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J. H. C. BAILEY, PROP.

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Tax-Payers' Convention.

[CONTINUED FROM LAST WEEK.]
Your committee are gratified to state that this system of cumulative voting, which is destined to play so important a part in the development of popular rule, has already been put in operation.—
"Proposed," explained and advocated in the first instance by James Garth Marshall, a subject of the crown of Great Britain, "this plan has been championed by ex-Senator Beckalew, of this country, has been incorporated in the revised Constitution of Illinois, and has been put upon its trial in a Pennsylvania town. Recently the subject has attracted universal interest in the South. In our own State it has been received with great favor, and lifted above the plane of political partyism.
Your committee are of the opinion that, abstractly considered, proportional representation is a great governmental principle—a wise, just measure of reform, and one absolutely necessary to make unlimited suffrage consistent with peace, order and security. It enters the political body as a saving, a conserving element.—It comes to lighten the lump of Democracy, and to give the essence of genuine Republicanism, which is, briefly stated, thorough and general representation. But if proportional representation be an admirable system in any government founded upon the popular will, your committee hold that the plan is peculiarly applicable to such a condition of society as this State now presents.
Your committee do not affirm that this would cure all the diseases of the body politic; but they may, without extravagance, suggest that the system of proportional representation, if adopted by those who wield the numerical power, would alleviate many of the evils incident to our present abnormal condition, would to a large extent, tranquilize public apprehensions, would moderate the spirit of political convulsion, and tend to bring about in this State all the peace that we can reasonably hope to attain.
Your committee are aware of the fact that this measure of electoral reform, if it shall be promptly realized by us, must come from the dominant party of the State. Whether it will come or not, we cannot decide. In either event, the minority of South Carolina put forth their claims in this behalf. It is their right. Should it be denied, the responsibility must rest upon those who use the power—that the present gives.—Should it be tendered, it will doubtless produce the fruits of justice and wider the circle of peace. This much we may add: Since it is the nature of majorities to change, it may be well for the dominant party to consider whether the adoption of proportional representation may not for them be the best policy for the future, as well as the highest wisdom for the present. Respectfully submitted.

J. P. THOMAS, For a committee.

The report of the Executive committee on the subject of Taxation without representation was submitted, and is as follows: The Executive Committee, to whom were referred the grievances of taxation without representation in the taxing body, and to suggest a remedy for the existing evils, beg leave to report that the present political and financial condition of South Carolina is a fearful and melancholy illustration of the evils resulting from taxation without representation. The judicial investigation lately had in the United States Court for this District prove, beyond controversy, that astounding frauds were practiced in the last election, and demonstrated the necessity of a remedy. The theory of the Constitution is that the people shall be fully and fairly represented, and provision is made in that instrument to protect minorities. That, in the House of Representatives, the whole body of the people is represented and the majority rules. In the Senate, the States are represented, and the smallest has an equal vote with the largest State. The one is intended to be check on the other. While the war last

ed, passion took the place of reason; the States represented in the Senate set aside the Constitution, forgot their sovereignty and blindly followed the lead of the conqueror. Since the war, the States that struggled for what they supposed was a constitutional right have not been represented, their Senators are not natives, or, if natives, are not representative men. So that the check of the States, as represented in the Senate, has been entirely lost, and, of course, all legislation has been partisan, sectional and vindictive. The same feature which characterized the Congressional legislation was in our State government. The Parish system, which existed in our State Constitution before the war, operated as a check upon all legislation of the mere majority. The new Constitution of '65 and '68 abolished that conservative element. Under the Constitution of '65, it is possible no evil would have resulted; because intelligence and property were equally represented and all the voters belonged to the same class. Under the Constitution of '68, however, a new element was brought into the voting power.—Men of a different race and caste, uneducated slaves just emancipated, an impressionable people, whose passions and prejudices could be easily excited, were suddenly clothed with the elective franchise and made not only a power but the controlling power in the State.

