

# The Cheraw Chronicle

"Tis Not in Mortals to Command Success, but We'll do More, Sempronious, We'll Deserve It."

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(Advertisement.)

## Political Card from Solicitor Spears

To the Voters of the Fourth Judicial Circuit:

I regret very much that circumstances have arisen which force me to resort to the public prints in the conduct of my campaign for the Solicitorship, for I have endeavored both by example and agreement with my competitors to place the campaign for this office on a high plane, by way of happy contrast to most of the contests now being waged throughout the State, and to eliminate therefrom all personalities and slurs; and in such campaign literature as has been circulated in my behalf, or the articles which have appeared in the newspapers, not a single reference, insinuation or derogatory statement has been made concerning either of my competitors which could possibly be construed, either directly or indirectly, in anywise to reflect upon the character, reputation, attainments or record in private, professional or political life of either of them:

Hence it is with peculiarly deep regret that I have read a circular letter over the signature of Mr. T. I. Rogers now being distributed, which is filled with insinuations, innuendoes and slurs, attacking my professional and official record, while at the same time, both by his spoken and written words, he assures me of his warm regard, high esteem and close friendship, and expresses the hope that, whatever may be the outcome of this campaign, the pleasant personal relations between all of the candidates may remain unchanged.

As I have heretofore stated, I am seeking re-election on my character as a man, my professional qualifications, and my record in office. I have not espoused the cause of either of the candidates for Governor to further my chances of success, despite any insinuations to the contrary; and that I have not done so is attested by the fact that the charge has not been definitely made as to which "straw" I am supposed to be clinging—the "Governor's smile" or the "Judge's favor". It is true that I have not busied myself in the gubernatorial or any other campaign, for the reason that I have considered my constituents sufficiently able to think and decide for themselves; and I have not sufficient conceit to think that I could influence them to vote against their convictions: but, unlike my opponent who so earnestly proclaims his independence, his fearlessness, his courage and his intrepidity, I **AM MAN ENOUGH TO STATE MY POSITION IN REGARD TO ANY MAN OR ANY MEASURE** whenever and by whom the question may be asked, without regard to the effect it may have upon my political, professional or business interests.

Any insinuation that I have either deemed it necessary to write an "auto-biography" or some one else to write

in fact, (and in a way of parenthesis, it may be said that there are others who will need **POLITICAL** "obituaries" long before I do); but I am proud to say that a number of my friends, most of whom have known me from my boyhood up, have seen fit to make public their esteem, to testify to their reasons for endorsing my candidacy, and to set forth the causes why they believe I should be elected, and it seems to me that I would be guilty of the basest ingratitude if I did not deeply appreciate their action, and very foolish if I did not seek a perfectly legitimate advantage in giving the same the widest publicity. Oh, envy, deep is thy sting.

And in this connection, I am deeply grateful for the indorsement given my candidacy by the members of my own Bar, at which I have practiced for fifteen years, during which time I have had the hardest sort of legal battles with the very men who have now given me their endorsement for the express purpose of stamping as falsehood a scurrilous campaign rumor which was being industriously circulated in other portions of my Circuit with the evident intent of shaking public confidence in me.

In regard to the charge that I have knowingly made or permitted to be made erroneous statements in regard to the circumstances of my announcement of my candidacy, I reply that it is probable Mr. Rogers may have stated to friends and acquaintances his intention to become a candidate before any **PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT** was made by anyone as he did on another occasion in regard to running for Congress; but I was the first candidate to announce my intention to make the race over my signature, which I did in the public during the month of February, 1912, long before any other announcements were made, and whatever may have been the intention of Mr. J. K. Owens, of Bennettsville, at that time, it is a fact which cannot be denied that Mr. Owens has never become a candidate for this office by publishing his card in the newspapers, has never filed any pledge, is today supporting me earnestly and openly, which is evidence that **HE** does not consider me guilty of any bad faith, and if he is in Bennettsville on Aug. 27th, will vote for me; and I defy Mr. Rogers to prove to the contrary.

