

The Laurens Advertiser.

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DETERMINED MEETING COUNTY FARMERS

Band Together to Hold
Cotton.

DELEGATES SENT TO COLUMBIA MEETING

Resolutions Adopted Condemning Government Reports on Cotton Outlook. Favor a Determined Effort to Hold Back a Large Per Centage of Present Crop.

An enthusiastic meeting of farmers, merchants, bankers and others was held in the Armory Monday morning for the purpose of discussing the cotton situation and of sending a delegation to the big farmer's meeting in Columbia Thursday. Following several addresses by farmers, businessmen and bankers, Col. J. H. Wharton introduced a resolution that a delegation of ten men be sent to the Columbia meeting. The resolution was passed and the following men were nominated: Col. J. H. Wharton, Col. N. B. Dial, Mr. O. P. Goodwyn, Mr. W. L. Gray, Mr. Alex. Smith, Mr. O. B. Simmons, Mr. J. F. Bolt, Dr. H. K. Aiken, Mr. J. A. P. Moore, Mr. J. S. Machen.

It will be noted that the delegation is composed in large part of business men and bankers as well as farmers. After the meeting was called to order Mr. O. P. Goodwyn was nominated and elected chairman of the meeting and Mr. B. Y. Culbertson, secretary. Mr. Goodwyn then stated the cause of meeting, saying that it was held at the call of Commissioner of Agriculture E. J. Watson and that its purpose was to discuss some methods of marketing the present crop more advantageously and also for the purpose of electing delegates to the cotton meeting in Columbia on the 28th. Following Mr. Goodwyn's introductory remarks, Col. O. G. Thompson introduced resolutions calling on the farmers to hold their cotton off the market and condemning the United States Agricultural department, for issuing the false report of some weeks ago. The resolutions after some discussion were passed unanimously. They are follows:

Recognizing the fact that the abnormal rush of cotton and cotton seed upon the market is adding those to whose interests it has always been to depress the market, and who are using every scheme or deception that ingenuity can devise to mislead the world as to the probable yield of this year's crop, and that the glutting of the market never fails to depress it.

We appeal to every farmer in our county to market only so much of the cotton crop, both cotton and seed, during the next 90 days as may be absolutely necessary in meeting those demands which will admit of no delay.

We appeal to all banking and mercantile concerns to aid our people in every possible way by extensions for 30, 60 or 90 days, on warehouse receipts or other collaterals.

Those of us who have a controlling interest in the crops of tenants, laborers or others, pledge ourselves to use all fair or legitimate means to aid and encourage these people to curtail the amount of cotton put upon the market during the ensuing period named, to the lowest possible limit, consistent with pressing obligations, and we invoke the co-operation of all those who may be in position to aid us in this way.

That a delegation be elected and sent to attend the Farmers Convention in the city of Columbia on the 28th of September.

We denounce and condemn the methods of the Agricultural Department of the United States which has sent out or allowed to be sent broad cast false and misleading crop estimates, which have resulted in great depression and done the people of the cotton growing region an irreparable injury.

Among others who spoke at the meeting were Mr. J. F. Bolt, Col. J. H. Wharton, Mr. W. L. Gray, Mr. N. B. Dial, Mr. J. R. Finley and Mr. L. S. Bolt.

Nearly all of these gentlemen urged strongly that the farmers hold their cotton for higher prices, either by keeping it on the farm or by placing it in the warehouses. Placing the cotton in the warehouses was advocated as the best plan as the warehouse receipts could be used then for

NEWS OF THE WEEK IN TOWN OF CLINTON

Auspicious Opening of the
College.

PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS ON POPULAR PEOPLE

The Presbyterian College of South Carolina Opened with the Largest Attendance since the Preparatory Department was Eliminated—Almost a Hundred Students.

Clinton, Sept. 26.—The opening of college last Thursday morning was a very interesting occasion. Practically every merchant of influence in the community showed his public spirit by closing his store and attending the public exercises.

