

The Herald and News.

ESTABLISHED 1865

NEWBERRY, S. C., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1903.

TWICE A WEEK, \$1.50 A YEAR

STATE'S TAXABLE PROPERTY.

Decrease Of Assessments Of County Real Estate, While Assessments Of City Property Are Increased.

Comptroller General Jones has prepared some interesting figures showing the assessed value of property for 1903 as compared with 1902. There is an increase of over eight and a half millions, but the value of country real estate shows a decrease of \$535,520. Comptroller General Jones says the only explanation of this is that some county auditors must have erroneously included country property in cities and towns. Following are the figures:

Real estate not in cities and towns, 1903.....	\$ 68,485,962
Real estate not in cities and towns, 1902.....	69,021,442
Decrease.....	\$ 535,520
Real estate in cities and towns 1903.....	\$ 38,855,328
Real estate in cities and towns, 1902.....	38,000,108
Increase.....	\$ 855,220
Railroad property, 1903.....	\$ 29,489,312
Railroad property, 1902.....	27,705,453
Increase.....	\$ 1,783,859
Personal property.....	\$67,575,277
Personal property.....	61,049,273
Increase.....	\$ 6,526,004
Total property, 1903.....	\$ 201,405,879
Total property, 1902.....	195,776,316
Net increase.....	\$ 8,629,563
The increase in personal property of \$6,526,004 covers the increase of	
Textile industries.....	\$ 1,249,191
Fertilizer factories.....	51,830
Cotton seed oil mills.....	67,485
Telephone and telegraph companies.....	138,597
Southern Express Company.....	144,488
Pullman Palace Car Company.....	29,503
Building and loan associations estimated.....	300,000
Total.....	\$1,984,094

GENERAL NEWS NOTES.

Items of More or Less Interest Condensed Outside the State.

The cotton market in New York reached 13½ cents on Tuesday, the highest in a number of years.

A literary recluse of Louisville has bequeathed to the University of Virginia his library worth \$100,000.

Three people were killed and six injured by a boiler explosion in a power house in St. Louis on Monday night. The building was completely wrecked.

A man in the county prison at Philadelphia who had just been convicted of using the mails to defraud hanged himself with a towel. He had a long criminal record behind him.

Five officers and instructors of Columbus college laboratories, Chicago, have been arrested charged with operating, in the fashionable shopping district, a distillery contrary to government regulations.

J. Bryan was received in audience by Czar Nicholas, of Russia, on Monday. The audience lasted for 15 minutes. The czar expressed most emphatically his friendship for the United States. He spent a good many hours at the table while in Russia.

reck near Godfrey, Kas.,

on Monday, of the Meteor, a St. Louis and San Francisco fast mail train, eight persons were killed and 32 injured. Of the injured it was thought five would die. The train was one of the finest and fastest in the service. It ran into a switch left open by a freight train, the brakeman having failed in his duty to flag it.

The Chicago labor unions have gone so far as to attempt to interfere with funerals. The chief of police on Monday plainly told the representatives of the liverymen's union, who went on strike four days before, that picketing of houses from which funerals were to start, whether peaceful or violent, was beyond toleration in a civilized community.

The famous "Two Nines" fire alarm, summoning more fire apparatus than any other alarm provided for by New York's fire department, was sounded on Monday night for a terrific fire, which destroyed two large factories and in which two men were killed, one a battalion fire chief and the other a recently appointed fireman. The fire was in the Italian quarter of the city and the work of rescue was difficult. A quarter of a million dollars' damage was done.

The grand jury in Rising Sun, Indiana, has found true bills against James Gillespie for causing the death of his twin sister, and a sister of the murdered woman and another woman and her husband, all family connections, were likewise indicted for the same crime. All entered a plea of not guilty and were released on bond.

SOUTH CAROLINA NEWS.

Items of More or Less Interest Condensed In the State.

The report of the Hampton Monument commission is about ready for the legislature. Only \$5,000 of the necessary \$10,000 has been subscribed.

Albert Thompson, who shot and seriously injured Albert Dearman in a gambling room in Spartanburg, has been released from custody. The wounded man is on a fair road to recovery and neither he nor his family will prosecute the case against Thomson.

Col Thos. Taylor, one of the oldest and most prominent native male citizens of Columbia, died on Tuesday afternoon. He had been a member of the legislature; president of the State Agricultural society, and master of the State Grange. He was inspector of phosphates under Gov. Hampton.

Utah's One Legal Execution.

In seven years, it is said, there has been one instance of legal execution in Utah, and that took place last month, when a convicted murderer was allowed to decide for himself whether he should be hanged or shot. He naturally preferred shooting, and was speedily dispatched. A strange feature of his trial was that testimony against him was admitted which was supposed to be directed by revelation from the heavens. Some parts of Utah have evidently not shaken off all their old traditions and superstitions.

CECIL RHODES SCHOLARSHIPS.

Prof Sloan, of South Carolina, Gives Notice of the Examinations for the Scholarships.