Considering our condition, then, the result was inevitable. The newly enfranchised were not only jealous of their acquired liberty, but suspicious of the feelings and intentions of their late owners.—They were ignorant of political affairs, totally uneducated in the science of government and naturally turned to the men who had flocked here as birds of prey. It was equally natural for the native, respectable and intelligent white people, who had heretofore controlled a free and a just government, to feel a supreme disgust, and to hold themselves aloof from this mass of ignorance and vice. It must now be remembered that the large majority of the gentlemen in the State, of experience, patriotism and virtue, were laboring under the political disabilities of the reconstruction Acts, which prevented them from taking part in legislative proceedings. But time, with its healing influence, has shown to the colored people that the white people have no disposition to deprive them of any of their rights, civil or political, that have been conferred on them. It has proved to the white people that the colored citizens, generally, feel no enmity against them; are not disposed to oppress them, and are willing, if not anxious, to avail themselves of their learning, experience, virtue and patriotism. It has also proved to the adventurous, white and colored, that the eyes of the native colored people are opened to their selfishness and rapacity.

Having arrived at this conclusion, the question is, how can we avail ourselves of the power of the native element and get rid of the bad influence which has heretofore controlled it, using the colored people as mere voting chattle, to plunder and ruin this devoted State? They need and desire the virtue, intelligence and experience of the native white people. The white people cannot maintain the ancient vir tue, dignity and honor of this old State, unless the native colored people will co-operate with them. The corruption of this State Government is notorious; bribes are openly offered to, and received by, Senators and Representatives; high officials are engaged in speculating in stocks and bonds of the State; all these great crimes are being perpetrated openly here in the capital, and there has not been the first prosecution commenced to prevent them. In a word, the ancient honor of the proud old State is lost and gone. Every white man and every colored man, who is a native South Carolinian, must deplore this disgraceful and humiliating condition.

Your committee believe that the public mind is ripe to correct this evil and cure this disgrace, and, therefore, propose the following resolution: **Resolved**, That we recommend to the Legislature the passage of an election law, by which the 60,000 tax paying voters will have a proportional representation in the Legislature of the State, with the 90,000 voters who pay no taxes. A proposition so just, reasonable and conscientious cannot fail to commend itself favorably to every right-minded citizen. Respectfully submitted. **JAMES CHESNUT, Chmn.**

Your committee, to whom was referred the resolution providing that the Executive Committee with the President of this Convention shall have it in charge to protect the interest represented by this Convention during the interval of adjournment, to keep in view the current legislation, and to call the Convention together at such time as they think proper, beg leave to report that they have had the same under consideration and recommended its adoption. Respectfully submitted. **II. C. SMART,** For the Executive Committee.

AT 1 P. M., the Convention took a recess to 4 P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION. The committee of five on the postponement of the collection of taxes were appointed as follows: T. Y. Simons, W. M. S. Annon, M. L. Bonham, James H. Giles, J. P. Richardson.

Mr. Warley, from the Executive Committee, reported regarding the Blue Ridge Railroad, showing in eloquent and befitting terms that the whole scheme was a swindle, and an outrage upon the good credit of the State. The report was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Warley, it was

Resolved, That when the Convention adjourn, it adjourns to meet to-morrow, at 10 o'clock.

On motion of B. H. Wilson, it was

Resolved, That the Executive Committee be increased by the addition of the names of Armistead Burt and M. L. Bonham.
Mr. James A. Hoyt, of Anderson, offered the following resolution, which was adopted:
Resolved, That the report of the Committee on Election and Suffrage Laws, adopted by the Convention, be placed in the hands of a special committee of seven members of the Convention, whose duty it shall be to transmit the report as a memorial to the Legislature, on the subject of proportional representation, accompanied by such suggestions as they may deem advisable, in order to secure the passage of a law at the earliest practicable moment after the Legislature convenes, that the system of cumulative voting may be made applicable to next general election, and that the principle may be engrained in general upon our system of suffrage; and, further, that this special committee be instructed to use their best exertions in favor of the passage of this law, wholesome and equitable provision, so as to bring about a complete and full representation of all the people.

