

A WORD ABOUT OUR COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

Our County Commissioners are a year old. The presumption with the people is natural, that with their practical experience they are wiser and more fully able to discharge their duty as Commissioners, omitting the grave blunders of their first year in office.

In this writing it is not our object to censure the Board for this miserable state of affairs. Though mistaken in their duty, we believe, they acted from the best motives, and besides they only followed in the wake of all former Boards since '76, which has been to contract obligations regardless of the wherewith to liquidate them.

With a years experience and the light before them, it is to be hoped that the scales have fallen from the eyes of the present Board, and that they properly understand the functions of their office. They are administrators, chosen by the people, to expeditiously spend a sum of money, appropriated by the Legislature, for the benefit of the County.

LETTER FROM FLORIDA.

DEAR MR. EDITOR: I promised to write you an occasional Florida letter, and will attempt a first hasty compliance to-night.

There has been more written about the State of Florida than any other State in the Union, and no two writers have agreed in their opinions, many doing her more and many less, than justice. A calm and disinterested consideration of her claims exhibits Florida as a country of strange antitheses. Superficially observed, seeming an area of little more than desolation, but upon deeper examination, demonstrating an ability to maintain a large population by the diversity of her resources and her splendid possibilities.

Candid men will tell you that it is the easiest country in the world to make a living in, nevertheless you find these very men struggling with dissatisfaction—because they do not grow rich in a few years by orange groves. An intelligent farmer with a small quantity of land can easily sustain his family by the products of his farm. He can raise, besides his supply of beef, pork and poultry, all his vegetables, rice, syrup, and fill his cupboard with canned tomatoes and peaches, preserved figs and pears—besides raise his long staple cotton for the "hoode."

In the above enumeration I have only mentioned products that are actually raised here, and are common to most of the Southern States—and not such as are peculiar to Florida alone, and are yet in an experimental state, in the hope that fortunes may be made from them. Our rich generous soil here is emphatically mother earth—generous to the last degree when kindly used and when we regard her surroundings of garden, orchard, and field as our home. Large plantations have not been homes—but merely machines for the production of so much material to be converted into gold, and the laborer has been a part of the machinery. So long has this been the case, that the old population of Florida have heretofore regarded the thrifty farmer from the North and West, working with his own hand, as little better than the negro laborer—but all that has now changed, and the Florida planter is now glad to learn of the Northern methods and machinery for making crops. South-Florida is being rapidly settled up by these thrifty young farmers, from the North and West. They are an intelligent and genial people, prone to criticize everything Southern—full of bombastic vapourings, yet always willing to impart what they know, and they are teaching the people thrift and enterprise.

The negro here is like the negro everywhere, when intelligently guided, he is an excellent servant to the settler, and as the number of farms and gardens are increased they are becoming more and more distributed over the country, thus rendering them more tractable under the discipline of the whites.

This letter is not intended as a source of general information about Florida. In the future I will select such subjects as I think will most interest your readers, and write them up. Such subjects, for instance, as the scenery and famous winter resorts, and the many mad freaks that nature has been guilty of in her geological formation of the State, the wonderful lime sinks, crystal waters of her round lakes, the sudden appearance of large streams deep enough to float a steamer, out of the bowels of the earth, and their equally sudden disappearance—the weird deep shadows of the dense hammocks where nature makes all her own, and shades are eternally grouped—the sleepy rivers, &c.

Now a word about the "Croakers" and I am done. A man who finds it a terrible task to cut down one pine tree is not exactly the kind of person to undertake the job of making a profitable orange grove without plenty of money—while it is a work that cannot best be done by individual effort, even if men of the sturdy breed of the old pioneers engage in it, yet every lick made by the propriety, makes the grove that much the more profitable, inasmuch as it reduces the expenses and saves the interest on his money. I fear too, that the poetic vision of orange groves breathing perfumed air beneath ever sunny skies, have a tendency to attract settlers whose hands are not accustomed to the helm of a wood choppers axe, or the handle of a ditcher's spade, rather than the sturdy fellows fit for pioneer work.

Florida has unquestionably been made the scene of vast land-speculations that will not bear examination, by which many have suffered, and many rescals have profited. Nevertheless it has advantages that many visitors and settlers have found substantial, and the ill-success of a few misdirected experiments, while valuable as warnings, ought not to prejudice people against a careful examination of the many and great advantages offered by the State. Many have reaped already a rich harvest from the orange grove by honest effort and labor, and although, as yet, little more than experimental I believe that oranges will remain as they now are, the prime factor in the wealth and prosperity of Florida. However as a business, the orange is more inviting to the capitalist than to the poor.

