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THE LEGISLATURE.

Governor Hampton has summoned the Legislature to meet in extra session on next Tuesday, the 24th inst. The House of Representatives will have a Democratic majority, the Senate a Republican majority, and, after the determination of contested cases, the Democrats will have a majority on joint ballot. We do not anticipate any factious opposition to Governor Hampton's administration, from the Republicans in the Legislature. They might give, in the Senate, a great deal of trouble, if they should think such a course good policy. But they could not hope to accomplish more than to embarrass the Democratic administration, and such action would sink their party still lower in public estimation here, and at the North. Party measures will not arise in the Legislature. It will not be possible for corrupt Republicans to continue the reckless extravagance of former legislation of that party, in this State, and we do not look to see strict party divisions, unless, perhaps upon the election of Judges and United States Senator. Elections in the Legislature are held in joint assembly of both Houses, and upon joint ballot the Democrats can elect.

The only necessary legislation will be the passage of the Tax Act. We suppose there will be no forced collection of taxes before fall. We think that the Legislature will probably, also, at this extra session proceed to weed out unnecessary offices, and to cut down the pay of some of those that are left. If necessary, proper legislation will also be directed towards setting the Circuit Courts in motion. We do not look for a long session. We would, however, be glad to see the Legislature, at once, without waiting for a regular session, take hold of all the principal important measures. We have no doubt, but that everything proper for the inauguration of desirable reforms can be passed through the Legislature without difficulty or delay.

THE STATE OFFICES.

not proposing to surrender with him, Governor Hampton on Saturday last addressed them a letter requesting them to turn over the records and papers, of the respective offices, to the Democratic State officers. On Monday he received their replies declining so to do. Cardozo, in his reply, in substance charged, though in respectful language, that Governor Hampton's letter indicated a purpose to violate his pledges to President Hayes, that the question should be left to the Courts for settlement under the forms of law. Moreover, that the Governor had voluntarily stated to him, Cardozo, that the question should be decided by the Courts, and that he could either occupy his office, or seal it up, to remain undisturbed until such decision should be reached. The Governor replied to this letter of Cardozo as follows:

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, EXECUTIVE CHAMBER, COLUMBIA, April 16, 1877.

F. L. Cardozo, Esq. Sir:—As you have misapprehended the purport of my communication of Saturday and a portion of my conversation with you, it is due to you, as well as to myself, that my correct position should be understood. I have entertained no idea of passing judgment as to any claim you may have to the office of Treasurer. This question belongs to another tribunal where it must be settled. In using the word "office," I merely meant to designate the room now used by you, until the courts decide who is the proper custodian of this room, and the State property in it. I proposed that it should be locked and sealed. There will be no violation of any rights in pursuing this course. The present occupants of these rooms can lock them, a seal can be attached, and no one shall have access to them until it is decided to whose custody they should be committed. My communication conveyed a suggestion as to the course you should pursue, but as you decline to follow it, I must take such action as will protect me in guarding the property of the State.—This can be done by the plan indicated. I am, respectfully yours,

WADE HAMPTON.

When the Governor will take his office and make public. He will proceed only in accordance with law. But the Governor will probably find a way to prevent the property of the State from being stolen, or the records from being mutilated and destroyed. Evidence may exist in those records to send some of those very scamps to the Penitentiary. LATER.—Governor Hampton has instructed the keeper of the State House to seal up the rooms occupied by the Radical State officials, and to allow access to no one until the legal issues are decided.

The European dispatches now declare that Russia will attack Turkey within a week. Austria and Russia have long been looking with covetous eyes to the Dominions of the Turk, while England will watch, with a jealous eye, any advance of the Russians towards the British Empire of the East. The Czar solemnly protests that he does not want Constantinople, which means that he fears the other European powers would not permit him to retain it. Germany will not like to see accessions of territory gained by Austria or Russia. Behind the governments are the people of Europe, who hate and detest the Turks for their oppression of the Christian subjects of the Porte. Altogether it bids fair to become "a very pretty quarrel."

President Hayes, in conversation at Washington, declares that he did not know whether he would succeed in his Southern policy of reconciliation and local self-government apart from military support, but that he intended honestly to try to carry it out. It is noteworthy that not a single Southerner, including Governor Hampton, has conferred with the President, who does not express himself satisfied of his good intentions and honest purposes.