FOURTH DAY. The Convention was called to order by Hon. W. D. Porter, President.

The chair announced the following committee under the resolution of J. A. Hoyt, on cumulative voting:

James A. Hoyt, D. H. Chamberlain, M. W. Gary, E. J. Scott, W. H. Wallace, B. H. Wilson, II. Gourdin.

Mr. Chesnut from the Executive Committee reported on the resolution regarding the Sterling Loan as follows:

The Executive Committee to whom was referred certain resolutions in reference to the Sterling Loan, and obligations which may hereafter be created, beg leave to report that they have considered the same, and recommend their opinion in the following form: **Resolved**, That this Convention, representing the property-holders and tax payers of the State of South Carolina, do hereby deem it our duty to declare, that the so called sterling loan, or any other bonds or obligations, hereafter issued, purporting to be under and by virtue of the authority of this State, as at present constituted, will not be held binding on us; and that we recommend to the people of the State, in every manner and at all times, to resist the payment thereof, or the enforcement of any tax to pay the same, by all legitimate means within their power.

Resolved, That we deem it our duty to warn all persons not to receive by way of purchase, loan, or otherwise, any bond or obligation hereafter issued by the present State government, or by any subsequent government, in which the property-holders of the State are not represented, purporting to bind the property or pledge the credit of the State; and that all such bonds or obligations will be held to be null and void, as having been issued in fraud and in derogation of the rights of that portion of the people of this State, upon whom the public burdens are made to rest.

Resolved, That a Committee of Five be appointed by the President of the Convention, to investigate and report a plan to restore the credit of the State, and to confer with the representatives of the State, which have been practically repudiated by the State authorities with a view to repair the damage to the good faith and honor of the Commonwealth, by influencing an early liquidation of these obligations.

Also, reported on resolution of Mr. Adams, of Richland, in reference to taxation: The Executive Committee, to whom was referred the resolution of Mr. Adams, of Richland, in reference to the collection of taxes for the year 1871, beg leave respectfully to report that having already considered and reported upon the subject matters therein embraced, they ask leave to be discharged from their further consideration.

Adopted. Also, reported on resolution to appoint a committee of five to prepare a truthful statement of the condition of the State now, and since the war:

The Executive Committee to whom was referred a resolution to appoint a committee of five to prepare a report of the condition of the State now and since the war, beg leave to report, that they have considered the same, and recommend that the committee be raised for that purpose, and that the following gentlemen compose the same: viz Messrs. A. P. Aldrich, Armistead Burt, J. L. Manning, M. C. Butler, W. D. Porter.

Adopted. Mr. Trenholm from the Committee of Eleven submitted the following report on finances of the State, and which was with the resolutions adopted:

The Committee of Eleven to whom was referred the resolution regarding the finances of the State, report as follows: This resolution having been published in the newspapers before the assembling of the Convention, your committee were promptly apprised by his Excellency the Governor, and by the other State functionaries referred to, of their readiness to furnish the required information. The Comptroller General furnished to the Convention themselves a printed statement of the funded debt of the State of South Carolina and information relative thereto. In this statement, the total funded debt of the State, is set down as the sum of \$7,655,908.98. To the sum of the funded debt, viz: \$7,655,908.98, must be added in order to exhibit the sum total of the debt of the State, the cash advanced to the Treasury by the Financial Agent. This is set down by Mr. Kimpton at the round sum of \$800,000, and also the further sum of \$400,000, for bonds sold by Kimpton since the date of the Comptroller's report, viz: making a grand total of debt of \$8,865,908.98.

The sum total of bonds remaining unsold in the hands of the agent, as already shown by the Comptroller's statement, was \$2,200,000. From this amount, must be now deducted the amount sold as above stated, \$400,000, leaving \$1,800,000. This amount of bonds, namely \$1,800,000 is pledged for the security of the \$500,000 of cash advanced by the agent.