Prof. Benjamin Sloan, of the South Carolina College, has issued the following in reference to the Cecil Rhodes scholarships:

"The first selection of scholars in the United States under the Rhodes's bequest will be made between February and May, 1904. The elected will commence residence in October, 1904. In this State applications for examination must be made to me in January. Papers covering the range of study exacted by the trustees will be sent me in January, and applicants will be notified of the date of the examination, which is to be held by the committee, which I have already announced: Prof. C. W. Bain, South Carolina College; Prof. E. B. Setzler, Newberry College; Prof. A. G. Rembert, Wofford College; Prof. B. E. Geer, Furman University, and Prof. Thomas Della Torre, College of Charleston.

"It might be well for each applicant to provide himself with an historical statement of his career as a student in his college, covering these points particularly:

1. His literary and scholastic attainments
2. His fondness for and success in many outdoor sports, such as foot ball, etc.
3. His qualities of manhood, truth, courage, devotion to duty, sympathy for and protection of the weak, kindliness, unselfishness, fellowship.
4. His exhibition during school days of moral force of character and of instinct to lead and to take an interest in his schoolmates.

You will see that Mr. Rhodes did not desire merely a bookworm, who is of no use in the world, but he wanted a real man; so let the applicants provide themselves with the proper certificates.

"It may be of interest to state that each college shall select its own representative; and it is simply my duty to forward the recommendations of the several colleges to the board of trustees, in whose hands remains the power of appointing to the scholarships."

ABOUT SANTA CLAUS.

Charles A. Dana's Answer to A Child's Letter.

The New York Sun reprinted on Christmas Day the following from its files of years ago:

We take pleasure in answering at once, and thus prominently, the communication below, expressing at the same time our great gratification that its faithful author is numbered among the friends of the Sun:

Dear Editor: I am 8 years old. Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus. Papa says, "If you see it in the Sun it's so." Please tell me the truth; is there a Santa Claus? Virginia O'Haulon.

115 W. 95th street.
Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the scepticism of a sceptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by

their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect, as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no child-like faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not Believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies! You might get your papa to hire men to watch all the chimneys on Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if they did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not; but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders that are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You may tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived, could tear apart. Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing real and abiding.

No Santa Claus! Thank God! He lives, and he lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay, ten times ten thousand years from now, he will come to make glad the heart of childhood.

A FLAGMAN BEHEADED.

An Old White Man at The Gervais Street Station of the Seaboard Air Line in Columbia.

Columbia, December 21.—J. D. Batchmon, an old white man, a flagman at the Gervais street crossing of the Seaboard Air Line Railroad, was decapitated by being run over by shifting cars tonight. An engine was backing with two cars and Batchmon was standing with his back to it at the street car tracks. For some reason he walked up the middle of the railroad track towards the opposite side of the street. He evidently did not know that cars were backing on the track. A negro flagman was on the rear of the last car and, seeing that Batchmon did not leave the track, yelled at him when within a few feet of him, but it was too late. He was about 65 years old and came from Lexington County. He was flagging as a substitute for the regular flagman.

THE NEWS OF NO. 7.

Majority of the Negroes Under Two or Three Contracts—Personal—Sale of Liquor the Past Year.

Chappells, December 23.—Mr. Dwight Smith broke a rib recently by falling off a fence.

The majority of the negroes up here are under two or three contracts. A fat time is predicted for the trial justice, Mr Jno. W. Ropp, next spring.

Mrs. Rhoda Watts, of Slighs, is visiting relatives in this community. Messrs. Wise and Frazier, of No. 9 Township, passed through here last week selling leather and buying hides.

Messrs. Jim and Will Epting, of near Macedonia, Lexington county, have been here hunting land for sale.

Christmas is nearly here and will find a number of people in bad circumstances, while others have made money. With some it will be full of happiness and pleasure, while others will look back over the past with sorrow and sadness. With some people it is spent in gaiety, drinking and frolicking, without thinking that another mile stone has been passed and that life is short and real and earnest.

This correspondent wishes every reader of The Herald and News a merry Christmas, and especially the hard worked editor and his collaborators in the office from the proof reader to the devil.

I wonder how many of the readers of The Herald and News noticed the total sale of whiskey for the past year of the two dispensaries—something over \$62,000. Add to this about \$20,000 and you will have about the amount of whiskey drunk in Newberry county, as a number of people won't patronize the dispensary and order their whiskey.

We are drinking over \$80,000 worth of whiskey with about 5,000 family population. This amount would have bought 5,000 families nearly four barrels of flour for the past year. G. B. D.

Turned Over to the Magistrate.

The case against Clarence Williams, Robert Long and Will Coleman, the little negroes charged with stealing money and goods from Purcell & Scott's store, has been turned over to the magistrate by the city authorities. The three negroes have confessed. They say that the three concealed themselves in the store and when it had been locked up they took \$5 out of the money drawer and some spoons and tobacco. The case was worked up by Policeman Carter. It will be remembered that the smallest negro, Robert Long, was seen trying to sell the tobacco and spoons on the street. He implicated Williams and Williams implicated Coleman and the three confessed.

The Mayor's Court.

Only two cases were disposed of by the Mayor yesterday morning. Dan Brown, Jr., colored, was sentenced to pay a fine of \$2 or to serve 4 days for cursing; and Pink Smith and Will Floyd, colored, were fined \$3 and 25 cents, respectively, for fighting each other.