

The Watchman and Southron.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 29, 1893.

Dispensary Constables Have a Hard Time at Beaufort.

COLUMBIA, S. C., November 23.—State Constable Swan cannot "wink the other eye" now. The important member was badly disfigured Tuesday night by some angry citizen of the realm who did not relish the dispensary detective's prying. Swan and his brother constable, Strobel, were mobbed by a large crowd in Beaufort and, as a consequence, there is trouble ahead for the parties who extended so warm a welcome to the governor's pets.

This morning's train brought the two constables to Columbia to do as all dispensary constables do when in hot water. They came to consult the governor and get his assistance. The party got out at the state-house and went at once to the governor's office. When they arrived there was a great stir, and the officials and others gazed with wonder on the disfigured Swan. He carried himself proudly, however, and looked at the governor out of his good eye as if seeking sympathy from him. Swan weighs about 300 pounds and is over six feet tall. Strobel is also fat, but weighs 100 pounds less than Swan. Strobel gave no external evidences of having been bruised or battered up.

When the mournful story had been told to the governor he had something to say. All he did say, the reporters, who were waiting, did not know. Swan and Gaillard talked and the governor talked. Visits were made between the governor's office and the attorney general's office and it was plain that there was something in the wind.

The governor stated to the reporters that Constables Swan and Strobel went to Beaufort with warrants to seize some illegal shipments of liquor expected on the ship Alpha. The boat runs between Savannah and Beaufort, and had been suspected of violating the dispensary law by bringing Georgia liquor into this State. The boat arrived at Beaufort at 8 o'clock Tuesday night. Swan and Strobel were on hand, and so was a crowd of negroes and white men, who knew them, and were awaiting developments. The officers boarded the vessel and began their search. They found several suspicious barrels and seized one, containing beer.

The captain of the vessel refused to let them have the barrel, but they took it any how. The constables allege that neither draymen nor anybody else could be prevailed upon to assist them in getting it to the jail, so they tried to carry it and, failing in this, they changed off and tried to roll it along. Then the fun began. According to Swan's story the crowd followed and showered curses on them. They were threatened with complete extermination, but Swan says that he told the mob they could kill him, but they should not have the barrel, which they wanted to take away. Swan did not pull his pistol, because he knew, he says, that it meant certain death.

The mob harassed the two constables and prevented them from getting the barrel to the sheriff's office for three hours. In the meantime brickbats and other missiles began to fly around the heads of the lonely officers. One brick struck Swan in the right eye, another knocked his hat off and several others scraped him. Strobel's hat was knocked off. The barrel was at last landed in the sheriff's office.

Governor Tillman was asked what he intended to do about the matter. Said he: "I propose to see that the laws are enforced and you will see later what is going to be done. Just wait awhile."

Though the governor has not disclosed his plans, things look interesting. During the day the attorney general and the assistant attorney general and the assistant adjutant general and the chief constable were consulted. Assistant Attorney General Buchanan and Assistant Adjutant General Watts were given instructions of some nature.

It is ascertained that telegrams have been sent to the sheriff of Beaufort and the captain of the local military, but their nature has not been divulged. Assistant Attorney General Buchanan was seen at the depot this evening with his traveling bag. A force of constables under Chief Gaillard left the city in the direction of Beaufort. It is believed that Assistant Adjutant General Watts has also gone to Beaufort, and that the idea is to have Swan and Strobel arrest their assailants, while the military company is holding readiness.

A special from Beaufort says that the constables offered to pay \$10 to some of the howling mob to assist them in rolling the barrel away. This was indignantly refused with curses and abuse from the mob of negro men, half grown boys and wenches who even kicked and cuffed the constables. From \$25 to \$100 was jeeringly demanded by the hackmen for a wagon. Swan's nose was broken and his eye terribly cut. He bled profusely and was knocked almost senseless and staggered with pain. During all this the constables were pelted with rotten eggs. During the transportation of the barrel it was smashed, the contents rolling out, and when it reached the jail only six bottles were left.

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Arrests at Beaufort

Columbia Journal, Nov. 27.

Assistant Attorney General Buchanan has returned from Beaufort, where he was sent by Governor Tillman to supervise the arrests of the men who assaulted Constables Swan and Strobel. He saw to the arrests of eight white men and six negroes. They were arrested by the sheriff of the county, taken before a trial justice, waived preliminarys and gave bonds for their appearance at court.

Among those arrested was the acting mayor of the town, a man name Townsend; the colored chief of police, J. E. Grant, M. P. Stopperebin, a wealthy Northern man; B. L. Calhoun, H. Harrison; a man named O'Rourke, and a man named Opland. The first three, it is alleged were leaders of the mob.

The arrests will continue until every man in the mob has been arrested. The riot, says Mr. Buchanan, was commenced by a handful of white men, who urged everybody to join in it, and were instrumental in urging them on. The sheriff was fired upon twice while going home.

The men have been arrested on three charges: Resisting an officer in the discharge of his duty; assault and battery of a high and aggravated nature; and riot.

Stovall on Chewing Gum.

Thus, poetically writes Editor Stovall, of The Savannah Press, on a most important subject:

"There is a new crusade in Georgia. The Milledgeville Chronicle, which is edited by women, calls on the general assembly to drop the cigarette war and legislate solely against chewing gum. This is an important matter. It should be taken in hand. The legislature owes it to the State to take the hint of the women of Georgia and legislate in behalf of women. If the cigarette is deadly, how much more venomous is chewing gum in the grip of rosy lips and ivory teeth? The cigarette puffs and goes out. It 'blazes the meteor of a moment,' then expires in smoke. The gum quid rolls and swells like a sweet morsel under the tongue and gets bigger the longer it is caressed. No one expects a man to be careful what he inserts between his teeth. But the world has a right to know what 'lovely woman' puts into her mouth."

It is asserted that since the earthquake in South Carolina the soil in Berkeley County has been more productive than ever before. Prof. Newman, of Clemson College, accounts for this on the theory that the earthquake provided better drainage than previously existed.

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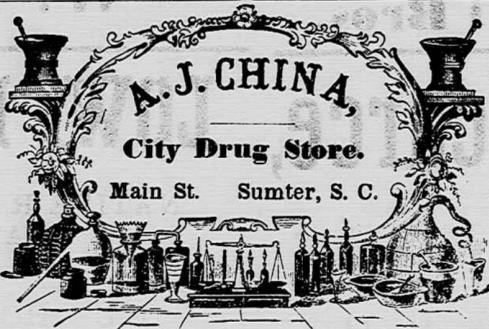
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