

The Orangeburg News.

FIRST OUR HOMES; THEN OUR STATE; FINALLY THE NATION; THESE CONSTITUTE OUR COUNTRY.

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SAMUEL DIBBLE,
EDITOR ORANGEBURG NEWS,
Orangeburg, S. C.
Feb 23 1867

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Vance's Ferry.....R. M. E. Avinger.
Branchville.....Mrs. Amy Thompson.
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Schedule South Carolina Rail Road.

Down Passenger.
Leave Columbia at..... 6.30 A. M.
" Orangeburg at..... 10.30 A. M.
Arrive at Charleston..... 4 P. M.
" " August..... 5 P. M.
Up Passenger.
Leave Augusta at..... 7 A. M.
" Charleston at..... 8 A. M.
" Orangeburg at..... 1.30 P. M.
Arrive at Columbia at..... 5.20 P. M.
Down Freight.
Leave Orangeburg at..... 10 A. M.
Arrive at Charleston at..... 6.10 P. M.
Up Freight.
Leave Orangeburg at..... 1.30 P. M.
Arrive at Columbia at..... 6.30 P. M.
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POETRY.

The South.

Land of the gentle and the brave!
Our love is as wide as thy woe,
It deepens beside every grave
Where the heart of a hero lies low.

Land of the brightest of skies!
Our love glows the more mid thy gloom,
Our hearts, by the saddest of ties,
Cling closest to thee in thy doom.

Land where the desolate weep!
In a sorrow too deep to console;
Our tears are but streams making deep,
The ocean of love in our soul.

Land where the victor's flag waves
Where only the dead are the free,
Each link of the chain that enslaves
Shall bind us the closer to thee.

Land where the sign of the cross,
Its shadow of sorrow hath shed,
We measure our love by thy loss—
Thy loss—by the graves of our dead.

SELECTED STORY.

A Rift in the Cloud.

A STORY FOR MARRIED FOLKS.

Andrew Lee came home from his shop where he had worked all day, tired and out of spirits; came home to his wife, who was also tired and out of spirits.

"A smiling wife and a cheerful home—a paradise it would be!" said Andrew to himself, as he turned his eyes from the clouded face of Mrs. Lee, and sat down with knitted brows and moody aspect.

Not a word was spoken by either. Mrs. Lee was getting supper, and she moved about with a weary step.

"Come," she said at last, with a side glance at her husband.

Andrew arose and went to the table. He was tempted to speak an angry word, but controlled himself and kept silent. He could find no fault with the chop nor the home-made bread, nor the fragrant tea. They would have cheered his inward man if there had been a gleam of sunshine on the face of his wife. He noticed she did not eat.

"Are you not well, Mary?" The words were on his lips, but he did not utter them, for the face of his wife looked so repellant, that he feared an irritating reply.

And so, in moody silence, the twin sat together until Andrew had finished his supper. As he pushed his chair back, his wife arose and commenced clearing off the table.

"This is purgatory!" said Lee to himself, as he commenced walking the floor of their little breakfast room, with his hands thrust desperately away down into his trousers' pockets, and his chin almost touching his breast.

After removing all the dishes and taking them into the kitchen, Mrs. Lee spread a green cover on the table, and placing a fresh trimmed lamp thereon, went out and shut the door after her, leaving her husband alone with his unpleasant feelings. He took a long deep breath as he did so; paused in his walk; stood still for some moments, and when drawing a paper from his pocket set down by the table, opened the sheet, and commenced reading. Singularly enough, the words upon which his eyes rested were "Praise your wife." They rather tended to increase the disturbance of mind from which he was suffering.

"I should like to find some occasion for praising mine." How quickly his thoughts expressed that ill-natured sentiment. But his eyes were on the page before him, and he read on.

"Praise your wife, man; for pity's sake give her a little encouragement. It won't hurt her."

Andrew Lee raised his eyes from the paper and muttered, "O, yes; that's all very well. Praise is cheap enough! But praise her for what? For being sullen, and making her home the most disagreeable place in the world?" His eyes fell again to the paper.