On the platform were the members of the faculty and the local ministers. Dr. W. P. Jacobs, the Rev. J. E. Mahaffey and the Rev. L. A. Cooper. Mr. Douglas presided over the devotional exercises and then in a very happy speech addressed the student body and the visitors from town. He expressed himself as extremely pleased with the student body and greatly encouraged at the prospects for the future growth of the college.

Dr. Jacobs gave the students some excellent counsel and extended a welcome to them on behalf of himself and the community. Mr. Cooper expressed his pleasure at being present and warmly invited the students to call on him for advice or aid whenever they desired. He also gave them a welcome. So did Mr. Mahaffey, whose interest in the college has been marked in the past, and who has the friendship of faculty and former students.

The students number a hundred, perhaps a few over, this year, the largest attendance since the preparatory school was done away with. Of these twelve are young women.

The friends of the college are looking forward to the meeting of synod, when one day will be given to the consideration of this institution.

Conventions.

The Woman's Missionary Union of Enoree Presbytery will meet in Clinton next Thursday and Friday, October 5th and 6th. The Baptist ladies of Clinton entertained their county union this month. The First Presbyterian church will entertain synod the week beginning October 17th. The Thornwell Orphanage will be the meeting place of the conference of Orphanage Workers next spring. Clinton in a smaller sphere parallels Columbia as a city of conventions.

The Public Library.

A large number of new books have been received the past week at the public library, the most attractive being a handsome memorial edition of Mark Twain's works and a selection of popular recent fiction. Although less

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securing advances from the banks, Mr. N. B. Dial, while not advising to hold or to sell as he felt that he was not in a position to advise, stressed the need of larger and stronger banking institutions so that when the farmers of this county felt it wise to hold cotton they could do so. He suggested that a trust company or bank of at least \$250,000 capital be formed, one that would command the respect of northern capitalists and then, he said, it would be easier for the Laurens county farmers to borrow money with which to hold cotton. This, he said, was what should be done for protection in the future when a situation like the one now confronted arises. Judge O. G. Thompson agreed with what Mr. Dial had to say for the future and at the same time urged that farmers take the proper interest in the present movement. He said that while the South lacked the finances that were needed that she could, by co-operation and by sticking together, so influence the market at this time that the price of cotton would be forced higher. Just the knowledge that the farmers were holding these meetings all over the South would tend to give a bullish trend to the market.

The meeting was a very enthusiastic one. An air of determination was evident and doubtless many of the farmers returned home with the resolve to hold for better prices.

FALL OPENINGS ARE IN ORDER

The Laurens Stores are Making Great Preparations for Their Fall Opening Displays—The Big Day is Tomorrow.

Tomorrow will be ladies day in Laurens for it is a day especially set apart for the grand fall openings and display of millinery. The three firms who are making a specialty of millinery—Switzer Company, Davis Roper Company and J. E. Minter and Bro.—have been working night and day for the past week making great preparations for the crowds that are sure to come.

As in years past the Laurens merchants have bought the seasons very best and visitors from many of the towns around are expected to be on hand to peep through the wonderful display of hats, headgear, laces, trimmings etc. Anyone so desiring can probably obtain a more technically correct idea of what they are really going to display by reading their ads in this issue. The above opinion of The Advertiser's special war correspondent is only an echo of the past openings.

MEETING OF PRESBYTERY.

Very Profitable Gathering of Delegates to Enoree Presbytery Last Week.

Enoree Presbytery met in the First Presbyterian church of this city Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of last week. Rev. A. G. Wardlaw, who was at one time pastor of the church here, was unanimously elected to preside over the meeting and Rev. E. P. Davis was elected clerk. Rev. Mr. Wardlaw was also invited to preach before the Presbytery Wednesday evening and a large congregation of delegates and townspeople gathered and heard an unusually fine sermon.

