

THE CHOCTAW HERALD.

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Professional Cards.

W. H. BEGGS,

Attorney at Law,

BUTLER, : : : ALABAMA.

WILL practice in all the Courts of Choctaw and Sumter counties.
All business entrusted to him will receive prompt attention.

W. BAILEY,

ATTORNEY AT LAW.

BUTLER—CHOCTAW COUNTY ALA.

WILL practice in all the Courts of Choctaw and Sumter counties, and in the Supreme Court of Alabama.
All business entrusted to him will receive prompt attention.

June 3, 1869. 34-ly.

S. T. Pritchard, Geo. W. Taylor, Butler.

Taylor & Prince,

ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELLORS

AT LAW.

CHOCTAW COUNTY ALA.

WILL practice in all the courts of Choctaw and Sumter counties.

July 5th, 72. 25-ly.

THOS. COBBES, JNO. J. ALTMAN, Livingston, Ala. Butler, Ala.

COBBES & ALTMAN

Attorneys and Counsellors at Law,

BUTLER, ALABAMA.

WILL practice in the Circuit, Probate and Chancery Courts of Choctaw County.

J. J. ALTMAN, will also attend to any business in the Courts of Washington County.

Jan 19 1-ly

MAT. TURNER M. D.

Resident Physician.

BLADON SPRINGS ALA.

Office, (next door to Willis Connor's) on the Hill.

May 9, 1873. 1 6t

DR. S. FRISBIE,

Resident Physician,

Bladon Springs, : : : Alabama.

I would most respectfully inform the citizens of Bladon Springs and vicinity that I am now prepared to serve them at all hours, either by day or night. When not professionally engaged, I will be found at my residence near the store of Messrs. Turner & Long.

Turner & Long. 34t.

J. G. Foster, M. D. | V. P. Gaines, M. D.

DRS. FORSTER & GAINES,

MT. Sterling, Ala.

Having associated, offer their service to the citizens of Choctaw County, in the various branches of Medicine and Surgery.

OFFICE, MT. STERLING ALA.

June 1, 1873. 21-3m

CAMPBELL HOUSE,

J. W. CAMPBELL, Proprietor

South Side Conti Street, between Royal and Water Streets.

Mobile, : : : Ala.

THIS House is conveniently located to all places of business and amusement, and is first-class in every respect.

71. 1y

The Doctor's Last Shot.

Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Brown were having a very comfortable afternoon together. Mrs. Smith, who was an invalid, or thought herself one, which is just as bad, was reclining in an easy chair, and Mrs. Brown, who had run in with her knitting work just to see how she was, had been persuaded to spend the day with her friend.

"Yes, Mrs. Brown, I consider it providential. That poor niece of mine was left an orphan on the cold charities of the world, and as I was the only friend she had, she came right here, of course. Well here I am in such delicate health, needing constant attention, and I couldn't expect my own girl's poor dears, to be fussing around their sick mother all the time. I want them to enjoy themselves while they can. This poor thing needed a home, and I gave it to her at once. I said of course, child, come right here and live with us. You can make yourself useful no doubt, it'll be all right. She's been here six months now, and has been a wonderful help to me, keep her busy from daylight until dark, to keep her mind off her troubles, you know, and nights when I can't sleep it is delightful handy to have her where she can rub my back, soak my feet, bathe my head, and read me to sleep."

"Do you pay her wages?"
"Bless me, no! She said something about it one day as if she expected to be paid for her work, but I told her we couldn't think of hiring our own blood relations to work for us. I told her to just be easy about that, whenever she needed anything we'd see about it. She gave me a kind of a queer smile that I didn't quite understand or like; but, on the whole, she is wonderful quiet and gentle like, and I consider it a real Providence."

"Where is she?"
"I sent her down to the back pasture to get me some blackberries for my tea. I thought my tea, I'd relish them if they were fresh."
Down in the back pasture she was, the poor little niece, Meta Langdon, but not picking blackberries. She was sitting on a mossy log among the bushes crying as if her heart would break. It did her good; it cooled the fever in her heart, and she finally grew quiet and slipped softly down upon her knees and prayed long and earnestly for patience and wisdom and help from her Heavenly Father. Then she caught up her pail and rose to commence her task. But it so happened that Doctor Chester, who was spending a few weeks in that delightful country place, was out hunting that day. A fine, plump partridge flew up from the bushes just at that moment, and the doctor fired. To his astonishment the bird escaped, but a shrill scream and a heavy fall beyond the bushes made him throw down his gun and bag and rush furiously through the sharp briars, never heeding the rents made in his fine hunting suit, or the cruel scratches upon his face and hands.

There lay the game he had brought down, in the shape of a young girl in a dead faint, or killed, for aught he knew. He quickly loosened her dress and dashed water in her face from the full canteen which he happened to have, and finally forced a few drops of brandy between her lips. At length she opened her eyes, to his great relief, and tried to rise, but a sharp cry of pain showed there was something more serious than a mere fright.

"What is it, where are you hurt?"
"My arm," she exclaimed.

He tore the faded calico sleeve open to the shoulder, and sure enough the soft, white arm was covered with blood and seemed to be riddled with shot.
"Dear, dear, what have I done!" he exclaimed, hastily tying his own and her handkerchiefs around it. "There is no time for apologies or explanations. I thought I was shooting a partridge, and in some unaccountable way I have shot you. Now tell me where you live, so I can get you home as quick as possible. I am a physician, and will soon have the arm all right again."

"My home is just over the hill: I can walk if you will help me a little." With a set, resolute face, and lips tightly closed to keep back the means of pain, Meta, walked bravely towards home leaning upon his arm. But just as they reached the gate she faltered again, and taking her in his arms he bore her rapidly to the house and without ceremony pushed open the parlor door and laid her on the sofa.

Mrs. Smith screamed murder, at the top of her voice, and went into violent hysterics. The doctor frowned scornfully at her and said to Mrs. Brown: "There's no time for nonsense, bring me some cold water and bandages at once, and somebody to the hotel for Dr. Chester's small case of surgical instruments."

Mrs. Smith, left to herself, soon recovered, and insisted upon an explanation of the affair.