In view of this condition of the finances of the State, your committee would respectfully make the following recommendation, viz: 1. That his Excellency the Governor be respectfully requested to confer with the financial agent (who is now in Columbia) and to telegraph to New York not to sell any more bonds of the State at less than 80 per cent.
2. That his Excellency be respectfully requested to proceed to New York, and to make the most economical arrangements possible for holding this 1,800,000 of bonds, until the above limit of 80 per cent. becomes attainable.

At 80 per cent, \$1,000,000 of bonds will discharge the debt of \$800,000 due to the financial agent, and release \$50,000 of the hypothecated bonds. This sum of bonds your committee recommend, that it may be respectfully suggested to the Governor to use in the following manner:

The amount of funded debt now payable, and that approaching maturity combined is as follows:

Fire loan bonds, Baring loan.....	\$400,000
Fire loan stock.....	\$300,000
Amount over due.....	\$744,000
State bonds to mature on the 15th July, 1871.....	\$250,000
Total.....	\$994,000

Your committee recommend that the \$1,800,000 of surplus bonds above referred to, as soon as they may be relieved from hypothecation, be applied to the satisfaction in part of the above debt of \$994,000. The \$744,000 of over

due bonds constitute so much of the fire loan debt for which the capital of the Bank of the State is pledged, and your committee hope that it may be discharged from that source.

If the arrangements suggested by the committee can be carried into effect, the result will be as follows:

Sum total of debt already stated, \$8,865,908.98. Add the bonds now in the hands of the Agent, and proposed to be issued

1,800,000.00
\$10,665,908.98

Deduct the advances made by the Agent and proposed to be paid

800,000.00
\$9,865,908.98

Deduct the amount of funded debt proposed to be paid by \$800,000 of surplus bonds on the basis of 80 per cent. for the bonds, viz.

640,000.00
\$9,225,908.98

Should the remainder of the \$994,000 of funded debt, now pressing for payment be discharged out of the assets of the Bank of the State, viz:

354,000.00
\$8,871,908.98

It may be reasonably objected to these suggestions, that the present market price of the bonds is only 65 per cent, while the calculations made proceed on the basis of 80 per cent for the bonds. But it is quite reasonable to expect that upon this exhibition of the exact condition of the debt of the State, and upon the concurrence of his Excellency the Governor, in the general course of arrangement herein recommended, there will be an immediate and considerable advance in the market value of the bonds, and greatly increased facilities for holding them off the market.

Referring now more to the sum of the funded debt, the committee deem it proper to state that they had expected to verify the account by the evidences in the Comptroller's office, but they were disappointed.

The act of August 26, 1868, authorizing an issue of bonds for the payment of the bills receivable of the State, provided that the bonds should be signed by the Governor and Treasurer. Subsequent acts followed the same course. In consequence, there is no record kept in the Comptroller's office. The preceding statement, under the authority of this office, is derived from the Treasurer. It is confirmed by the Governor, who united with the Treasurer, Mr. Parker, in giving to the committee every assurance of its correctness. And it appears to your committee that the several issues and sums of bonds described are of unquestionable legality and forced as obligations of the State. It seems proper further to explain that the bonds under act of August 26, 1868, "for the payment of the interest on the public debt," were at first issued with the above words embodied in the form of bonds. That these words being deemed objectionable, another set of bonds for a like amount (\$1,000,000) was prepared and executed, and were sent to the financial agent to supply the place of the objectionable issue. Of this objectionable issue of bonds \$500,000 were long since returned and cancelled, as appears by the assurances given to your committee by the Comptroller and Treasurer. Upon the authority of Mr. Kimpton, Agent, and Mr. Parker, Treasurer, it appears also that a further sum of \$400,000 has been returned within a few days. The same have not yet been cancelled. Mr. Kimpton also assured the committee that the remaining \$100,000 would soon be returned; that there was not any longer delay in affecting the exchange than arose from necessity of waiting until the several loans matured for which the first bonds had been pledged.