During the meetings and at different times Rev. D. M. Douglas, the new president of the College at Clinton, and Pres. S. C. Byrd, of Chocora College, spoke in behalf of their respective stations. This was the first appearance of Mr. Douglas before the representatives of this Presbytery and he made a distinctly fine impression on all who heard him. Mr. Douglas outlined his hopes and aims for the college and asked that the church give him all the support that it consistently could. Pres. Byrd addressed the delegates and a large congregation Wednesday night. Mr. Byrd said that he wished to leave two thoughts with the Presbytery and these were that the church owned a college at Greenville and that this college was worthy of their patronage. By comparing the standard with other colleges of the state Mr. Byrd showed that Chocora was second to none of the girls' institutions and was the logical place for all South Carolina Presbyterians to send their children.

Thursday morning and afternoon of the Presbytery was taken up with a Conference on the benevolences of the church. The feature of the conference was the address of Dr. W. J. Martin, of Davidson College, who lead the discussion Thursday morning. At the conclusion of the conference Thursday evening the Presbytery adjourned to meet next year at Greenville.

Though nothing of unusual importance came up for discussion or settlement at the meeting, it was productive of much good and doubtless the delegates returned to their homes with a renewed determination to assist more in the work of the church.

DEATH OF STORO J. BOLT.

Highly Esteemed Laurens Man Passed Away Monday Night.

Mr. Storo J. Bolt, a Confederate veteran highly honored and a citizen greatly esteemed by all who knew him, died last Monday night in his eightieth year. Mr. Bolt, on account of his many years had been in declining health for some time, though he has been able to walk around up until about two weeks ago, when he was confined to his bed where he remained till his death last Monday.

Mr. Bolt was well known over Laurens county, having made his home near Hickory Tavern for many years. Besides many friends and relatives he leaves to mourn his death the following children: Mrs. Alice Mahaffey, of Belton, Mrs. Emma Cheek of Belton and Messrs. Marion Bolt, Poole Bolt, and William Bolt. He was buried at Rabun at 3 o'clock, the services being conducted by Watson.

MAJ. T. B. ANDERSON GOES TO HIS REWARD

Prominent Citizen of Waterloo and One of the Best Known Men of the County Dead.

Maj. T. B. Anderson, a prominent citizen of Waterloo and one of the best known men in the county, died at his home Monday morning at 7:30 o'clock, after a very trying illness. Only recently he had been carried to Spartanburg for an operation, but his case appearing hopeless he was returned to his home last Thursday.

Yesterday morning at 10 o'clock the funeral services were held and the interment was in the cemetery at Mt. Pleasant. A large concourse of sorrowing friends and relatives followed the body to its last resting place. The funeral services were conducted by Reverends Whitlock and Ezell.

Maj. Anderson was a man much beloved by all who knew him. He was a gallant soldier in the Confederate army and took part in many trying engagements. All of his life he has been a member of the Methodist church and for thirty years he was superintendent of the Sunday School at Waterloo.

Maj. Anderson is survived by his wife and five children. His children are Messrs. C. W. and Lionel of Spartanburg, Mrs. D. C. Smith, Mrs. W. B. Boyd and Mrs. Robert Wallace, all of Waterloo.

DAUGHTERS OF CONFEDERACY.

Meeting of Importance Monday Afternoon to Which a Full Attendance is Requested.

The Advertiser is in receipt of a note from the secretary of J. B. Kershaw Chapter, Daughters of the confederacy, asking that notice be made of a meeting of the chapter Monday afternoon at 4 o'clock in the rooms of the Chamber of Commerce. The secretary urgently requests that every member of the chapter be present as business of the greatest importance is to be attended to.

This will be the first meeting of the chapter since June and for this reason the members are specially urged to be present. The nature of the business will be disclosed at the meeting.

INTERESTING RALLY.

Rev. W. E. Thayer Preached Eloquent Sermon at the Laurens Mill School Rally.

