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This paper gives correspondents as much latitude as it thinks public opinion permits, but reserves the right to censor or withdraw any correspondence for its views.

"But the point is that a rural police force is to the safety of families which have no near neighbors."

The Greenville News endorses this argument. "We must," it says, "police our country districts as well as our towns and the only practical way of doing it is to have mounted officers in each county." If this is true as to South Carolina it is true as to every Southern State. One shudders in reflecting upon the chances to which the women and children in the country are subjected. It is impossible for the men to be about the houses in daylight for more than a little of their time. They are in the fields at work or superintending the work; in town or elsewhere on business; and the female members of the family are left unprotected, possible victims of the robber, murderer, or worse than either. The more one thinks upon this subject the greater it grows and the more one is impressed with the importance of adopting some means to make life, person and property in the country safer than they are.

The idea of a mounted rural constabulary grows upon us as we consider it. At first blush it appeared impracticable. It is not so certain that it is impracticable after all. At all events it will be conceded that for too much of their time the women and children of the country are left defenseless against the vicious elements of society, and that something ought to be done about it.

POLICE FOR THE COUNTRY.

In a striking communication in Monday's Observer the editor of The New York Evening Post urged the organization of a mounted constabulary in North Carolina for the protection of prisoners and for the execution of the general laws of the State. It was argued that it would afford protection to the rural districts, to the men and women of the country, now too much exposed to the mercy of the criminal classes; and The Charleston News and Courier is making a stand for a similar force in South Carolina. Presenting its arguments it declares: "that a squad of men (for the country) each paid \$20 a month and mounted on good horses, would form a squad respectable in every way. The squads of the various counties would form a corps, and the whole corps would have a pride in it just as the great militia, so proud especially of their mounted officers.

The shocking affair in Greenwood, South Carolina, emphasizes the State, no matter what the cost, must adopt some measure to protect the lives of the country people, especially of the women and children. While a rural police would cost more than a regular constabulary costs the State, it could perform the duties of the constabulary and the latter's expense of maintenance would be less. Undoubtedly, it would be practicable to determine the number of magistrates, constables and deputy sheriffs. The summoning of such officers could be done by these mounted officers, and their duties could be given them, so that the force could perhaps be equipped and maintained with little or no increase in the tax levies.

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WE HAVE A DUTY HERE.

The armored cruiser North Carolina is to be launched from the yards of the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company October 6th. It will be an occasion of more than passing interest to even we landlubbers, and one on which there should be a goodly gathering of Tar Heels.

Other States in whose honor warships have been named have sent large delegations to the launchings, to say nothing of their prettiest girls to carry out the time-honored custom of breaking over, the good ship's prow the traditional bottle of wine, and the Old North State is not in the habit of letting any of her sisters set the pace.

Lewis Morrison is dead. The announcement carries regret to many Southerners who have time and again enjoyed with keen pleasure his delightful interpretation of Mephistopheles in "Faust." It is rather unusual, but true, with all the petty jealousies and blighted ambitions of the stage world, no Thespian has ever attempted to rob this man of his laurels, and in this respect he occupied a unique position. North and South, East and West, he was prominently, indelibly identified with this role. He made the sinuous, artful "devil" as popular with the gallery gods as the current hero of melodramas, and yet as classic and finished from the artistic standpoint of the first-night critic as the King Richard of Booth on the Shylock of Mansfield. Endowed with the physical attributes, and possessing the voice, poise and manner that came to him from long and devoted study of the role, he perfected it until "Faust" without Morrison's Mephistopheles was as inane as would have been Hamlet minus the melancholy Dane. In the front rank of footlight favorites, in private life he was a valiant soldier, a good citizen, a devoted husband and father, a gentleman of the old school. In his passing the stage and his country have sustained a bereavement.

CANDIDATE PARALYZED.

Mr. J. M. Brown May Be Forced to Retire From Senatorial Race in Twenty-fourth District—Mr. Hackert to Address Stately Democrats.

Special to The Observer.

Albemarle, Aug. 21.—Mr. J. M. Brown, who was paralyzed some time ago, is very much improved, but is still quite feeble. His left arm and leg are helpless and the sensibility in them is very slight. His friends fear that he will be forced to give up the nomination for the State Senate in the twenty-fourth district. This would be a sad loss to the whole State. Among all the able men who have recently been nominated for the Senate, he is one of the ablest.

The continued wet weather in this section has greatly damaged the crops of all kinds. The low lands are almost completely drowned out.

Capitalists who have been prospecting for oil and natural gas in this country are very much pleased with the prospect. They say the indications here are very much the same as at Beaumont, Texas. They have already taken leases on large tracts of land and, at an early day, will erect machinery and bore some deep wells. This territory is located about four miles from Albemarle on the Whitney road.

Hon. R. N. Hackert, nominee for Congress in this district, will address the Waccamaw-Ehr Club here Friday night, the 24th instant. This is a very large and enthusiastic Democratic club which is being formed among the operatives of these two mills. The Democracy of old Stanly is thoroughly aroused and is determined to sweep the country by a very large majority in November. Two years ago they were a moderate and careless and, while they stayed at home and sowed wheat, the Republicans went to the polls and voted and thus for the first time in its history, Stanly went into the hands of the Republicans. But two years of this has been enough to arouse the numbering Democrats and they are now resolved to take possession of their own. With a full vote they can carry the county by 500 majority.

It is to be hoped that this indecent exhibition may be compensated for in some measure through the exercise of a military influence upon the young newspaper men of Georgia with which this article started; that they may see it as a warning and shrink from this style of journalism with hatred and loathing. Better for themselves, for the credit of their State and the welfare of society that they spend their days as publishers of obscure weeklies with patent outside and boiler plates besides than that they should be Atlanta editors with the methods of those to-day.

It looks very much as if District Attorney Jerome, independent, is to get the Democratic nomination for Governor of New York, which he will probably accept if unhampered by a platform or any pledge or understanding as to what he will or will not do if elected. He is a great human being, but anybody is better than Jerome and it appears that unless Jerome gets the nomination Jerome will.

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