The arrangement of having a financial agent in New York, does not make a favorable impression upon the committee. Copies of the accounts rendered by him for the fiscal years of 1869 and 1870 are annexed to this report for reference, marked respectfully B. and C. The large sum in money or bonds always in the hands of the agent is attended with unusual risk in the management of the finances of a State; and the difficulty of keeping the accounts of the agency and of the treasury in

constant and regular accord is great. It will be seen for example, by account "B" that at the end of the year, the total of the sums charged to the Treasurer by Mr. Kimpton, was \$1,007,924.54, while the sums credited to Mr. Kimpton by the Treasurer, amounted to only \$623,000: exhibiting a discrepancy of \$384,924.54, or disagreement of \$384,924.54. In like manner, account "C" exhibits a disagreement of \$294,924.92.

It is true the accounts were recently brought into reconciliation, or rather into conformity with the accounts of the agency. There is added to both an account of the subsequent interest by which this was affected. Nothing appears in these accounts to impeach their correctness, but will be seen how wide open is the door for errors and disputes, if for no graver misfortunes. It will be seen that among the items brought to the credit of the account by the subsequent entries, are these, viz:

Account (B) fiscal year, 1869, for expenses, including interest as explained to the committee,	\$64,999.71
Account (C) fiscal year, 1870, for expenses, interest, including	94,977.42
Total,	\$159,977.13

These appear to have been passed to the credit of the agency without being audited. The committee understood Mr. Parker, the Treasurer, to say that he had not received an account of the several items of expenses that go to make up the two sums \$64,999.71 and of \$94,977.42. These charges, as will hereafter be shown, add enormously to the interest of the public debt, nor is this the end. The committee learned from Mr. Kimpton that his own proper commission as agent was not included in the above sums, and that the rate of compensation is not even determined or agreed upon.

Your committee would have preferred to show with precision what rate of interest results from the addition of these charges but it is seen that the full sum of the expenses is not yet known, neither do the accounts show the exact average sum of the cash advances made to the Treasury. Some approximation to the truth, may however, be made in this way.—By the report of the Comptroller General for 1870, pp. 101 to 104, the following appear to have been the quarterly balances due to Mr. Kimpton, by the Treasury:

Oct. 1st, 1869,	\$515,424.54
Jan. 1st, 1870,	180,009.54
April 1st, 1870,	548,357.84
July 1st, 1870,	573,172.21
Oct. 1st, 1870,	8-0,843.95

Total, \$2,097,943.08. This sum, divided by the five periods, gives an average of \$559,588.61, as the sum of the advances, and seven and a half months as the period of time for which they were made. The interest and other charges, as shown in another part of this report was for twelve months \$94,777.42 or \$7,914.78 per month. For seven and a half months it is \$59,360.85, or at the rate of 17 per cent, per annum.—And this is yet to be added the agent's commissions. Mr. Kimpton is under the impression that his average advance was greater than the sum stated by your committee. But even if it was \$700,000, instead of \$539,588.61, the interest (without his commission) would amount still to the high rate of 134 per cent, per annum.

[CONTINUED ON SECOND PAGE.]

THE EDITOR'S SHIRT.—It has long been regarded as strange by the people of a certain New Jersey town, that whenever there was a wreck on the coast, and the vessel went to pieces, the editor of the paper there always came out next day with a new white shirt on. Whenever anybody asked him where he got it from, he invariably answered that a rich aunt of his had just died in Maine. The circumstance occurred so often that the people began to think it was extraordinary how many rich aunts the editor had in Maine, and still more singular that so large a portion of their wealth should have been invested in shirts.