"It's nothing serious, I hope. I have accidentally sent a charge of shot into this young lady's arm. Are you her mother or?"

"No indeed, she's a poor dependent creature that we've taken in for charity's sake; a niece of mine, and what I'm to do with her now, I can't see. I can't take care of her, and indeed, sir, it's mighty inconvenient to have her laid up at this time. She is very necessary to my comfort. I need a sight of care and wainin' on, night and day."

"Well, madam, she'll need a sight of care and wainin' on her self, now for a while, and must have it."

By this time the young girl revived again under the vigorous treatment brought to her.

"Now, madam, will you tell me where to take this young lady, for she must be put to bed at once."

"Well, she sleeps in a little closet of my room."

"That will never do. Show me the largest, best room you have in the house."

Taking Meta gently in his arms, the doctor followed Mrs. Smith to a pleasant chamber. She groaned in spirit as he turned down the white counterpane and assisted the doctor in getting Meta undressed and into bed; but he was not to be trifled with at such a time. Now, madam, I will excuse you, but let Mrs. Brown bring me plenty of warm water and soft old linen, and remain to assist me. And I want a servant close at hand to get whatever else I may require while dressing the arm."

It was a terrible hour to Meta, while he probed each wound and removed the shot that were deeply imbedded in the tender flesh. Fortunately no bone was broken, and at last it was neatly bandaged with soft linen and wet with a healing lotion, and she fell asleep. Mrs. Brown proved an efficient helper; and as they passed quietly out of the room the doctor said:

"My patient must have the best of attention. Could you stay and nurse her for awhile?"

"Yes, I might."

"Very well, I will pay you well if you will do it, for everything will depend upon keeping her quiet now."

He met Mrs. Smith in the hall.

"Madam this woman has consented to stay and take care of your niece, and I will see that she is well paid for it. But mind what I say, you must not see her, nor must any one else, but Mrs. Brown, and myself, for a week at least, for she will have a serious time of it at best, I regret exceedingly, more than I can tell you, that I have been the cause of all this suffering, and I will do my best to have her about again as soon as possible." So saying the doctor wished them good-day, and soon disappeared from their view.

"Well now if that isn't cool! And what am I to do all this time?" groaned Mrs. Smith, rocking herself vigorously in her great arm chair. And my best spare room! Say, did he mean everything up dressing that arm?"

"Oh no! he was very careful about that."

"Well, that's a comfort any way. To think I should have such trouble with that girl just when I needed her most! I think it's a very mysterious dispensation of Providence."

The next morning the doctor found Meta in a high fever, moaning with pain, and delirious. The arm was badly swollen and inflamed, and altogether her case had assumed a very alarming aspect. He did not go hunting or fishing that day, but stayed by her bedside administering medicine with his own hand, and doing everything in his power for her relief. He was greatly distressed over the accident and inwardly vowed he would never fire off another gun as long as he lived.

But what a revelation of toll, hardship and cruel wrong the unconscious Meta made in her delirium! She fancied the doctor, as he bathed her hot head and hands, and soothed her as he would a child, was her mother, and she drew his head close to her lips and whispered:

"O mother! I'm so glad you have come to me! I'm tired to death—Auntie has no mercy or feeling for me! She has kept me at work over her night and day, and I've gone hungry many and many a time, because I couldn't bear to eat the food she grudgingly given. O, I am so glad you have come!"

Now Meta was not a beautiful girl, though she had a sweet, pure, womanly face, and great, watery eyes, and an abundance of dark, silky hair. But her small hands were brown and hardened with toil; she was poor, dependent, alone in the world except for this selfish, unnatural aunt.

and the cousins who scarcely deigned to notice her.

Doctor Chester was a rich old bachelor, not so very old either, only thirty-six. Why he had never married no one could tell, but true it is he had remained, heart-whole these years in spite of the many beautiful women who had smiled graciously upon him. But somehow this poor suffering orphan won his heart completely during that week of unconsciousness. He was charmed with her sweet prattle about her childhood; and her innocence and helplessness, together with the suffering he had so unwittingly caused, appealed strongly to his sympathy, and he fully resolved to win her love and make her his wife if possible. Never had a patient a more assiduous doctor than poor Meta. Mrs. Smith fumed and fretted over all the fuss that they made about that "girl," until the doctor frightened her into silence by telling her that he knew how she had treated the poor child, and that if she didn't keep quiet and have everything done that was useful for her comfort that he would have her arrested and tried for inhuman cruelty.

Under his watchful care the danger was soon over, and Meta was pronounced convalescent. The doctor took her out to ride as she was able, in the eastest of all carriages. Rare delicacies were sent every day from the hotel to tempt her returning appetite. The sweetest and most fragrant flowers that could be found adorned her room. Meta remonstrated with him for all this lavish kindness, but he would silence her by saying he was the cause of all her suffering and she must allow him to atone for it in every way he could. How eagerly he watched the faint color that crept into her cheeks at his approach! How tenderly and delicately he administered to her comfort and pleasure day after day, until at last he ventured to tell her of his love and his great desire to have her for his own. He had become very dear to her during all those weeks of suffering, and she acknowledged it, and promised to be his wife. He hastened to inform Mrs. Smith of their betrothal, and asked forgiveness for another week, when, he assured her, he would relieve her from further responsibility of her niece. Imagine, if you can, her astonishment! She was completely "dumbfounded!" and had not a word to say, though doubtless in her heart she thought it another most "mysterious dispensation."

The next day a noted dressmaker from the city arrived with various wonderful and costly fabrics, which she had orders to make up for Mrs. Langdon, in the latest style. Such a time as there was then of cutting and busting, of trying on and trimming! Two other seamstresses kept their sewing-machines running at the highest rate of speed, until at the close of the week there was enough of a wedding tressau to fill a huge Saratoga trunk. The doctor made daily pilgrimages between that chamber and the city, until at last he could not devise another thing which his darling could possibly need for dress or ornament on her trip to Europe, which he had planned. Never was there a happier bride and groom than those who were made one in Mrs. Smith's parlor that bright September morning. They went immediately to his home on the Hudson, where his mother received the new daughter with open arms, and soon after went to Europe; where they spent a year. Meta made good use of her time by putting herself under the care of the best private teachers; and when on their return the happy doctor presented his wife to his friends there was not among them one more highly accomplished or more elegant refined. The doctor was very proud of her, and never tired of telling his most intimate friends how he found his wife, or the result of his last shot.

