

The Watchman and Southron.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17, 1901.

The Sumter Watchman was founded in 1850 and the True Southron in 1866. The Watchman and Southron now has the combined circulation and influence of both of the old papers, and is manifestly the best advertising medium in Sumter.

The stores will be closed at 6 p. m. May 1st all right, and everybody will be happy, especially the clerks. But the list had better be circulated so we can see "where we are at."

Gov. Allen says Porto Rico is prosperous. The Porto Ricans say they are in desperate straits and thousands must find work or remain on the island to starve in idleness. Since thousands of them have already gone to Hawaii as laborers it looks like the Porto Ricans know more about the real conditions than Proconsul Allen.

The young doctors from the Charleston Medical College are in hard luck, they think, because they will have to stand an examination before beginning to practice. It may be that the dear people are in luck this time.

The Filipino junta will have to make another long range appointment of a successor of the Funstonized Aguineldo, Sandico, the recent appointee, having thrown up the sponge.

It is about time for the usual list to be circulated among the merchants to secure their signatures to the agreement to close their stores at 6 p. m. every day, Saturday excepted, from May 1st to September 1st. Recently there has been some talk on streets that the early closing agreement might fall through this summer owing to the refusal of one or more merchants to abide by the custom that has obtained in this city for upwards of fifteen years. We apprehend that there will be no trouble. We do not believe that a sane and sensible business man who expects to remain in Sumter and do business here will deliberately violate a custom that has the support of 95 per cent of the people. Early closing was brought about and has been maintained by the people themselves, and the merchant who keeps his store open after 6 p. m. between May 1st and September 1st will be disregarding and defying the wishes of those to whom he must look for patronage.

The reports that Aguineldo is buying diamonds and other high-priced luxuries bears out the suggestion made by the writer the day after his capture that he had been bought instead of trapped.

Gov. McSweeney is charged with being too free handed in the distribution of pardons. It is difficult to please everybody, and the governor will have to be satisfied with the assurance that he has pleased at least those whom he has saved from the gallows or liberated from the penitentiary.

We hope the special committee will find it compatible with their duties to order the removal of the poles from the middle of Main street before the macadam pavement is put down. The poles are not only unsightly, but they obstruct the street and are a positive menace to all who drive on the street. Is there any good and sufficient reason for permitting the poles to remain? If so, what are they?

Rock Hill is on the right track. An election is to be held to decide on a bond issue for the purpose of purchasing the water works and electric light plant and to establish a sewerage system. A bond issue to provide funds to purchase the water works and electric light plant and establish a sewerage system would be more popular in Sumter than an issue to establish sewerage alone. There is one very strong reason why the city should own the water works before a sewerage system is established; and that is the heavy additional rent would have to be paid the water company for the water used for flushing the sewers. If we are to have a bond issue let us go the whole hog and do the thing right at one time and be done with it.

The exposure of the corruption existing in the commissary department at Manila is but the beginning

of scandals. When the truth is all told it will be seen, we predict, that there has been stealing in high places as well as low. The little rascals are being pinched now, the big ones will be caught later, provided their political pull is not too strong. Reconstruction by the United States government appears to be but an other name for a period of good stealing.

The trial of B. B. Evans for the killing of J. J. Griffin promises to be a notable one in criminal annals of this State. The circumstances fully justified the coroner's jury in returning the verdict that Griffin was killed by B. B. Evans, but it will be another matter when the petit jury has to pronounce a verdict of guilty of murder. The prisoner will be represented by able, eloquent, astute and resourceful lawyers and that "shadow of a reasonable doubt" will be worked for all it is worth.

The City Board of Education is to be commended for making an appropriation to encourage the graded school teachers to attend the summer school at Converse. It will be money well invested.

The city of Sumter cannot, in our opinion, accept the proposition of the County Board of Commissioners in reference to the removal of the jail, and should not, even though it had the power to do so. We would suggest, however, that those who deem it necessary to build the jail elsewhere might join forces, form a jail removing corporation and accept the terms laid down by the County Board. This will be the surest way to prove that the removal can be effected without additional expense to the county.

President McKinley is said to have declined to travel to San Francisco in a Pullman car named "Imperial." This is straining at a goat after swallowing a camel without turning a hair. Caesar declined the crown, though grasping imperial power.

There is consternation and despair in the ranks of the faithful. The Lily Whites and the Black and Tans go down in defeat together while McLaurin, acting for McKinley, divides out the spoils among the recent converts. Capers and Chaffee have landed and other assistant republicans are slated for the jobs that have heretofore gone to the old timers.

If it be true that Senator McLaurin is McKinley's distributing agent for South Carolina patronage, is that to be regarded as but another instance of his activity in working for the best interests of his constituents? Do his apologists honestly believe that a democrat can consistently distribute republican spoils and still remain a democrat?

Many a man who would reject with pious horror a proposition to gamble in cotton futures is planting a big crop now and taking longer odds than if he was dealing in bucket shop futures.