So a magistrate called on him to ascertain if he had not been in the habit of swimming off shore surreptitiously on dark nights, and pushing vessels ashore in order to rob them of shirts. The indignant editor relieved his anxiety by removing his shirt-bosom. It was simply a piece of paper printed in plains, and containing button-holes traced with a pen. And now the people want to know how a man can be trusted to form public opinion when he is guilty of such base deception.

Kicked by a Mule.
Jake Johnson had a mule.—There was nothing remarkable in the mere fact of his being the owner of such an animal; but there was something quite peculiar about the mule. He—the animal—could kick further, bit harder, on the slightest provocation, and act uglier than any mule on record.

One morning, riding his property to market, Jake met Jim Boggs, against whom he had an old but concealed grudge. He knew Boggs' weakness lay in bragging and in betting; therefore he saluted him cordially:
"How are you, Jim? Fine morning."
"Hearty, squire," replied Jim. "Fine weather! Nice mule you have there. Will he do to bet on?"
"Bet on? Guess he will that. I tell you, Jim Boggs, he's the best mule in this country. Paid five hundred dollars for him."
"Great smash! is that so?" ejaculated Jim.

"Solid truth, every word of it. Tell you confidentially, Jim, I'm taking him down for betting purposes. I bet that he can kick a fly off from any man without its hurting him."
"Now look here, squire," says Jim, "I am not a betting character, but I'll bet you something on that mule."
"Jim, there's no use; don't bet. I don't want to win your money."
"Don't be alarmed, squire, I'll take such bets as them every time."
"Well, if you are determined to bet, I will risk you a small stake; say five dollars."
"All right, squire; you've my man. But who'll he kick the fly off? There's no one here but you and I. You try it."
"No," says Johnson; "I have to be by the mule's head to order him."

"Oh, yass," says Jim. "Then probably I'm the man. Wa'll, I'll do it; but you to bet ten against my five, if I risk it."
"All right!" quoth the squire. "Now, there's a fly on your shoulder. Stand still." And Johnson adjusted his mule.
"Whist, Jarvey," said he. The mule raised his heels with such velocity and force that Boggs rose in the air like a bird, flew through a briar hedge, and alighted on all fours in a muddy ditch, bang up against a rail fence.
Rising, in a towering rage, he exclaimed:
"Yass, that is h—! I knew your darned mule couldn't do it. You had that all put up. I wouldn't have been kicked like that fifty dollars. You can just fork them are stakes for it, anyway."

"Not so fast, Jim; Jarvey did just what I said he could; that is, kick a fly off a man without its hurting him. You see, the mule is not injured by the operation.—However, if you are not satisfied, we will try it again as often as you wish."
"The deuce take your grammar corners," growled Jim. "I'd rather a barn'd fall on me at once than let that critter kicked me again. Keep the stakes, but don't say anything about it."
And Boggs tumbled on in bitterness of soul, murmuring to himself:
"Sold, by thunder! and kicked by mule!"

A fatal stabbing affray occurred near Honeska Park, in Anderson County, on Sunday last. A colored couple had been lying together as a man and wife for a length of time, and on the day mentioned had a fight, when the man stabbed the woman and then ran off, pursued by his victim for fully fifty yards, when she fell dead. The murderer was arrested by another colored man, on Monday, and lodged in Anderson jail.

The Union Times of the 19th inst. says that the prospects for an abundant crop of wheat are quite gloomy. The rust and fly have taken complete possession of it in many localities, and from all quarters fears expressed that not more than one quarter of an average crop will be made.

Messrs Walker, Evans & Cogswell, the enterprising Stationers, Printers and Book Binders, of Charleston, gave their employees a delightful picnic and excursion to the Middleton place on Ashley River last week.

John Hennings recovered \$10,000 from the New Orleans and Chattanooga Railroad, for damages sustained by falling through an opening in the Company's wharf.

Mr. John W. Clark, the County Treasurer of Fairfield, was shot by W. V. Adams, in a duello at Winnsboro, on Tuesday, 15th inst.