The City of London.

The city of London is certainly the most wonderful in the world. It is a labyrinth of drain pipes water pipes, gas pipes and underground railways. There are points in the soil of London, where it would be extremely difficult to find room for another pipe. One company alone—the gas light and coke company—supplies two districts with nearly 400 miles of pipes, varying in diameter from three inches to four feet. These are the main pipes merely, and from them every house and street lamp receives an average six or eight feet of small piping. In addition to these and the underground telegraph wires, there are no less than 2,000 miles of drain pipes of various dimensions. Less familiar to us, but no less important, are the lead and iron tubes—lead pipes without castings of iron—along which written messages, packed in little felt and gutta percha cases, are blown from station to station. The convenience of these messages is immense. A

steam engine forces in a blast of air, and in about a minute it travels a distance of 980 yards. There are at present thirteen stations on the underground railway; and as the people walk upon the streets of London, electricity is flashing messages above their heads, and little messengers are whizzing and darting just under their feet. As many as 1,500 messages pass to and fro in a day. The drainage system of London presents a world of underground streets, some two or three miles in extent. All the drains empty into the great sewer running parallel with the Thames, which sewers connect in the neighborhood of Victoria park, and through Barking creek discharge into the river. Men are constantly employed keeping these drains in repair. Londoners never pour a pail of water down a drain but at the depth of that mysterious aperture somebody is making way for it. A stranger, properly costumed, can explore these depths, which resemble vaulted galleries, in the sides of which are traps for ming various small channels. When the storm waters come, as they sometimes do during a thunder plump, the torrent is fearful; so much so that upon several occasions men have lost their lives.

Select Poetry.

When Mary was a Lassie.

The maple tree is tinged with red,
The birch with golden yellow;
And high above the orchard wall
Hang apples, rich and mellow;
And that's the way, through yonder lane

That looks so still and grassy,
The way I took one Sunday eve,
When Mary was a Lassie.

You'd hardly think that patient face,
That looks so thin and faded,
Was once the very sweetest one
That ever bonnet shaded;
But when I went through yonder lane,
That looks so still and grassy,
Those eyes were bright, those cheeks were fair,
When Mary was a Lassie.

But many a tender sorrow,
And many a patient care,
Have made those furrows on the face,
That used to be so fair,
Four times to yonder churchyard,
Through the lane, so still and grassy,
We've borne and laid away our dead,
Since Mary was a Lassie.

And so you see I've grown to love
The wrinkles more than roses;
Earth's winter flowers are sweeter far
Than all spring's dewy posies;
They'll carry us through yonder lane
That looks so still and grassy,
Adown the lane I used to go
When Mary was a Lassie.

READY MONEY.—It is a good thing to have unlimited credit, but better still to have ready money on hand for emergencies.

The richest man on the globe, Baron Rothschild, learned this lesson one day when he chanced to ride in a public conveyance, and found out that he had "not a red" in his pocket.

The driver was furious and demanded his pay. Rothschild told him his name, and gave him his card.

"I never heard of you, and never want to again; but I want my pay and must have it," and looked down threateningly. The money king was in haste. He had only an order for a million, and offered the driver a coupon for fifty thousand francs. "To change. The driver started; the passengers laughed, and just then an acquaintance came up, from whom he borrowed six francs, and paid the angry Jehu.

If it is inconvenient for even a Rothschild to be without money in his pocket, you may be sure it will be even more so for you. The world never respects a "state of impecuniosity." It is a most uncomfortable state to be in.

If you have any income of any sort, try not to spend every cent. Have a few dollars always about you for emergencies that will always be happening. If you gather it up as the children do their pennies, one at a time, keep your stock good. When you must break into your last five dollar bill, replace it as soon as you can. It adds to your comfort more than your ever guess to feel that there is a snug little sum that you can draw from in case of urgent need.

Philosophy, religion, or poetry to the contrary, there is no use in being penniless. By common prudence, most people of industrious habits can keep a little ahead for a rainy day.—Ex.

Choctaw Herald.

M. L. YEATMAN, Editor.
Thursday April 10 1874.
OFFICIAL ORGAN FOR CHOCTAW COUNTY.
Subscription: \$2.00

This issue terminates my connection with the editorial department of the Herald. But before closing my journalistic experience, I wish to write a few sentences upon a subject of almost infinite importance to every individual who desires to witness a change in our present administration. What I am going to say, however, is intended more especially for the good people of this county.

All are agreed that it behooves the Democratic and Conservative party to bend every energy towards the achievement of a grand success in the approaching contest. To accomplish this important end, perfect harmony must prevail in our ranks; there must be a concert of action among us. But how are we to harmonize? By holding a representative convention. And this can be done, if every man will, determine to attend the primary best meetings, when they are held, and thus at least indicate his willingness to assist in ascertaining who the popular candidates are. One great cause—indeed the only cause, of dissatisfaction in regard to conventions is, that too many persons remain away from these best meetings. And it is a somewhat remarkable fact, that those very persons who refuse to attend these primary meetings, are loudest in their denunciation of Conventions; and allege as a cause of complaint, that their choice is not represented.

I mention these facts not for the purpose of inducing any precipitate action, for there is a bountiful time in which to prepare for the election, but that the people may awaken to a realization of the peril that awaits them, and prepare accordingly.

To those of my friends who have extended their aid and encouragement in the undertaking I have been compelled to relinquish, I hereby tender my most sincere and heartfelt thanks, and assure them that their many acts of kindness have been duly appreciated. My brief experience in the field of journalism, has been attended by many of the cares and annoyances incident to the profession; but these are relieved off much of their unpleasantness by numerous happy associations, the recollection of which will ever be as sweet incense in memory's chamber.

Very Respectfully,
W. E. BEGGS.

