal than the publisher who issues them by thousands—it is a ten, or twenty, or fifty copies to one, or five, or ten thousand. There are certainly evils of a more serious and dangerous character than these flash papers, but that they are a potent instrument for trapping the youthful mind and leading it astray, we think