"She has made your home comfortable, your heart bright and shining, your food agreeable; for pity's sake tell her you thank her, if nothing more. She don't expect it; it will make her eyes open wider than they have for ten years; but it will do her good for all that, and you too."

It seemed to Andrew as if this sentence was written just for him, and just for the occasion. It was a complete answer to his question. "Praise her for what?" and he felt it also a rebuke. He read no further, for thought came too busy and in a new direction. Memory was convicting him of injustice to his wife. She had always made his home as comfortable for him as her hands could make it, and had offered the light return of praise or commendation? Had he ever told her of the satisfaction he had known, or the comfort he had experienced? He was not able to recall the time or occasion. As he thought thus, Mrs.

Lee came in from the kitchen, and taking her work-basket from the closet, placed it on the table, and, sitting down without speaking, began to sew. Mr. Lee glanced almost stealthily at the work in her hands, and saw that it was the bosom of a shirt, which she was stitching neatly. He knew that it was for him that she was at work.

"Praise your wife." The words were before the eyes of his mind, and he could not look away from them. But he was not ready for this yet. He still felt moody and unforgiving. The expression of his wife's face he interpreted to mean ill-nature, for which he had no patience. His eyes fell upon the newspaper that lay spread out before him, and he read the sentence:

"A kind, gentle word, spoken in a gloomy house, is the little rift in the cloud that lets the sunshine through."

Lee struggled with himself a while longer. His own ill-nature had to be conquered first; his moody, accusing spirit had to be subdued. He thought of many things to say, yet he feared to say them lest his wife should meet his address with a cold rebuff. At last, leaning toward her, and taking hold of the shirt bosom upon which she was at work, he said in a voice carefully modulated with kindness:

"You are doing the work beautifully, Mary."

Mrs. Lee made no reply. But her husband did not fail to notice that she had almost instantly that rigid creeness with which she had been sitting, nor that the motion of her needle ceased.

"My shirts are better made, and whiter than those of any man in the shop," said Lee, encouraged to go on.

"Are they?" Mrs. Lee's voice was low, and had in it a slight huskiness. She did turn her face, but her husband saw that she leaned a little towards him. He had broken the ice of reserve, and all was easy now. His hand was among the clouds and a feeble ray was already struggling through the rift it had made.

"Yes, Mary," he answered softly; "and I've heard it more than once what a good wife Andrew Lee must have." Mrs. Lee turned her face towards her husband. There was light in it, and light in her eye. But there was something in the expression of the countenance that a little puzzled him.

"Don't you think so?" she asked, quite soberly.

"What a question!" ejaculated Andrew Lee, starting up, and going round to the side of the table where his wife was sitting.

"What a question, Mary?" he repeated as he stood before her.

"Do you?" It was all she said.

"Yes, darling," was his warmly spoken answer, and he stooped down and kissed her. "How strange that you should ask me such a question!"

"If you would only tell me so now and then, Andrew, it would do me good." Mrs. Lee arose, and leaning her face against the manly breast of her husband, stood and wept.

What a strong light broke in upon the mind of Andrew Lee. He had never given his wife even the small reward of praise for the loving interest she had manifested daily, until doubt of his love had entered her soul, and made the light around her thick darkness. No wonder that her face grew clouded, nor what he considered moodiness and ill-nature, took possession of her spirit.

"You are good and true, Mary, my own dear wife; I am proud of you—I love you, and my first desire is for your happiness. O, if I could always see your face in sunshine, my home would be the dearest place on earth."

"How precious to me are your words of love and praise, Andrew," said Mrs. Lee, smiling up through her tears into his face. "With them in my ears, my heart can never be in shadow."

How easy had been the work for Andrew Lee. He had swept his hand across the cloudy horizon, and now the bright sunshine was streaming down, and flooding that home with joy and beauty.

OFFICIAL.

REGULATIONS FOR REGISTRATION.
I. Registration shall commence immediately upon the promulgation of this order.