As will be seen from the above, we are again alone in the editorial department of the Choctaw Herald. Circumstances over which we had no control has rendered it necessary that our worthy associate W. E. Beggs, should withdraw from the many duties incumbent upon him as a journalist. In his withdrawal we will miss his able assistance, but hope that our loss may be his gain.

In again taking sole control of the editorial department of the Herald we shall renew our energies and exert our utmost skill in order that its columns may be filled with such selections and original matters as will tend to the interest and prosperity of our county.

In order then, that we may be enabled to perform our duty, we shall ask the co-operation of the Democratic and Conservative party, at least of this county, as their interest and advancement will be our constant aim.

Respectfully,
M. L. YEATMAN.

Cleveland, Kansas City, St. Joseph and Cincinnati has all gone Democratic at their recent elections.

Col. J. W. Taylor, editor of the Tuscaloosa "Times" is suggested as a suitable candidate for Congressman-at-large for this state at the next election.

J. C. Stanton is about to resume the possession of the A. & C. R. R.

The New Orleans Picayune of the 9th inst., says that the Mississippi river, was at that time above the high water mark of 1871.

At the recent session of the Legislature of Mississippi, a bill was passed requiring the signature of women on applications for liquor licenses.

Connecticut has gone Democratic. The Senate stands, 17 Democrats to four Republicans, and the House 143 Democrats, 90 Republicans and 2 Independents.

The Unshuckany level, near Sunflower, Mississippi has broken again and now endangers the whole of Sandflower and Yazoo bottoms.

The Montgomery "News" man seems to think we have mistaken the use of a "setter dog" and have placed him at a setting, over a dozen eggs. A few weeks will hatch out a few more chickens of the "News" kind.

The New Currency Bill.

The following is the bill just passed by the United States Senate and about which the New York Herald threatens war. A bill to fix the amount of United States notes and the circulation of the national bank and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, Sec. 1. That the maximum amount of United States notes is hereby fixed at \$400,000,000.

Sec. 2. That \$400,000,000 in notes for circulation, in addition to such circulation now allowed by law, shall be issued to National banking associations, now organized, and which may be organized hereafter, and such increased circulation shall be distributed among the several States as provided in section one of the act entitled "An act to provide for the redemption of three per centum temporary loan certificates, and for an increase of National bank notes," approved July 12 1870.

Sec. 3. That each national banking association now organized, or hereafter to be organized, shall keep and maintain as a part of its reserve required by law one-fourth part of the coin received by it as interest on the bonds of the United States deposited as security for circulating notes of Government deposits, and that hereafter only one-fourth of the reserve now prescribed by law for national banking associations, shall consist of balances due to an association available for the redemption of its circulating notes from associations in the cities of redemption, and upon which balances no interest shall be paid.

Some people are as careful of their troubles as mothers are of their babies; they cradle them, and rock them, and hug them and cry over them, and fly into passion with you if you try to take them away from them; they want you to fret with them, and to help them to believe that they have been worse treated than anybody else, if they could, they would have a picture of their grief, in a gold frame hung over the mantle-shelf for everybody to look at. And their grief makes them ordinarily selfish, they think more of the dear little grief in the blanket in the cradle, than they do of all the world besides; and they say, "You are hard-hearted, if you say, 'Don't fret.' " "Ah, you don't understand me; you don't know me, you can't enter into my trials."

The Dead Democracy Again.

For a dead bird the Democratic rooster is a lively one, and he crows lustily in our despatches of to-day. A "clean sweep, with forty majority on joint ballot," is good. The fact of its being a Simon pure Democratic victory, fought under the old flag, and won on straight out Democratic principles, detracts nothing from the glory of the thing. There is nothing fishy about the matter: it is all flesh—the only sure way to win. Compromise and expediency may promise well—but they promise only: ashes to the lips; for a square stand-up-and-knock-down we will take the old Democracy, every time. This Connecticut thing is epidemic, loath, and there is no telling where it is going to end. It is fatal, likewise; we may look out for a great funeral in 1876, and it will not be the Democracy's either.

You are from the country, are you not, sir? asked a city clerk of a Quaker who had just arrived. "Yes," "Well, here is an essay on the rearing of calves." "That," said Aminadab, as he turned to go, "there had best present to thy mother."

Rutler is trying to put Pinchback into the House; Morton is trying to put him in the Senate; and the people of Louisiana are trying to put him into the penitentiary. It is hard to tell which will win, although Justice stands the poorest chance.

Conventions.

The convention system is far from perfect in itself. It is liable to abuses. To many eyes, it has been used to thwart the public wish. But with all its defects and all its evils, it furnishes now perhaps the only practical means of adjusting conflicting aspirations in the executive ranks in Alabama. And the adjustment of these aspirations is necessary to a conservative success.

We do not assert or admit the infallibility of the convention. We do not hold it the duty of a freeman to bind himself unreservedly to the action of the convention. But we do believe that now especially it is the duty of each good citizen to submit to the convention all that touches personal feelings, preferences, or prejudices. We believe that in the exigencies of the campaign upon which we are entering, no conservative citizen will be guileless of a great offense who puts himself in antagonism to the regular nominee of a convention of his party for any office, where such nominee is not morally unworthy or mentally unfit. If the people in each county do their duty, the nomination of an unworthy man is an impossibility.

We have long been inclined to a preference for primary elections as a means of selecting candidates. But for the present at least we doubt whether a resort to this method of selection would give entirely satisfactory results. It takes time to introduce a new system of any kind. The people of Alabama are not sufficiently familiar with the workings of this plan to render its adoption easy. And the organization of the party is not perhaps perfect enough to justify an attempt to substitute another for the old way of choosing standard bearers.

The contest upon which we are entering concerns the whole state. Each county is interested in what each other county does. Disorders or dissensions in one subdivision of the state endanger the common cause. Suggestions from the people of one section to those of another are not impertinent interferences, but take the shape of friendly counsels in regard to matters of common concern.