The courts of this State, which have refused to recognize divorces granted in other States, will have to revise their rulings as the United States Supreme Court has decided "that in cases in which the decree is granted in States where the husband and wife have made their legal residence it is valid in any part of the United States."

The Best Remedy for Rheumatism.
Quick Relief From Pain.
All who use Chamberlain's Pain Balm for rheumatism are delighted with the quick relief from pain which it affords. When speaking of this Mr. D. N. Sinks of Troy, Ohio, says: "Some time ago I had a severe attack of rheumatism in my arm and shoulder. I tried numerous remedies but got no relief until I was recommended by Messrs. Geo. F. Parsons & Co., druggists of this place, to try Chamberlain's Pain Balm. They recommended it so highly that I bought a bottle. I was soon relieved of all pain. I have since recommended this liniment to many of my friends, who agree with me that it is the best remedy for muscular rheumatism in the market." For sale by Dr. A. J. China.

Edgefield, April 14.—Mr. C. M. Gray, familiarly known as "Sonny" Gray, on account of brilliant and daring services as a Confederate scout, died at his home in town last night, having attained the 57th year. He received a wound in the head, part of the skull having been taken out, at the Wilderness, from which he never recovered, and which was the inciting cause of death. He was a native of Edgefield.

MORE SEWERAGE TALK.

The communication in yesterday's Item from "One of the Committee of Five" assures us that the sewerage question is not dead. Certainly not; it cannot die until we put in a system that will meet the requirements of the city, whether it be done at present, or after several years more of waiting and wrestling with dry wells and other makeshifts. Some of our most substantial citizens favor the immediate construction of a sewerage system. To them it is the one thing needful and important. Others there are who do not believe there is present necessity for sewerage, and would decline to petition City Council for an election to decide a bond issue.

Those persons who do most favor sewerage now have made an effort to induce Council to take the initial steps in furtherance of their purpose. This the Council have consistently and persistently refused. Their position is too plain to be mistaken. Their duties and powers are clearly defined by the constitution of the State, and they are not to be blamed for observing the supreme law of the land. Nor do we think the law needs revision. It is wise and prudent. It arms the people against official blunders and extravagances. The purpose is to make the creation of public debt a difficult proceeding, and to give the people who pay the taxes a voice in the matter.

We are not debating the sewerage question at all, but merely those safeguards thrown around the people; but we cannot forbear to note that "One of the Committee of Five" says "It has been wisely suggested that our city should purchase and own the system of lighting and the water works, &c." Now if this suggestion is a wise one, and we think it is, then we are beginning at the wrong place when we make sewerage of prime importance, and these others secondary. Because there is, by further wise provision of the constitution, a limit beyond which no city can increase its debt. Should we issue bonds for sewerage it is highly probable that we will thereby increase our debt to such an extent that these other things will be impossible.

Municipal ownership of public utilities is gaining favor all over the country, because it is advantageous to the citizens in every way.

It is well for us to look at this question from all standpoints, and not be carried away by our desire to be free from our present inconveniences and, by being precipitate, tie our hands against these other important enterprises. We think that "One of the Committee of Five" is correct in the statement that we can bond the city for water and light plants and retire the bonds ultimately with the revenue derived from private patronage. Ownership by the city would, at least, not mean an increase of taxation. That is certain, and with self-supporting water and light systems, sewerage would become a comparatively small matter. We should guard against increasing taxation beyond absolute necessity; and public enterprises should be projected accordingly where it is possible, as is the case in the present instance.

MORE SEWERAGE TALK.

"The most important action taken by council Thursday night was done in executive session when the sewerage question came up for discussion. It was decided to at once begin an active canvass of the property owners in order to secure their signatures to the petition."

The above paragraph taken from The State's report of the last meeting of the Columbia city council has been called to our attention and an explanation of the difference between the powers and rights of the Columbia council and the Sumter council requested. This we are not prepared to give; but, unless the Columbia council has special powers, it appears to us that the Columbia council is undertaking to do that which the constitution of the State says shall originate with and be done by the people.

The duties imposed upon city councils by the constitution in respect to bond issues, are restricted to ordering an election to determine the issue of bonds for a specific purpose after a properly framed and signed petition from the freeholders shall have been presented to council.

If there is any other explanation to be made we suggest that the city attorney be requested to look into the law and make the explanation sought by those who have brought the matter to our attention.

WEEKLY CROP BULLETIN.

Columbia, April 16.—The week ending Monday, April 15, averaged nearly five degrees cooler than usual, with light frosts, in exposed places, from the 8th to the 12th, but no injury resulted unless possibly to peaches, other than retarding the growth of vegetation. There was much high, cold wind, but there was more than the usual amount of sunshine.

The week was dry until the evening of the 12th, when cold, moderately heavy rains set in over the western portions, that became general on the 13th, and were light and showery over the eastern portions. The rains were needed to soften clay lands that had dried out hard and crusty, and broke up clods in places, and to supply moisture for the germination of seeds and the growth of young plants over the eastern sections, where the season's rainfall is slightly deficient.