Let me close this rambling letter, in which I have nicely succeeded in what I intended, viz.: tell nothing definitely—by saying for the benefit of those of your readers who may have interests in Florida, that the orange trees have been but little, if at all injured, and the recent cold weather, while it has been in a measure disastrous by driving away a great deal of capital from the State, has, on the other hand, been of untold good in its tendency as a warning to the people, not to put their whole trust in oranges alone—but to diversify their work, etc.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

WASHINGTON, JAN. 30, 1886. Eulogies of Vice-President Hendricks, debates over the coming commonwealth, Dakota, and executive sessions have consumed most of the time in the Senate this week. An opportunity to do some much needed scolding was also taken advantage of by several aggrieved Senators. One of them lectured the Senate for adorning over from Thursday to Monday, as has been its habit of late, when there was so much important business on hand. He supplemented his remarks with a resolution providing that hereafter the yeas and nays shall be called on motions to adjourn over a legislative day, thus putting the people's representatives squarely on record when they vote to waste time.

Another Senator scolded the engraving clerks of the House of Representatives for sending over to the Senate, bills made up of bad spelling. It was an offense, an insult to the latter august body that could not be forgiven. He congratulated the Senate upon the good spelling of its employes, and the affair was a kind of love-feast at the expense of the House.

The debate that has been inaugurated in the Senate over the admission of Dakota, promises to be long and interesting. The question has become a party one, and the bill will pass the Senate by the Republican vote. The Democrats count upon beating the bill in the House. They claim not to base their opposition upon a denial of the right of Dakota to statehood. They admit that in population, wealth, etc., the territory is entitled to become a state; but they assert that the people of Dakota have not complied with the legal preliminaries. It is probable a compromise will be proposed in the Senate looking to the admission of Montana, which is a Democratic territory, along with Dakota. One plan suggested is to admit Dakota, Montana and Washington Territories. Dakota is Republican, Montana Democratic, and Washington is doubtful politically.

The proceedings of the lower House of Congress so far, this week, have not been marked by any legislation of importance, nor by any important debates. Routine business and petty wrangles have filled its record.

The demands upon the time of Congressmen made by their constituents are such that most of them are under the necessity of employing clerks. The duties of these clerks are, mainly, to look after pension and other claims. It is now proposed to employ 325 extra pension clerks, (there are just three hundred and twenty-five members in the House) one to be assigned to the business of each Congressional district under the direction of the Representative of that district. Many members do not favor this plan, however, and prefer to deal with the matter in the old way.

A Congressman's lot is not a perfectly easy one, as will be seen by some samples of information they are expected to furnish their constituents. A Western member remarked, holding some freshly opened letters in his hand, "If there is any thing in the world that my people do not write to Congressmen about, I would like to know what it is. Here is a letter from a citizen in my district, who requests me to write to the American minister at Rome to send him an Italian queen bee. Here is another from a woman whose husband left her seven years ago, and she has not heard from him since. She asks that I find out his present address at the census office and send it to her."

The question of abolishing secret sessions has again been up in the Senate, again met with opposition. The opinion outside of the Senate is that very little business is transacted there in secret that might not as well be considered and acted upon in the presence of full galleries. A minor, but not a trivial consideration is the convenience that open executive sessions would afford to the thousands of people from all parts of the United States who come to Washington to see Congress. Hundreds of them at a time, aggregating hundreds of thousands in the course of a year, are hustled out of the Senate galleries every day because a Senator desires to stop legislative business in order that his friend Jones, perhaps, may be confirmed as postmaster at Jonesville. The people feel disappointed, of course, and Senators themselves acknowledge that there is a great deal of unnecessary interference with the comfort and convenience of visitors for very inadequate reasons. Business seldom comes up that could not be attended to before all the world without injury to public or private interests.

er than elsewhere. Balance of Carpets, Rugs, Piano Cover, Felings, Canton Flannels, Comforts, Ladies' Wraps, Velvets, Silks, Hosiery, And thousands of other winter GOODS, ALL BELOW COST! BELOW COST!! On account of the want of room for

The State of South Carolina, CLARENDON COUNTY.

UNDER AND BY VIRTUE OF A POWER of sale included in a mortgage deed executed by Pinkney Waities to C. E. I. Ivy, on the 17th day of February, 1886—to secure the payment of a bond executed on that day, and recorded in the office of Register of Meese Conveyance, for the County and State aforesaid, in volume "M. M." on page 57, on the 17th day of February, 1886, which deed of mortgage and bond, for which it was given to secure, have been duly assigned to me, Nicholas Stannea, and default having been made therein and there being past due upon said bond and mortgage the sum of Seventy-two and thirteen hundredths dollars, with interest thereon at the rate of ten per cent. per annum from the second day of December, 1885. I will sell at public auction, before the Court House door in Manning, in the County and State aforesaid, on the first Monday (being the first day) of March, 1886, within the usual hours of sale, to the highest bidder for cash, "All that piece, parcel, or tract of land situate" (in said County and State) "and being near Wyboon Swamp, waters of Santee River, containing Twenty acres, (it being the one-third interest of the undivided plantation of Benjamin Waities deceased, containing sixty acres, more or less, and bounded on the North by lands of Peter Clark, on the East by lands of Josiah or Cyrus Brunson, on the South by lands of Wesley Levy, and on the West by lands of Daniel James." Purchaser to pay for papers.