May we not then insist that conventions for the selection of candidates should be held in all the counties of the state? So far as the local interests of many counties are affected, conventions may be unnecessary. It is scarcely possible that a multiplicity of candidates in Jefferson and Tallapoosa and Calhoun would result in the election of unfit probate judges and clerks and sheriffs and other officers. But even in counties as strongly democratic as these, independent candidates (wolves in sheep's clothing) enough were elected to the late legislature to give the control of the house to the enemies of the state. Which a single exception, we do not remember any case in which an independent candidate elected to office has not affiliated with the radical plunderers.

If there were nothing more at stake than their local interests, strong democratic counties might safely dispense with conventions and safely risk a multiplicity of candidates. But whatever they might do for themselves, they have no right to stake the welfare of less favored portions of the state on the chances of defeat through local dissensions. Dallas county, with its 5,000 solid negro majority, and without a hope of relief except through success in the state, has a right to interest in the course of the strong white counties in this regard than have those counties themselves, and it appeals to them to unite their forces into one compact organization and to harmonize all personal claims and personal aspirations within their limits for its safety.

In each county or district, the convention ought to reflect public sentiment. By the appointment of representation to the convention to the subdivisions of the county or district, each democratic voter is given an equal voice in the convention, and it is his fault if he does not use it. It is the duty of each to avail himself of his right to be heard and felt. If the people will take interest enough in what so nearly and vitally concerns them to attend the primary meetings and there give expression to their views in the selection of delegates and upon other matters of public interest, the conventions will so fully represent their feelings and wishes that dissatisfied aspirants will not dare to challenge and oppose their action.

This is the vital point in the work of preparation for the approaching contest, to inspire the people with such an idea of their duty in the premises that they will enter upon its discharge with alacrity and zeal.—Southern Argus.

The Hidden Torture.

There is nothing so remarkable in man as his power of concealing mental torture. What is unsaid is ever nearest and greatest. The soul is beset by some hideous remorse—consuming care—warning of disaster—fear of death—rejected love—pecuniary distress—or the anguish of anticipated shame. The dark thing is not merely in the background; its presence never

withdraws, it never wholly relents, it occupies the chief of thoughts and feelings; and all that is layed out its way is but outlying and unconsidered precincts. Meanwhile, the man plays his part in society as other men do; is polite, gay, affable; and, if he is really a strong and able person, is as much like his ordinary self, himself before this dark thing had any hold upon him, as it is possible to be.

What Negro State will do for Alabama.

The appropriations of the South Carolina Legislature which has just adjourned, amounted to \$1,798,270.55. No wonder the tax payers are praying for relief. Of this amount \$460,971.13 was for public printing; \$365,000 for legislative expenses; claims against the Legislature for furniture, etc., \$279,089.42 contingent fund, \$162,200; public asylums, \$193,850. It will be seen that with the exception of the last three items, the entire amount was expended by the Legislature, in the session of 1868-9 the legislative expenses were \$181,880, and the cost of printing \$12,000. This was the first year the State was in the hands of its present rulers. During the six years since then, the amount appropriated for these two purposes alone was steadily increased from \$93,838 to the enormous sum of \$1,082,240. We agree with the Charleston News and Courier, which publishes the figures of this startling exhibit, that there is no need for comment.

The New York Graphic says that one feature of the temperance revival is commendable. "In certain places a pledge is now circulating among young men by which the signers bind themselves to refrain from asking other men to drink. There is nothing that is more absurd, in itself considered, than the theory that a man is under obligation to pay for the drinks consumed by his friends. No man thinks of asking a friend out to 'take a social pair of boots' or a 'friendly barrel of flour,' and yet he is regarded as committing a breach of etiquette if he ventures to drink without asking a friend to 'drink with him.' No man would feel otherwise than justified if an acquaintance asked him to 'accept' a friendly fifteen cent stamp, and yet he feels himself insulted if he is not asked to 'drink' fifteen cents worth of ardent spirits. The exceeding folly of this custom is equalled only by the evil influence which it exerts. Many a man is forced to drink by one of a group of acquaintances when he is not in the least thirsty, and he is thus in turn compelled to 'invite' them to drink a second time with him to the detriment not only of his purse but of his health. It is not too much to say that at least one-half of the ardent spirits consumed in this city is drunk by men who do not 'want it,' but who are compelled both by a stupid and senseless custom both to drink, when invited to do so and to invite others to drink with them who had much rather not do anything of the kind.

\$25 REWARD.

Strayed or Stolen from the undersigned, two miles west of Butler Choctaw County Ala., on the 6th inst., a good medium size mare, color, near a black, age four years. It is slightly straggled in the right hind leg. The above reward will be given for the delivery of the above described mule or information that will insure me the property. J. A. MOORE. April 16th, 1874. Meridian Mercury please copy one week and send bill to this office.

THE STATE OF ALABAMA.

CHOCTAW COUNTY.

Probate Court, In Vacation, April 6, 1874.

Ellis Riley, dec'd., Executor of Petition to sell Lands to pay debts. Order setting day to hear application for

THIS day comes A. A. Spangenberg, administrator of said estate, and files in court a petition, in due form of law, praying for an order of this court, authorizing him to sell certain lands, to said petition described, for the purpose of paying the debts, due from said estate, upon the ground, that the personal property of said estate is insufficient therefor, and it appearing to the Court, from an inspection of said petition, that the following heirs, of said Estate are: no next of kin, Vix: Martha Harding wife of Joseph Harden who resides at Toombsa Mississippi, Alonzo Wright who resides in Texas, Pickens Martha and Frank's Wright, children of Elizabeth Wright dec'd., daughter of decedent, who resides at Toombsa in the state of Mississippi and are minors under 21 years of age.

It is therefore ordered, that the 11th day of May 1874 be set as a day for hearing said application and the proof which may be submitted in support of the same. It is further ordered that due notice of the nature of said petition and of the day set to hear and determine the same, be giving for three successive weeks in the Choctaw Herald, a newspaper published in this county, so that all persons interested may appear on said day and contest said application if they think proper.

J. S. EVANS, Probate Judge.

April 16th 1874.

NEW ADVERTISEMENT.

NOTICE.

U. S. Internal Revenue Special Taxes.

May 1, 1874, to April 30, 1875.