The President's Louisiana Commission seem, after all, about to relieve him of the necessity of deciding between Nichols and Packard. The compromise proposed, is to reorganize the Legislature, upon prima facie seats, upon the returns of the County Commissioners, disregarding the actions of the fraudulent Wells' returning board. The Nichols Legislature have accepted this proposition.

The end is near, and it will be the triumph of the Democratic State Government, and the rule of the carpet-bagger and scalawag will be known no more forever.

Last week, resolutions were proposed in the New England Methodist Conference, denouncing the Southern policy of President Hayes, reviving the lying slanders against Gen. M. C. Butler, in regard to the Hamburg massacre, and declaring that Governor Hampton was a traitor, and finally they announced on Monday last, that they had been informed that "Wm. H. Scott, an aged and highly respected member of the South Carolina

out provocation, while peacefully leaving his church on the close of an evening service." The News and Courier is informed by telegraph from Marion, that Scott is alive and well, and performing without molestation, his pastoral duties in the neighboring County of Marlboro.

Heavy rains and stormy during several days last week throughout this county, stopping Saturday morning. Some five days were lost by the farmers, and a bad stand of corn will result, except on the highest lands, and the planting of cotton will be considerably delayed. The rivers and creeks were higher than they have been for some time. Bridges, roads and fields were greatly washed up and injured, and early vegetables much damaged. Our farmers are hard at work again and will soon recover the time lost.

The Methodist Conference at Marion adjourned on the 14th instant, after an important and interesting session. Resolutions were adopted strongly recommending the claims of the Columbia Female College and of Wofford College to the support of the public.

The storm of Friday last prevailed generally throughout this State, Georgia and North Carolina. Loss at Charleston to city property \$50,000 dollars. Great damage reported to shipping near that port, Wilmington, Beaufort and Savannah. Highest velocity of the wind at Charleston, 55 miles per hour. Total rain fall 9.16 inches. In the storm of Sept. 28th, 1874, the highest velocity of the wind at the same point, was 51 miles per hour, and total rain fall 3.89 inches. Warning was given by the United States signal service at Charleston, of the approach of both these storms ten hours in advance.

Ex-Probate Judge B. I. Boone, of Richland, surrendered his office yesterday to D. B. Miller, Esq., Clerk of the Circuit Court for that county. Mr. Boone was elected in 1874, on the county fusion ticket. He was not renominated by either party last fall. The Republican nominee for Richland, was elected in November, but died before assuming the duties of his office, and Mr. Boone has been holding over. Mr. Boone administered the oath of office to Chamberlain, upon the latter's pretended Inauguration, before the bogus Legislature, in December last.

Preparations are being made for a grand Hampton Inauguration Ball.

Details of a Fearful Conflagration.

St. Louis, April 11.

The Southern Hotel was burned at 2 o'clock this morning. Appalling loss of life, which was at first supposed to be 200, but is now reduced to 50. Many were killed jumping from the third, fourth and fifth story windows. Kate Claxton, the actress, who so narrowly escaped from the Brooklyn horror, broke both legs jumping from the third story. The fire originated in the upper stories. The windows in the upper stories were crowded with shrieking men and women, whom it seemed impossible to save. A few were rescued by ladders placed on the Fourth street portico, but on the other three sides of the building, bounded by Fifth, Walnut and Elm streets, the longest ladders fell far short of reaching the windows. Mr. Peter Blow, son of the former Minister to Brazil, was sleeping in his room on the sixth floor, and succeeded, after strenuous exertions, in escaping with his life and a broken arm. The building was six stories in height, and Mr. Blow thinks that the majority of inmates of the two upper stories of the building must have perished. Two men unrecognized were killed by jumping from the third story windows, and a third one was badly mangled. Five women were rescued from the sixth story on the Fourth street side by the heroic efforts of firemen, who, after ascending the patent ladders, succeeded in getting a rope to the half suffocated creatures. The fire originated in the store rooms. It is supposed from forty to fifty were burned to death directly, or first suffocated. The fire originated in the store room in the basement. It first came through the ground floor, north of the office, had ascended the elevators and rotunda and spread over the sixth story, occupied by employees, mostly women. The smoke was so dense in some of the halls that the gas jets were extinguished, which rendered egress, even to those most familiar with the building, a matter of great difficulty. The density of the smoke in the halls drove many guests and boarders back in their rooms, and they rushed to windows as a means of escape. Ladders were raised as soon as possible, and the women and children, with nothing but their night clothes on, were thus taken from the burning building. Some fainted from fright, and others sunk exhausted to the ground from nervous prostration. The ladders generally too short to reach to the fifth and sixth stories, but by hoisting some of them on the one-story balcony on the east side to the two-story balcony on the north side of the building, these floors were reached, and all those at the windows were rescued. The Skinner fire escape was also brought promptly into service, and was the means of saving many lives. While this work was going on, some frightful scenes occurred. One