NICHOLAS STANNEA. Feb. 1st, 1886.

Grand Special Closing Out SALE AT Kohn, Furchgott and Benedict's The Balance Of our Winter Stock Is now offered Below Cost! Below Cost!!

500 Pairs all wool blankets at \$3.25 \$4.75 and \$5.50. 500 Pieces dress goods at 9, 11, 13, 18 and 23 cents. Finer goods at 50 cents on the Dollar.

250 Children's cloaks and Havelocks, ages 4 and 6 Years, at \$2.00 \$2.50 \$3.00 and \$3.50. 500 Balmoral Skirts at 34 and 56 cents. 500 Child's and Ladies' Knitted Jackets, Nubias, etc., at your own prices. 100 pieces Wool Flannels from 12 cents, up. 5000 Gents' Undervests, from 20 cents, up. 250 Shawls at 23, 48, 71 and 98 cents. 500 Pieces Pants Cloths. Below Cost! Below Cost!!

Domestic goods cheaper than elsewhere. Balance of Carpets, Rugs, Piano Cover, Felings, Canton Flannels, Comforts, Ladies' Wraps, Velvets, Silks, Hosiery, And thousands of other winter GOODS, ALL BELOW COST! BELOW COST!! On account of the want of room for

er than elsewhere. Balance of Carpets, Rugs, Piano Cover, Felings, Canton Flannels, Comforts, Ladies' Wraps, Velvets, Silks, Hosiery, And thousands of other winter GOODS, ALL BELOW COST! BELOW COST!! On account of the want of room for

Our Spring Importation. P. S.—Evening silks, for Balls and Parties a specialty. Come and see our wonderful Bargains with out fail.

Respectfully, KOHN, FURCHGOTT & BENEDICT, CHARLESTON, S. C.

HAPPY NEW YEAR -1886-

Do you hear a big noise way off, good people? That's us, shouting Happy New Year! to our ten thousand patrons in Texas, Ark., La., Miss., Ala., Tenn., Va., N. C., S. C., Ga., and Fla., from our Grand New Temple of Music

which we are just settled in after three months of moving and regulating. Hallelujah! Anchored at last in a mammoth building, exactly suited to our needs and immense business. Just what we have wanted for ten long years, but could not get.

A magnificent double store. Four stories and basement. 50 feet front. 100 feet deep. Iron and Plate glass front. Steam heated. Electric lighted.

The Largest, Finest and most complete House in America.

A fact, if we do say it ourselves. Visit New York, Boston, Cincinnati, Chicago, St. Louis, New Orleans, or any city on this Continent, and you will not find its equal in size, imposing appearance, tasteful arrangement, elegant fittings, or stock carried.

BUSINESS

And now, with this Grand New Music Temple, affording every facility for the extension of our business; with our \$200,000 Cash capital, our \$100,000 stock of Musical wares, our eight branch houses, our 200 Agencies, our army of employes, and our twenty years of successful experience, we are prepared to serve our patrons far better than ever before, and give them greater advantages than can be had elsewhere, North or South. This is what we are living for, and we shall drive our business from now on with tenfold energy.

With hearty and sincere thanks to all patrons for their good will and liberal support, we wish them all a Happy New Year.

Ludden & Bates Southern Music House Savannah, Ga.

P. S. If any one should happen to want a Piano, Organ, Violin, Banjo, accordion, band instrument, or sheet music, Music book, picture, frame, Statuary, art goods, or artist's materials, we keep such things, and will tell you all about them if you will write us.

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OF CHARLESTON, S. C.

ESTABLISHED 1870 MANUFACTURE Soluble Guano, (HIGHLY AMMONIATED.) Acid Phosphate, Dissolved Bone, Ash Element, Floats.

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A high grade of Dried Blood, Ground Fish Scrap, South Carolina Marl, Cotton Seed Meal. FOR SALE BY M. Levi, MANNING, S. C.

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OF CHARLESTON, S. C.

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High Grade Fertilizers. WILCOX, GIBBS & Co.'s Manipulated Guano, for Cotton, Corn, Tobacco, Wheat, &c.

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My stock is now complete with the choicest brands of Whiskies, Brandies, Wines, Cordials, Beer, Ale, Porter, Etc. Etc.

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Liquors for Medicinal purposes a specialty.

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Infallible remedy for Worms. Expelled 319 large worms from four children in Clarendon County, after using second dose. Try this great worm medicine, it is pleasant to take and perfectly harmless. Price per box 25 cts.

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NOTICE

Is hereby given that the undersigned members of the Manning Baptist Church will apply to James E. Davis, Esq., Clerk of the Court, for Clarendon County, on the 30th day of January 1886, for a charter for said Manning Baptist Church.

W. T. TOUCHBERY, J. G. DINKINS, T. A. BRADHAM, A. J. TINDAL, B. A. WALKER, W. J. DANIELS, D. J. BRADHAM, D. W. ALDENMAN, P. W. JAYBOB, J. C. STUKES. Manning, S. C., Dec. 28, 1885.

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