Plowing and the preparation of lands in general, made rapid progress over the whole State, but planting operations were confined principally to the eastern and central counties, where upland corn is nearly all planted, and where much replanting has been done, made necessary by poor germination in places, and by birds destroying stands in others. In general, stands of all crops that are up, are poor, except in Berkeley, Dorchester, Colleton, Charleston and Beaufort counties, where they are satisfactory. Some corn has received its first cultivation in Hampton County.

Cotton planting is well advanced over the eastern counties, where in localities this work is nearly finished, but over the remainder of the State it has only fairly begun and will not become general until next week. A few correspondents report a probable increase in the acreage devoted to cotton, some that the acreage will vary but little from last year, only one reports a decrease, while most of them make no mention of acreage.

Some tobacco has been transplanted in Marion County, but elsewhere none, owing to the smallness of the plants in beds. The reports on fruit are not so uniformly favorable as heretofore, and the present indications are that peaches, apricots, pears and figs will be plentiful. Wheat and fall sown oats continue promising, but spring oats are poor. The preparation of lands for rice, and rice planting, are making satisfactory progress.

Truck is making slow growth owing to the prevailing low temperature, but heavy shipments are going forward; strawberry plants are not bearing well as a result of last year's drought. Colorado beetles have appeared in Charleston and Oconee counties. Minor crops and gardens are backward, but have been extensively planted. Pasturage is scant for the season. All crops need warm weather.

THE CUBAN COMMISSION.

Habana, April 15.—At today's session of the Cuban constitutional convention five delegates, Senors Tamayo, Capote, Berriel, Portuondo and Lorente, were appointed a commission to go to Washington to lay before President McKinley the desires of the convention regarding the future relations between Cuba and the United States.

The commission was instructed to confer with Gov. Gen. Wood regarding the date of departure and the best conditions for an interview with the president.

At tomorrow's session the convention will consider the advisability of adjourning until the return of the commission.

Doctors Say;

Bilious and Intermittent Fevers which prevail in miasmatic districts are invariably accompanied by derangements of the Stomach Liver and Bowels. The Secret of Health.

The liver is the great "driving wheel" in the mechanism of man, and when it is out of order, the whole system becomes deranged and disease is the result.

Tutt's Liver Pills
Cure all Liver Troubles.

BIDS WANTED.

Sumter, S. C., April 12, 1901.
THE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS of Sumter County, will, at its meeting, May 7th, proximo, receive bids for rebuilding the County Jail as it stands, or for building a New Jail.
The Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids.
By order of Board
WM. H. SEALE,
County Supervisor.

April 12—31.

Now for Next Friday!

Bargain Day!

We Will Call This One

EMBROIDERY DAY.

Why! Because we expect to sell more Embroideries next Friday, than has ever been sold in a single day before.

The goods represent the finest qualities in NAINSOOKS, LAWNS and CAMBRICS

They will be arranged in 5 lots to be sold at these prices:

5, 10, 13, 16 and 19c.

The patterns can't be matched anywhere—the like qualities not for 25 to 40 per cent more.

ALL THESE GOOD ONES FOR FRIDAY:

- 1 case fine white Persian Lawns, full pieces, can't be matched at 12 1/2c—a Friday winner, **10c**
- 15 pieces new Curtain Swisses—regular price 15c—For Friday, **11 1/2c**
- 3 pieces unbleached Table Damask, regular price 35c—Just for this day, **25c**
- 25 doz Linen Huck Hemmed Towels, size 18 by 36—these will go Friday at **10c**
- 20 doz fine Hemstitched Linen Towels, see the size, 25 by 44, value 40, well Friday, **25c**
- 5 pieces White Scrims—For Friday at **4c**
- 1 lot odd Window Shades, only 1 and 2 of a kind. They sold up as high as 60c—For Friday, **25c each**
- We expect to receive 40 doz Ladies' Seamless Fast Black Hose—if they reach us in time they will go on sale at **11c**
- You can't match them anywhere at 15c. Also, the remainder about 600 yards of those 36-in Percales at **5c**

Schwartz Bros.

Great P. K. Sale!

A great many people discovered

Where the best P. K's were to be found and good shoppers soon cleared out our line. To later purchasers, and those not already on to these good things,

We announce this week the opening up of Stock No. 2 in P. K's and Embroideries.

In the assortment are styles suitable for entire costumes, separate skirts, little girls dresses, little boys kilts, &c. We will sell the now

Famous Wash Organdy again this season at the old price, 10c.

The Sumter Dry Goods Co.

We sell R. & G. CORSETS

Every woman knows what the R. & G. Corset is. It is the Corset of comfort with the essence of style. It is the only Corset that will not, cannot and does not stretch. If you buy an R. & G. Corset that does stretch, or proves unsatisfactory in any way, bring it back to us and we will give you a new one. We have in stock the famous No. 397, moderately straight front, which is popular with most women who find it in the new straight front shown in our illustration. We sell No. 397 for \$1.00. Our corset stock is large and well selected.

WE SELL THE THOMPSON GLOVE-FITTING CORSET ALSO.

The Sumter Dry Goods Co.

March 27—