on Walnut street, in front of the hotel, becoming desperate at seeing the delay in effecting his escape, with nervous hands he tore sheets from his bed into strips, tied them together, fastened this improvised rope to the window sill, and disregarding the fact that it did not reach more than twenty feet, he let himself down hand over hand. Those below, who saw his position, turned away their faces to avoid witnessing the sickening event that was inevitable. Finally he reached the end of the rope, and then, for the first time, he seemed to realize his position. He stopped, threw his head back, revealing a ghastly face, and swung slowly to and fro, swayed by the breeze which the roaring flames above created. His limbs swung around convulsively, as though to catch upon something; then he let go, and groans went up from hundreds as he whirled round and round and finally struck on the stone flagging with a sickening thud. He was carried to a saloon across the street and died in a few minutes. Two other men jumped from the fourth story window—one of whom seemed not to be dangerously hurt.

LATER.—The fire engines are still playing on the fire. A force has been organized to search for the dead bodies, and several bodies have already been taken from the ruins in a more or less burned condition, but have not yet been identified. Also, several dead bodies are at the morgue awaiting identification. Mrs. Moran, a servant, was killed while jumping from a window. George Frank Gouldy, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Free Masons of Missouri, is supposed to have perished. Six persons, whose names are unknown, were killed, either by jumping from the windows or were suffocated by smoke, and dragged out of the burning building. It is difficult to procure the names of the dead, but it is hoped a complete, or nearly complete, list will be obtained this afternoon. Sidmore Hayden, superintendent of the American Express stables, is among the killed; also Henry Hazen, deputy auditor of the Missouri Pacific Railroad Company. An Englishman named Adams, said to be a commissioner of education, was identified at the morgue.

A woman at a fifth story window on Fifth street front became panic stricken, jumped out, alighted on her feet, was carried to St. James Hotel, and is still alive. Her husband, who had been standing by her side, then descended by a rope made of bedding. A man named J. E. Wilson jumped from a fourth story window and was killed. Andrew Ensmann and Mrs. Scott met their deaths the same way. The mortality among the female help of the hotel was great. There were 200 of them, all of whom were lodged in the upper story of the building. The panic among them was perfectly terrible. A number jumped from the window on Elm street, on the rear side of the house. Kate Claxton, the actress, had another escape, but was uninjured. Among the known saved was H. Kretz, of Texas, Dr. Gorleat, the German Consul, jumped from a window and broke a leg. His wife was unharmed. Charles Teenan lost his life while attempting to save others.

Philip Gerald, a boarder at the hotel, was brought out alive, but entirely bereft of reason. At quarter-past 2, or about half an hour after the fire was discovered, the entire roof was ablaze, and the flames were rapidly descending to the lower stories. A half hour later the floors and interior walls began to fall. The roof fell in. There is now nothing left of one of the finest hotels in the country, except the Walnut street front and parts of Fourth and Fifth street faces. Loss on the building and contents from \$75,000 to \$100,000; insurance unknown. [Columbia Register.]

Local and Special.

Notice to Subscribers.

SUBSCRIBERS receiving their paper with a RED CROSS mark upon it, are thereby notified that with the next number their Subscription expires, and unless renewed, their names will be erased from our Subscription list. All finding their papers thus marked will do well to renew forthwith in order that they may get every number.

We are having pleasant weather and the martins chat cheerfully.

Farmers are a little behind time with their crops.

The grasshoppers have appeared in Omaha.

Fresh bread, cakes, fruits and confectioneries always at Mrs. Harman's.