The LAW of December 24, 1872, requires every person engaged in any business, avocation, or employment which renders him liable to a SPECIAL TAX, To Procure and place conspicuously in his Establishment or place of BUSINESS a STAMP denoting the payment of said SPECIAL TAX for the Special year beginning May 1, 1874, before commencing or continuing business after April 30, 1874.

The taxes embraced within the provisions of the Law above quoted are the following, viz:

Recipients of tobacco, \$200.00
Dealers, retail liquor, 25.00
Dealers, wholesale liquor, 100.00
Dealers in malt liquors, wholesale, 50.00
Dealers in malt liquors, retail, 25.00
Dealers in leaf tobacco, 25.00
Retail dealers in leaf tobacco, 50.00
And on sale of over \$1,000, fifty cents for every dollar in excess of \$1,000.
Dealers in manufactured tobacco, 50.00
Manufacturers of cigars, 50.00
And for each work manufactured 20.00
Manufacturers of tobacco, 10.00
Peddlers of tobacco, first class (more than two horses), 50.00
Peddlers of tobacco, second class (two horses), 25.00
Peddlers of tobacco, third class (one horse), 15.00
Peddlers of tobacco, fourth class (on foot or public conveyance), 10.00
Brewers of less than 500 barrels, 50.00
Brewers of 500 barrels or more, 100.00
Any person, liable, who shall fail to comply with the foregoing requirements will be subject to severe penalties.
Persons or firms liable to pay any of the Special Taxes named above must apply to Lewis H. Mayer, Collector of Internal Revenue at Mobile, Alabama, and pay for and procure the Special Tax Stamp of Stamp they need, prior to May 1, 1874, and WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE.

J. W. DOUGLASS, Commissioner of Internal Revenue.

OFFICE OF INTERNAL REVENUE, Washington, D. C., February 16, 1874.

A fifty per cent penalty will be added after May 1, 1874.

Butler Ala., April 9, 1874. 12-4w

Dividend Educational Fund.

Commencing October 1st 1873, and ending Sept. 30th 1874.

COUNTY OF CHOCTAW.

		CLASSICAL White.	Colored	TOTAL.
9/2 W		\$104.67	\$ 61.66	\$166.33
9/3 "		76.67	20.83	97.50
9/4 "		174.11	100.00	274.11
9/5 "		71.67	30.83	102.50
10/2 "		17.50	20.83	38.33
10/3 "		69.17	82.50	151.67
10/4 "		138.33	66.67	205.00
10/5 "		43.33	45.84	89.17
11/2 "		70.00	53.33	123.33
11/3 "		85.00	5.83	90.83
11/4 "		111.67	110.66	222.33
11/5 "		76.67	75.83	152.50
12/2 "		36.67	50.00	86.67
12/3 "		174.11	100.00	274.11
12/4 "		87.50	87.50	175.00
12/5 "		15.84	1.67	17.50
13/1 "		14.20	137.77	151.97
13/2 "		150.00	320.83	470.83
13/3 "		38.33	77.50	115.83
13/4 "		45.84	11.67	57.50
13/5 "		40.00	18.33	58.33
14/1 "		32.50	75.83	108.33
14/2 "		60.83	140.84	201.67
14/3 "		80.83	197.50	278.33
14/4 "		140.00	151.67	291.67
15/1 "		69.99	179.89	249.88
15/2 "		95.00	127.50	222.50
15/3 "		101.67	78.33	180.00
15/4 "		135.53	135.50	271.03
15/5 "	E	48.86	118.14	167.00

2257.18, 2414.20, 4671.38

BUTLER, Alabama, April 1st, 1874.

TEACHERS and Trustees of the Public Schools will note carefully amounts appropriated to their respective Townships, and file this paper for future reference. Trustees will contract with Teachers on the best terms possible, and forward the contracts to me for approval, as the law requires.

V. E. WILLIAMS, Supl. Choctaw county.

April 2, 1874. 11-2w

THE STATE OF ALABAMA.

CHOCTAW COUNTY.

NOTICE is hereby given, that I have this day been appointed by the Honorable the Judge of the Probate Court of Choctaw county Administrator of the estate of Henry Bass, deceased.

W. B. BAILEY, Feb'y, 26 1874. 6-6w

Choctaw Herald.

Thursday, April 16, 1874.

To Whom it May Concern.

In order to protect our business, we are compelled to establish the following:

RULES:

Hereafter no Legal Advertisement will be inserted in the HERALD unless accompanied by the CASH; or by such guaranty of prompt payment, as will be satisfactory to us.

M. L. Yeatman.

We disavow, in adopting this rule, any personal distrust. We base it upon the broad principle that "the laborer is worthy of his hire," and to prove that we have not adopted this system too soon, we can only refer to our Books, which we think would satisfy any reasonable man. If persons who are interested in Estates are not willing to advance the amount due for publication, how can they ask us, who have no interest in the matter, to do their work on a credit? Without us, they could not get on in business. We have reduced our rates to the lowest living prices.

Two Dollars

This is the price to which we have reduced the subscription rates of the HERALD for the year 1874. We have done this in order that it might be within the reach of every man and woman in the county. In reducing our rates we will be compelled to require the cash for all subscriptions. No name will be placed upon our subscription book until paid for. Persons finding their paper discontinued will know that their time has run out.

Announcements.

For Circuit Judge.

We are authorized to announce Hon. JAMES COBBES a candidate for Judge of the Seventh Judicial Circuit, for a Convention, if one is held.

For Probate Judge.

To the Voters of CHOCTAW COUNTY. I am a candidate for the office of Probate Judge, Election 24 day of November next. I respectfully solicit your suffrages. B. H. WARREN. February 19, 1874.

For County Treasurer.

We are authorized to announce the name of R. B. SMITH as a candidate for the office of County Treasurer of Choctaw County, Election next November.

The friends of JAMES BRASWELL announce his name as a candidate for the office of County Treasurer for this County Election next November.

MANY VOTERS.

We are authorized to announce the name of Dr. J. R. MILLER as a candidate for the office of County Treasurer for Choctaw County, Election next November.