II. Post Commanders will be Superintendents of registration within their respective commands, exercising, in addition to the functions hereinafter specially conferred, a general supervisory authority, looking to the faithful execution of the several Reconstruction Acts, the maintenance of order and the protection of political rights. They will suspend registrars for malfeasance in office, neglect of duty, incompetency, promptly reporting their action, with the reasons therefor, to these headquarters.

III. The Boards of Registration are empowered and required to suppress all disorders interfering with the execution of their duties, to cause the arrest and confinement of all persons falsely taking the oath prescribed, all persons committing any breach of the peace or conducting themselves in a manner tending thereto, and all persons who shall threaten or otherwise attempt to intimidate, or corruptly or improperly influence any citizen offering to register; and for this purpose they may apply for aid to the Post Commander, and may require the attendance and services of sheriffs, their deputies, constables, policemen, and also of any citizen; and all State, district, county and town officers charged with the preservation of the public peace, as well as all citizens, are required to obey the orders of said Boards, given in pursuance of the authority aforesaid, and to perform all such acts and duties as may be requisite therefor.

All arrests made as herein provided will be promptly reported to the Post Commander, to whom also the prisoners will be turned over with charges for trial by a Post Court, to be organized as provided in Circular of May 15, 1867, from these headquarters, and any civil officer or citizen failing to respond to the call of the Board for assistance will be dealt with in like manner.

IV. Whenever any citizen shall suffer injury in person, family or property, while exercising or seeking to exercise the right of registration, in addition to any penalty prescribed by law for the offense, damages shall be awarded to the injured party against the perpetrator, upon his conviction; and in case of default in payment of the same, or of the escape of the offender, if it shall appear that the wrong was committed, or the offender harbored or concealed by the neighborhood, or that the civil authorities failed to employ proper measures to preserve the peace, the damages shall be assessed against and paid by the town, county or district.

V. Offenses perpetrated by white persons disguised as blacks, being of frequent occurrence, the attention of all authorities, civil and military, is directed to the device, as one adopted to escape detection, and to cast unmerited obloquy upon the colored people. In all cases, when resort thereto shall be shown, the law will be taken into consideration as aggravating the offense.

VI. Depriving a citizen of any right, benefit or advantage of hire or employment, to discourage him from registering, or on account of his having registered, or having sought to register, shall be deemed an offense punishable by the Post Court and shall entitle the injured party to damages against the offender, any clause in any contract or agreement to the contrary notwithstanding.

VII. The Act of Congress entitled "An Act for the more efficient government of the rebel States," and the several acts supplementary thereto, will be carefully observed by all Boards of Registration.

VIII. Each Board shall, after having taken the oath prescribed by the act of Congress of July 24, 1862, entitled "An Act to prescribe an oath of office (see Appendix, form 1), choose one of its members as chairman, who shall preside at all sessions of the Board, preserve order at its meetings for registration, and represent the Board, and announce its action in all matters coming before it.

IX. The places of session of the Boards shall be the voting places established by law or custom in each election precinct, unless for good cause otherwise directed by the Post Commander.

X. Each Board shall determine the order in which the registration shall take place in the several election precincts, that may be assigned to it by the Post Commander, and the time when shall be allotted to each—bearing in mind that the whole work is to be finished before the first day of October.

XI. Each Board shall forthwith upon notice of publication of this order, and at least five days before commencing registration, give notice thereof to the Post Commander, and the sheriff, and the mayor of the city or the incumbent of the town, and shall cause written or printed notices to be posted in five of the most public places in each election precinct, announcing the time when and the place where its sessions will be held, the number of days (in no case less than two), and the hours of the day the Board will remain in session at each place for the purpose of registration; and inviting all persons qualified to vote under the provisions of the act of Congress passed March 24, 1867, entitled "An Act to provide for the more efficient government of the rebel States," and the several acts supplementary thereto, to appear before the Board for registration.

XII. On the day and at the hour designated in the notices, for commencing registration, the Board shall, at the place announced, convene and enter upon its duties, and shall then and there also post notices of the time of final sessions provided for in Paragraph XIX.

