Anthony Ashley Cooper, Earl of Shaftesbury

This mid-eighteenth-century print is by the renowned Dutch portrait engraver Jacobus Houbraken and is from his collection of prints titled *The Heads of Illustrious Persons of Great Britain*. Ashley Cooper was one of the eight original Lords Proprietors of Carolina and also lent his name to both of the rivers surrounding the Charleston peninsula. Among his many achievements was his authoring of the Habeas Corpus Act, which declares that a man cannot be held indefinitely in prison without a trial.
The Mud-Inguana found in South-Carolina

This circa late-nineteenth-century nature illustration depicts the creature now known as the Lesser Siren, Two-Legged Eel, or Mud Eel. The Lesser Siren is one of the most primitive living forms of salamander and is common in ditches, lakes, ponds, and streams from the southeastern United States to Mexico.
A Garden in Charleston

This illustration of a picturesque Charleston garden was included alongside “Charleston and Its Suburbs,” a piece by Oliver Bell Bunce that appeared in an 1871 issue of *Appleton’s Journal*. 
The Sarrazin House of St. John’s, Berkeley County

In the 1920s and early 1930s, William Henry Johnson compiled three scrapbooks documenting the history of a large array of plantations and other places of interest throughout the lowcountry. Included alongside photographs and descriptive notes are sketches such as this one, which depicts a house once located near Pinopolis but destroyed in a 1924 fire.
Established in 1855, the South Carolina Historical Society is dedicated to expanding, preserving, and making accessible our invaluable collection, and encouraging interest and pride in the rich history of our state.

Today, the South Carolina Historical Society is the state’s oldest and largest private repository of books, letters, journals, maps, drawings, and photographs documenting the history of South Carolina. The society’s holdings are vast and grow constantly with the addition of materials from South Carolina’s three-hundred-year history.

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