For Collector.

We are authorized to announce the name of J. W. HURST as a candidate for the office of Tax Collector for Choctaw County, Election next November.

We are authorized to announce the name of O. H. WATSON as a candidate for the office of Tax Collector for Choctaw County, Election next November.

For Tax Assessor.

We are authorized to announce the name of R. M. HEARIN as a candidate for the office of Tax Assessor of Choctaw County, Election next November.

County Superintendent.

We are authorized to announce J. J. ALMAN as a candidate for the office of Superintendent of Education for Choctaw County, Election next November.

For cash you buy more goods for less money at Abney's than anywhere in town.

Those who find a remedy by taking it out of a paste cup.

By reference to another column it will be seen that Mr. A. J. Moore has lost a fine mule. It was purchased by him from a drover at Meridian and, if not stolen, will make its way in that direction.

Dead.—On the 4th inst., in this county, at the residence of her son, Burrell Burns, Mrs. Lela Burns, aged about 65 years.

By reference to to-day's paper it will be seen that R. B. Smith, the present County Treasurer, has been announced as a candidate for the office of Treasurer at the next election. We have on several occasions been one of a committee to examine his books and vouchers and take pleasure in saying that they were neatly kept. If elected he will continue to make the county an efficient officer.

We learn that the young ladies and gentlemen of this place are still progressing with their contemplated Tableau and concert. It is now conceded as a fact, that during the second week of the approaching Term of the Circuit Court of this county, that a series of Tableaux, and Concert will be given for the purpose of raising funds to repair the church in this place. It is a move in the right direction and we hope will meet with that support it so justly merits.

The place to get the worth of your money, is at the store of A. Abney.

The following from the Livingston "Journal" is in full accord with our views and we reproduce it with our endorsement.

We find there is a general desire throughout the county, that the nomination of Democratic and conservative candidates for county officers shall be postponed until within a few weeks of the election. This accords entirely with our own views. An unnecessarily protracted canvass would not only seriously demoralize productive labor, but would impair our chances for success. It does not follow, however, that the preliminary work of organizing, should be delayed until the engagement actually opens. Preparation can hardly be too soon commenced for securing a full and impartial expression of the sentiments of the mass party in the matter of selecting delegates, that when the time for action comes, a prompt response may be made. We commend to the attention of our readers the following, from the Selma "Argus."

"The time is almost at hand when the first steps in the political campaign will be taken. The first movement is with the people. It rests with them to give the canvass a right start off. If they neglect the primary meetings they will have themselves greatly to blame if the great struggle should be in vain. The contest is for a right to the government, for the protection of their property, for a firm and impartial enforcement of the laws for their benefit. In the primary meetings delegates to the county conventions will be chosen. The county conventions delegates to the State convention will be selected. The State convention will nominate candidates to define the issues of the canvass. The primary meeting is the vital point of the whole plan of organization. The citizen who in this exigency neglects to attend to that which will be of an important duty to himself and the State."

Every body is trying to save. This you can do, by buying your goods of A. Abney.

"The day is not far distant," says a Raleigh paper, "when the world will begin to look on death as a journey to another country." Yes; and the journey is one on which we can all of us go dead-head.

How Oppression Rebounds.

The North, says the New York "Day Book," has been struck with a thunder bolt, from heaven, through the ruin of the South. The same paper adds:—Twenty thousand of the "upper ten" have stepped from their carriages and now walk the streets hunting for bread; and infinitely worse, half a million of poor working men and women, without work, are threatened with starvation throughout the North—the direct and necessary result of the labors of the "friends of freedom," in the front ranks of which Harper's Weekly has steadily borne its flag of "civilization." But the recoil from the devil's work, and consequent loss of profits, has suddenly opened the eyes of these people to the horror of the situation.

Practical.—We hope that every person indebted either to the Bladen Springs or Choctaw Herald, for job-work, advertising or subscription will come prepared at the approaching Spring Term of the Circuit Court of this county to settle the same. We have now waited long and patiently for our dues and shall expect each and every one to come up and settle their little bills during court weeks. Your accounts will be made out and ready to be received. This is business.

A call meeting of the Patrons of Husbandry was held in this place to-day.

Business of every kind is said to have been quite dull for several days, though A. Abney is still doing a lively business.

Prof. G. G. Slater has now a flourishing school at this place.

The late heavy rains will cause the roads to become again loath after the interest of their respective roads.

RAIN! RAIN!—For the last twenty-four hours it has been raining incessantly. In fact the present week has been almost a total loss to the farmers, as they have not been able to do but little if any work in the way of farming, notwithstanding many had just begun of plant cotton seed.

DR. J. R. MILLS,

Resident Physician

AND

SURGEON

BUTLER ALABAMA.

When not professionally engaged will be found at his residence in Butler.

Sheriff's Sale.

To satisfy two executions in my hands issued from the Circuit Court of Choctaw county, one against Jefferson Harrison and in favor of S. T. Prince, and one against Lafayette Shoemaker & Jefferson Harrison and in favor of O. C. Ulmer, administrator of the estate of S. P. I will proceed to sell to the highest bidder for cash, in front of the Court House door in Butler on the first Monday in April 1874, between the legal hours of sale, the following described real estate, as the property of Jefferson Harrison, to-wit:—

The southwest quarter of the northwest quarter, section 28 township 10 range 3 west; the south half of southwest quarter and south half of northeast quarter and southeast quarter of section twenty-five, township ten, range 3 west; the southeast quarter of southeast quarter section four township nine range 3 west, to satisfy the above executions, also the following property to-wit:—Southeast quarter of southwest quarter section nineteen, township ten, range 3 west, as the property of L. Shoemaker, to satisfy execution in favor of O. C. Ulmer administrator.

R. M. HEARIN, Sheriff.

March 5th 1874. The above sale has been postponed until the first Monday in May, 1874.

Boot and Shoe Store.

ROBERT G. MORROW.

PROPRIETOR.