XIII. The room used for registration, which the chairman shall have previously provided for the purpose, shall be so arranged that the Board shall be separated by a bar from all other persons who may be assembled, and those to be registered shall be admitted within the

bar, one by one, and their ingress and egress so arranged as to avoid confusion.

XIV. Two citizens shall be admitted within the bar as challengers, whose duty it shall be to challenge the right of any citizen offering to register, upon any of the grounds of disqualification enumerated in the Acts of Congress before cited; but the general right of challenge shall be conceded to all citizens present.

XV. If any challenge be made, the Board shall, before final decision, examine the person presenting himself for registration, in reference to the cause of disqualification alleged, and shall hear any evidence that may be offered, to substantiate or disprove the cause of challenge, and shall have power to summon and compel the attendance of witnesses and administer oaths in any case of registration.

XVI. In registering, the names of white and colored citizens shall be entered alphabetically, in separate columns of the list.

XVII. The following shall be the process of registering:

First. Every citizen presenting himself for registry shall take and subscribe the oath prescribed by law (see Appendix, form 2), which shall be administered by a member of the Board, and such oath shall be preserved with the list.

Second. His name shall then be entered in the proper column, of the list, and called out by the chairman.

Third. Any challenge made shall be noted in the proper column, opposite the name, with the cause thereof.

Fourth. It is recommended to Boards to defer the hearing and decision of contested cases until the session for revision provided for in Paragraph XIX.

Fifth. Whether or not there be any challenge, the Board must ascertain upon such facts or information as can be obtained, that the applicant is entitled to be registered before marking as "accepted,"—the oath not being conclusive.

Sixth. Section 7 of the Act of July 19th, 1867, declares that no citizen shall be entitled to be registered by reason of any executive pardon or amnesty for any act or thing which, without such pardon or amnesty would disqualify him from registration.

Seventh. Boards will take notice that it is enacted by Section 6 of the Act of July 19th, 1867, that the true intent and meaning of the oath prescribed in said Supplementary Act is (among other things), that no person who has been a member of the Legislature of any State, or who has held any executive or judicial office in any State, whether he has taken an oath to support the Constitution of the United States or not, and whether he was holding such office at the commencement of the rebellion, or had held it before, and who has afterwards engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the United States, or given aid or comfort to the enemies thereof, is entitled to be registered or to vote; and the words "executive or judicial office in any State" in said oath mentioned, shall be construed to include all civil offices created by law for the administration of any general law of a State, or for the administration of justice.

Eighth. If there be no challenge, or if the challenge be finally overruled, and the Board determine that the applicant is entitled to be registered, the Board shall mark opposite the name of the applicant, in the proper column, "Accepted;" and he shall thereupon be deemed legally registered.

Ninth. If the final decision of the Board be that the applicant is not entitled to be registered, the Board shall mark in the proper column, opposite his name, "Rejected."

Tenth. In every case of a rejection, the Board shall make a note or memorandum, setting forth the ground of such rejection, and return it, with the registration list, mentioned in Paragraph XX.

XVIII. The registration, conducted as provided in Paragraph XVII, shall be made in triplicate lists, two of which shall, after the conclusion of the first session, be exposed for public inspection at convenient places, for five days; and the third shall be retained in possession of the Board till after the completion of registration at the meeting provided for in Paragraph XIX, when the three having been compared, and verified, shall be certified in the form prescribed and printed at the end of the blank registration lists.

XIX. Sessions for revising the lists shall be held in each election precinct, after said five days exposure of the lists, upon notice as provided in Paragraph XII, and the Boards of Registration shall have power, and it shall be their duty, to revise the same for a period of two days; and upon being satisfied that any person not entitled thereto has been registered, to strike the name of such person from the list. And the Boards shall also, during the same period, add to such registry the names of all persons who, at that time, possess the qualifications required by said Act, who have not been already registered and who shall then apply to be registered.

XX. One of the said lists shall then be immediately delivered to the Post Commander, who will forward the same to these headquarters.