In regard to my lamented friend and predecessor, the late J. Monroe Johnson, I can only say that he was the closest friend I have ever had among the lawyers of this Circuit, and that I have never let pass an opportunity of doing reverence to his memory and ability; and no man, save one with an utterly malicious mind, can possibly construe any word I have said or anything that has been printed in my behalf as casting any reflection upon his attainments, his character, or the results of his work. It has simply been stated that during my administration of this office the official records of my work as compared with his show fewer cases dismissed and a larger percentage of convictions secured during the five years I have held the office than during the last five years he served his people so efficiently; and I respectfully submit that my record in that respect is one which not only I, but also any lawyer in South Carolina, might well be proud of.

In regard to the insinuation that I have been influenced by unworthy motives in the dismissal and compromise of cases which should have been prosecuted, I reply that I have never dismissed or compromised a case without the consent and approval of the Circuit Judge, and that my judgment in at least 95 per cent. of such cases has likewise been concurred in by the Sheriff, Clerk of Court and the Grand Juries, with whom I consulted before taking action.

Inasmuch as I have made so many official errors in the opinion of Mr. Rogers, I defy him to show by the record of a single case in the five years I have been Solicitor where he, by his superior knowl-

edge, eloquence, or legal attainments, secured a verdict from a jury in Marlboro County—his own home County—to which he was not fully entitled in law and according to the evidence.

In the cases in which I have consented to a dismissal or a compromise I have always endeavored to take into consideration a man's circumstances in life. To many men the payment of a fine of \$25 would mean far more severe punishment and entail greater hardship on their families, than would the payment of a fine of \$500 by other men. I defy Mr. Rogers or anyone else to show that my conduct in any case, whether it was dismissed, compromised or prosecuted, was influenced by reason of the fact that anyone connected with it either possessed or lacked political influence, money or power, except, as above stated, I have frequently asked for the imposition of a small fine on a poor man, proportionate to his means.

I do not believe in the imposition of fines in any case. I believe that all violators of the law should be punished by imprisonment in proportion to the gravity of the offense, and this is the only method of punishment that will put the rich and poor upon an equal footing. But as long as the law imposes alternative sentences, and those who possess wealth can pay and do escape imprisonment by paying fines, I do not propose that for the same offense a poor man shall be forced to undergo imprisonment because he cannot pay as big a fine as his richer neighbor. Hence, when the amount of the fine is left to the discretion of the Circuit Judge, I have always consulted with him as to the amount of the fine to be imposed, in the endeavor to render equal justice to every man.

The Solicitor's duty is to the defendant as well as to the State; he should maintain an impartial attitude. There are many cases sent up to Court which ought not to be tried. It is the Solicitor's duty to investigate all cases, and decide which ones have merit and which have none. But from my five years' experience in practicing with Mr. Rogers, I have no doubt that, if elected, he would vigorously prosecute **EACH AND EVERY CASE** brought before him, holding Court for a full week at every term, taking time to try every petty, insignificant case, in the end accomplishing no more beneficial results. If this is the way you want your Courts conducted, then you had better not vote for me.

I repeat my regret that the publication of this article has been forced upon me; but I have felt that no other course was open to me, and I cannot permit such imputations upon my record and the efforts of friends in my behalf to go unanswered.

J. MONROE SPEARS.



GEN. WILLIAM BOOTH.

### SALVATION ARMY LOSES ITS CHIEF.

Rev. William Booth Dies at Age of 88.

London, Aug. 20.—The Rev. William Booth, general and commander-in-chief of the Salvation Army, died at 10:13 o'clock tonight. He was born at Nottingham in 1829. The veteran Salvation Army leader was unconscious for 48 hours previous to his death. The medical bulletins had not

revealed the seriousness of the general's condition, which for a week past, it is now admitted, was hope-

less. Twelve days before the operation he underwent the removal of a cataract in his left eye. For two days after the operation indications justified the hope of the general's recovery. Then blood poisoning set in and from that time, with the exception of occasional rallies, the patient's health gradually declined. The general recognized that the end was near and often spoke of his work as being finished.