NOW is the time to have your Boots and Shoes made, as you will get better work and material, and at

Greatly Reduced Prices

all of which are now offered to the public. Call and examine goods and prices before you have your orders filled. Remember the place, which is at the sign of the Pine Tree, on North side of Main St. All work warranted. Bladen Springs, Ala. Oct. 23, 1872. 4017.

STAPLES' HUNTING

LAMP.

Patented April 2d, 1872.

JAMES T. STAPLES.

Bladen Springs, Ala.

Sportsmen desirous of success in hunting, should procure one of these Lamps. They are convenient, and are not affected by wind or rain. Price, \$25.

DIRECTIONS FOR USING

1. Trim the lamp wick square, so that the blaze will be equal on both sides.
2. When the lamp is on the left shoulder, the reflector should be turned to the left side, and when on the right shoulder, turn the reflector to the right by means of the wire lever on the top of the handle on the left hand side.
3. The lamp should be held on the opposite shoulder from the one shot from.
4. In hunting, you should always look in the light for eyes, and not in the shadow, as when hunting with the fire lamp.
5. Entire satisfaction guaranteed. July 19th, 1871.

The light may be raised or lowered by means of the lever on the top of the handle on the right hand side.

C. P. MILLS & CO. Patrons of Husbandry.

Retail Dealers in

Dry Goods,

Boots and Shoes,

DRUGS

AND

Liquors of all Kinds,

Butler, Ala.

We keep constantly on hand, a fine assortment of every thing in our line, which will be sold cheap for cash. 7-1y.

T. BATMAN, Eutaw, Ala. W. F. BATMAN, Mobile, Ala.

T. BATMAN & CO.

Cotton Factors

Commission

Merchants,

No. 49 North Commerce Street,

(UP STAIRS) MOBILE, ALA.

All Cotton consigned to us on Classed Steamboats is covered by Insurance unless otherwise directed. Sep. 12-73. 34, 1y

THE STATE OF ALABAMA

CHOCTAW COUNTY

Probate Court Regular Term, Feb. 10, '74.

Estate of Geo. F. Smith, dec'd. Final Settlement, of S. H. Smith's administration of Insolvent Estate of.

Said Estate having this day been declared insolvent, it is ordered, that S. H. Smith, the administrator of said estate, do file his accounts, vouchers and evidence, for a final settlement of his administration of said insolvent estate.

It is ordered by the Court that the 13th day of April 1874 be set as a day to hear and pass upon the same, and that notice of the time and nature of said settlement and of the day set to hear and determine the same, be given by publication in the Choctaw Herald, a newspaper published in said county, for thirty consecutive days, before said day above appointed, and by posting notices on the Court House door, and by forwarding notices by mail, postage paid and properly addressed, to all the creditors of said estate, when their post-office is known.

Extract from the minutes. J. S. EVANS, Probate Judge. 8-5w.

March 12, 1874.

THE STATE OF ALABAMA

CHOCTAW COUNTY

Probate Court Regular term, Jan. 17, '74.

George Mosley Dec'd. In the matter of Substitution of the Papers and Records of the administration of Joel M. Hill Adm'r.

In this case it is made to appear to the Court, by the affidavit of Joel M. Hill Adm'r of the Estate of George Mosley Dec'd, that Milton Harvey is a non resident and resides in Arkansas of full age, James and Elizabeth Harvey minors, over the age of four years, and reside in Arkansas.

It is ordered, that publication be made in the Choctaw Herald a newspaper published in said county, for three successive weeks, notifying said non Resident, that he do appear before the Court on the 14th day of April 1874, for an order substituting the Papers and Records of the Administration of Joel M. Hill Adm'r, of Estate of George Mosley, dec'd.

Extract from the minutes. J. S. EVANS, Probate Judge. 8-5w.

Mar. 17, '74.

Register's Sale.

BY virtue of a Decree of Hon. the Chancery Court for the Second District of the Western Chancery Division of the State of Alabama, rendered at the November Term 1869; of said Chancery Court, in favor of Edward McCall, administrator of the estate of James H. Bonner, deceased, and against George W. Bonner, I will sell to the highest bidder for CASH, in front of the Court House door in the Town of Butler, on the first Monday in April next, the following described lands to-wit:—

The northeast quarter of the northeast quarter of section sixteen, and the east half of the southeast quarter of section nine, and the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section ten, all in township eleven, range four west, containing one hundred and sixty acres, lying and being in the county of Choctaw, and State of Alabama.

J. C. CHAPMAN, Register.

The above sale has been continued until the first Monday in May 1874.

J. C. CHAPMAN, Register.

April 6, 1874.

Directory for Choctaw County.

Choctaw County Council, meets in Butler on the 2nd Monday in March, June, September and December. Call Session, 2nd Monday in April.

Butler Grange, No. 126, meets in Butler First Thursday, in each month at ten o'clock a. m. B. H. WARREN, M. ISRAEL PICKENS, Secy.

Desotville Grange, No. 127, meets in Desotville on 1st Monday in April. Secy, A. J. GRAY, M.

Pushmataha Grange, No. 128, meets in Pushmataha on 1st Monday in April. Secy, W. S. HORN, M. C. R. WATSON, Secy.

Pegasus Grange, No. 129, meets at Bethel Church on 1st Monday in April. Secy, W. GREEN, M. C. W. MOODY, Secy.

Bladen Springs Grange, No. 130, meets in Bladen Springs on 1st Monday in April. Secy, G. H. McKEE, M. W. D. MILLS, Secy.

Mt. Sterling Grange, No. 131, meets in Mt. Sterling on 1st Saturday in each month. Secy, B. F. MARSHALL, M. V. GAINES, Secy.

Tompkinsville Grange, No. 132, meets in Tompkinsville on 1st Monday in April. Secy, W. R. HORN, M. S. V. HORN, Secy.

Pellham Grange, No. 260, meets in Pellham on 1st Saturday in each month. W. WALTON, Secy. P. E. WALTON, M.

Arrives Mondays and Thursdays at 6 o'clock. Leaves Mondays and Fridays at 6 o'clock. Arrives at 6 o'clock. Leaves at 6 o'clock. Arrives at 6 o'clock. Leaves at 6 o'clock.

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BLEED THROUGH