The religious and educational rally at the Laurens Mill School Sunday night was a success in every way. Anticipating an interesting song service and a fine sermon, a large number of the patrons of the school and others were present to take part in the meeting.

Rev. W. E. Thayer preached an eloquent and forceful sermon and one that is sure to have a lasting impression. The First Methodist church quartette rendered two splendid selections and withal the evening was well spent by all who were present.

The rally was the second one that has been held in the city schools this year. The first one was held at the Laurens Graded School, when Dr. Harms made an address. Mr. Jones was highly pleased with both meetings and in speaking of the last one said that he was sure that it will be productive of much good. Many of the children of the mill village are not attending school and the purpose of the meeting was to try to impress the people with the need of giving their children an education.

Death of Mrs. Madden.

Mrs. Tom Madden died at her home at Cold Point Friday morning after a prolonged illness. She had been in failing health for a number of years and her death was not unexpected. She was 69 years of age. The funeral ceremonies took place at Mt. Pleasant church Saturday morning and the interment was in the cemetery nearby.

Moved into New Home.

Dr. H. K. Aiken Monday began moving his household effects into the house which he recently purchased from Mr. C. C. Featherstone. Yesterday Mr. Burk Clardy began moving into the house vacated by Dr. Aiken.

Sumter Man Buys Farm Here.

Mr. E. P. Minter has sold through the Oakland Heights Realty Co., a farm containing 275 acres to Mr. S. E. Ramsey of Sumter county for \$8,000, cash. The farm is located near the home of Mr. J. D. W. Watts.

CORNERSTONE RELAY FOR COURT HOUSE

Joseph T. Johnson Made
Principal Address.

MASONIC CEREMONIES MARKED THE LAYING

A Large Number of People from all Over the County was Present and the School Children Swelled the Attendance to Nearly a Thousand People.

The cornerstone of the remodeled court house was relaid Thursday morning, a large crowd of interested spectators being present to witness the impressive ceremonies of the Masonic order and to hear the address of Congressman Joseph T. Johnson. The cornerstone was laid under a dispensation granted to Paimetto Lodge No. 19, Hon. R. A. Cooper acting as master of ceremonies.

A very large and representative crowd of people was present. Several other Masonic lodges were represented, among them being those of Clinton, Waterloo, Gray Court, Princeton, Greenville, Pomaria and Donalds. Among the masons was Mr. Joe Smith, who enjoyed the double distinction of being present at the laying of the cornerstone Thursday and was later introduced to the audience by Mr. Cooper. A stand had been prepared beforehand and on this and around it the body of Masons gathered and carried out the rites of the order. On the stand also was a choir which rendered several appropriate selections.

Following a song by the choir Mr. Cooper called on Rev. W. E. Thayer, chaplain of the lodge, to lead in prayer. Following the prayer of Mr. Thayer another selection was sung after which the articles selected to be placed in the stone were deposited by Mr. R. A. Babb, treasurer of the lodge. The stone was then lowered to its place and the usual ceremonies gone through with. Mr. Geo. L. Pitts presented to the master of ceremonies the horn of corn, Mr. Ossie Anderson the urn of wine and Mr. Clyde Franks the urn of oil and Mr. Cooper poured them over the cornerstone. The stone was then tried for levelness, symmetry and soundness and found true in all respects. The building was then turned over to the contractors to whose care the construction was entrusted.