Attended by Son.

Byrle SHRDUPUPU PUPU PUPU Throughout the commander-in-chief's illness his son, Braell Booth, chief of staff of the army, and Mrs. Bramwell Booth gave their unremitting attentions to him both night and day.

The aged evangelist died at his residence, the Rookstone, Hadle Wood, some eight miles from London, where he had been confined to his bed ever since the operation.

There's the Rule.

"I always make it a practice to let tomorrow take care of itself." "That's easy enough, but it's forgetting yesterday that causes trouble for so many of us."

Deposit your money

IN

# The Bank of Cheraw

Cheraw, S. C.

STRONGER THAN ALL OTHER BANKS IN THE COUNTY COMBINED

4% compounded quarterly  
in savings department

## WILL WORK FOR PANAMA TRADE

THE PLANS ARE BEING MADE AT SPARTANBURG TO DEVELOP THE PORT.

AN INTERESTING DISCUSSION

Committee of Six Named to Take Up

Matter of Bringing Foreign Steamship Lines to Charleston.—Criticism of Ports Present Facilities.

Spartanburg.—At a conference held at the country club, several miles out from the city, plans were formulated to secure a great part of the trade from the opening of the Panama Canal for the port of Charleston.

After discussing the various phases of the question as had been outlined previously on the programme, it was decided to name a committee of six gentlemen who will take up the question of inducing various foreign steamship lines to make Charleston their American terminal and also to extend inducements to Western cities, where great quantities of freight originate, to have both the imports and exports shipped to Charleston.

The future of the organization which was perfected was placed in the hands of the state chamber of commerce and this body will call future meetings and push the suggestions made to a successful termination.

The meeting was called to order by the Hon. John B. Cleveland, Treasurer of Greenville, who was chairman. Mr. Parker in his introductory remarks said that the meeting would attempt to accomplish some definite work and would have no speech making. He stated that before Charleston could expect to be made the greatest port in the South it was necessary for that city to provide adequate facilities and be prepared to handle the business. He stated that warehouses were greatly needed in Charleston.

Charged With Assault on Brother.

E. B. Gaskins, of Lake City, a well-to-do and prominent man of that town, was brought to Florence and lodged in jail to await the result of injuries said to have been inflicted by him on his brother, A. W. Gaskins, at Lake City. It is said that A. W. Gaskins was drinking and his brother attempted to take him home. An altercation arose between them on the way, and E. B. Gaskins struck his brother, knocking him to the pavement, where he struck his head. He walked about some time after this, but later in the day developed alarming symptoms and is now considered in a most critical condition. Whether the blow of the brother, inflicted the injury is the problem to be solved.

Fire Does Much Damage.

Fire of unknown origin partly destroyed the east warehouse and stock of the Kirkland Distributing Company at the corner of Wayne and Lady Sts., Columbia. The loss by fire and water will amount to several thousand dollars. B. B. Kirkland, president of the company, said that he thought the loss was fully covered by insurance. Mr. Kirkland said that he could not tell until after investigation just what the loss would amount to.

Candidates Speak at Pendleton.

The candidates for the various county offices spoke to about 300 people at Pendleton. The meeting, as a whole, was a quiet one—the only disturbance occurring at the close of Josh Ashley's speech. White, of course, considerable interest is being manifested in the different races, the greatest interest appeared to be taken in the race of the candidates for the house of representatives. The candidates announced themselves as follows: For Blease, J. W. Ashley, Oscar W. Gray, J. A. Hall, J. M. King, T. F. Nelson and W. W. Scott. For Jones, W. A. Hudgens, J. D. Jackson, D. H. Russell, J. B. Watson, T. F. Watkins and S. M. Wolfe.