XXI. Each Board shall, at or before the

conclusion of Registration forward through the Post Commander, to these headquarters, a recommendation of three suitable persons for Inspectors of Elections in each election precinct, stating the name, occupation and postoffice address of each person recommended.

XXII. It is enjoined upon all Boards of Registration to explain, carefully, to all citizens who have not hitherto enjoyed the right of suffrage, the nature of the privileges which have been extended to them, and the importance of exercising with intelligence the new and honorable franchise with which they have been invested by the Congress of the United States.

XXIII. Boards will take notice that according to Section 10, of the Act of July 19, 1867, they are not to be bound in their action by any opinion of any civil officer of the United States.

XXIV. Boards are instructed that all the provisions of the several Acts of Congress cited, are to be liberally construed, to the end that all the intents thereof be fully and perfectly carried out.

XXV. The attention of all concerned is directed to the requirements of Section 4 of the said Act of July 19, 1867, by which it is made the duty of the Commanding General to remove from office all persons who are disloyal to the Government of the United States, or who use their official influence in any manner to hinder, delay, prevent or obstruct the due and perfect administration of the Reconstruction acts. The names of all such offenders will be reported through the Post Commanders; and all persons in this Military District are called upon to aid and facilitate the execution in good faith of the said Acts and the orders issued in pursuance thereof.

XXVI. The Major-General Commanding, in the exercise of an ultimate revisory authority, will, in due season, before the holding of any election, entertain and determine questions assigning errors in the registry; and will, upon inspection of the completed lists, cause corrections of the same, that the true design and purpose of the laws be faithfully answered, and that all the rights thereby guaranteed be fully and fairly enjoyed.

By command of Maj. Gen. D. E. SICKLES.
J. W. CLOUS,
Captain 38th U. S. Infantry,
A. D. C. and A. A. G.
Official: J. W. CLOUS, Capt. 38th Infantry,
A. D. C. and A. A. G.

APPENDIX.

(FORM 1.)
I, _____ of _____ County of _____ and State of _____, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I have never voluntarily borne arms against the United States since I have been a citizen thereof; that I have voluntarily given no aid, countenance, counsel, or encouragement to persons engaged in armed hostility thereto; that I have neither sought nor accepted, nor attempted to exercise the functions of any office, whatever under any authority or pretended authority in hostility to the United States; that I have not yielded a voluntary support to any pretended government, authority, power, or constitution within the United States, hostile or inimical thereto. And I do further swear (or affirm) that, to the best of my knowledge and ability, I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States, against all enemies, foreign or domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter; So help me God!

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a _____, this _____ day of _____, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-seven.

NOTE.—Registrars will be required to take the oath prescribed by the Act of Congress approved 24 July, 1862. Blank forms of this oath will be furnished to Post Commanders, and when duly subscribed and sworn, will be returned to the Post Commander, who will forward them to District Headquarters. And if any person shall falsely take and subscribe such oath or affirmation, such person so offending and being duly convicted thereof, shall be subject to the pains, penalties and disabilities which, by law, are provided for the punishment of the crime of wilful and corrupt perjury.

(FORM 2.)

I, _____, do solemnly swear (or affirm), in the presence of Almighty God, that I am a citizen of the State of _____; that I have resided in said State for _____ months next preceding this day, and now reside in the county of _____, or the parish of _____, in said State (as the case may be); that I am twenty-one years old; that I have not been disfranchised for participation in any rebellion or civil war against the United States, nor for felony committed against the laws of any State or of the United States; that I have never been a member of any State Legislature nor held any executive or judicial office in any State, and afterwards engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the United States, or given aid or comfort to the enemies thereof; that I have never taken an oath as a member of Congress of the United States, or as an officer of the United States, or as a member of any State Legislature, or as an executive or judicial officer of any State, to support the Constitution of the United States, and afterwards engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the United States, or given aid or comfort to the enemies thereof; that I will faithfully support the Constitution and obey the laws of the United States, and will, to the best of my ability, encourage others so to do. So help me God.
Sworn to and subscribed before _____, me, this _____ day of _____, 1867.