Mr. Cooper then introduced Hon. Jos. T. Johnson who delivered the address of the day. Mr. Johnson stated in the beginning that he did not come prepared to make a set speech as he had not had time to prepare one. His address was in the nature of an historical sketch of the officers of the county, beginning at those officers who lived in the early eighties. He began by stating that the county was formed in 1785 and that at first it was named Craven county. Later it was changed to Laurens county through the influence of Jonathan Downs, a prominent man of his day and a friend of the Laurens family in Charleston. The people of the county had suggested that the county be named after Jonathan Downs himself, but he persuaded them to name it after his friend instead. Whether the county was named for Henry or John Laurens cannot be said with certainty. Mr. Johnson also eulogized the old officers of the county, among whom were John Garlington, R. E. Richardson and Martin E. Babb, clerks of court in olden days and Capt. G. W. Shell and Col. J. H. Wharton of recent days. Judge Watts enjoyed the reputation of being an office holder of over forty years and W. H. Langston, who followed him also held office for a long term. Judge Langston held the office until Reconstruction times and in 1876 Col. A. W. Burnside took that office and held it until 1899 when John M. Clardy went into office and he was followed in 1894 by the present incumbent. Mr. Johnson also took occasion to speak in very complimentary terms of the bar of Laurens county, saying that it had always been composed of men of the very highest character and lofty ideals. Of those who had practiced with him when he was a resident here only three now survive, Col. John W. Fer-

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TERRIBLE EXPLOSION ON FRENCH CRUISER

Nearly Four Hundred Go to
Death.

POWDER MAGAZINE ENTERED BY FIRE

One of the Finest Ships of the French Navy with a Large Crew of Officers and Men Aboard Destroyed by Terrible Explosion—Over One Half of Crew Perish.

Toulon, France, Sept. 25.—More than half the crew of 793 officers and men met death early today when fire broke out in the ammunition hold of the battleship *Liberte*, one of the finest vessels in the French navy. Explosions which followed wrecked the great ship.

The fire was discovered at 5 o'clock. At first it was not thought to be serious but gained great headway over the sailors as they fought it.

Suddenly it reached the magazine, which the men had failed to flood because they thought the fire was only a slight blaze.

Explosion after explosion followed in rapid succession shaking the vessel fore and aft. Each explosion was stronger and more terrible than the preceding one and they opened up the great fissures in the armor and frame work of the vessel, which immediately became a mass of fire and smoke and soon sank to the bottom of Toulon harbor.

At an early hour, unofficial estimates placed the number of dead at 500. Estimates by naval men vary widely. There is no doubt that loss of life was as high as 300.

Scores of seamen died in their berths. A few dozen saved themselves by jumping overboard. Many of those injured leaped into the water and were drowned before other boats in the roadstead could reach them.

Two hundred of the crew escaped death because they were on shore leave. Commander Jaures was not aboard.

The explosion was without warning. Scores were hurled high into the air, accompanied by great fragments of the frame work, armor, bursting shells and blinding powder smoke.

The men below were killed in their sleep. Others were awakened by the explosion and started to jump overboard and were caught by a second detonation.

Many vessels were in the harbor at the time, including several warships. There were three tremors of the explosion in quick succession after the fire reached the magazines.

A hundred men saved themselves by jumping, scores of others would have escaped but for the rigid discipline which held them at their posts. When awakened and about to throw themselves overboard on order calling them to their stations rang out. These men were blown to pieces a few seconds later.

Between 500 and 550 of the *Liberte's* crew and about 100 men from the other warships sent to help extinguish the fire, have disappeared.

The *Liberte's* loss is 200 dead and 50 injured. A piece of armor plate was blown from the *Liberte* and struck the *Republique* on the port side with great force, damaging her guns.

COMING ATTRACTIONS.

Manager Wilson has Booked some fine Companies for the Coming Season.

Manager Wilson of the Opera House has announced a number of attractions that will appear at the Opera House during the coming season. He has taken pains to select none but the best possible for a town of this size and he has selected some that promise to be the best ever seen here. Among those already booked are the following: Graustark, Th. Thiel, Manhattan Opera Company, Kitty Comedy Co., When a Woman Wills, Coburn Minstrelles, The Girl and The Tramp and several other recent New York dramatic and musical successes.

Changes Hands.

Mr. R. C. Walk purchased from C. L. Poole a tract of land containing 21 acres near Watts Mills. The price being \$60 per acre. The tract was made through Bishop