Trial Justice business is dull, with the exception of a little civil business. Collections slow.

Trial Justices can be supplied with the necessary blanks by applying at this office.

Our jail is again without an inmate. So much for home rule and good government.

Invalids, Lexington is the place to recuperate and regain health. Board cheap, accommodations good.

It is said that General M. C. Butler is sure of being admitted to his seat in the United States Senate.

Corn has been brought here for sale for the past month, in preference to the Columbia market, prices being better.

Chamberlain has formed a partnership in New York City, and will there practice law.

The creek suckers and red-horse will suffer shortly. Our gists are preparing to take the water.

Let all join the Governor in fulfilling all of the pledges made by the Democratic party during the campaign.

"Don't you hear the turtle dove" and "Listen to the Mocking Bird," are appropriate songs for the present month.

The health of Lexington is unsurpassed. A summer resort equal to any in the State.

Crazy Horse, with his band, makes propositions for a council with the United States officers. He keeps at a safe distance.

Oranges, Lemons, Apples, Coconuts, Raisins, Candies of all kinds at Mrs. Harman's Confectionery.

There will be communion services in the Lutheran Church at this place next Sunday evening at 8 o'clock. Preparatory service Saturday night at 7 o'clock.

Several wells caved in here last week from the heavy rains, and were filled up with water and dirt even with the ground. Five chimneys fell, one of which had been standing for forty years.

We met in the Court House on Monday last, Dr. J. W. Lowman, who was here on business. The Doctor looked, (as if he prescribed for himself) hale and hearty.

Honest John Patterson says that Chamberlain ought not to go surrendered. He further says that the Republicans will carry the State at the next election by twenty thousand majority.

County Commissioners met on Monday. Accounts for Poor house, outside paupers and a few bridges paid. Quart license granted Capt. D. J. Griffith, at Summit. Meet again 1st May.

The Second Quarterly Conference of the Methodists of Lexington and the Fork Circuits, will be held at this place, on the first Sunday in June next, services commencing on the Friday previous.

Even if we are not smart we know what to do when troubled with a cough or cold. No doctor bills for us. We take a 25 cent note; go to the nearest drug store and buy a bottle of Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup. One dose relieves us and one bottle cures us entirely.

Governor Hampton and Col. A. C. Haskell visit Charleston to-day as the guests of the Washington Light Infantry. The volunteer organizations of the militia will parade, and be reviewed by the Governor, and all Charleston will be out.

No mail from Pine Ridge and Counts-ville, last Friday, owing to the flat chains having been broken by the freshet in Saluda, cutting the communications of Mr. Eargle, our energetic mail carrier, much to his disgust.

Seven paupers in the County Poor House, five white and two colored. This institution is conducted at an expense of about twelve or fifteen dollars per month, exclusive of the Stewardship, which is twelve dollars and fifty cents more. This we think very economical.

We learn from the Columbia Register, that much damage was done in the Dutch Fork, by the recent wind and rain storm, blowing down fences, &c. The shed over our friend, Mr. I. Haltiwanger's steam mill, was blown down on the machinery, damaging it materially.

On Friday last, Hon. S. P. Wingard rode into the apron of the bridge on the Augusta Road, over twelve mile creek. The apron was floating in consequence of the high water. He was thrown into water over waist deep, and his fine mare escaped unhurt almost miraculously.

The citizens of Columbia, a few days ago, presented a handsome gold watch to Mr. Eccles Cutbert, the correspondent, for the last eight months, of the New York Herald from Columbia. Mr. Cutbert through the columns of the Herald laid bare to the North, the true inwardness of carpet-bag rule in South Carolina.

The place to purchase your boots and shoes is at Messrs. Jacob & Hoefler's, Columbia. They have a large stock of all styles of the very best make, at prices to suit buyers. Those of our Lexington people who have not learned the place, would do well to inform themselves of the fact. Call and let them show you what they have and at the prices they sell. It is astonishing to find how low they are.

We have on our books the names of quite a number of subscribers who have failed to pay up their subscriptions, according to promise, some whom we were compelled to stop on, not being able to continue longer. We must have cash to pay for paper. We know the times are hard, and it is not easy for our friends to raise money, but they must understand that the man's paper, etc. We are not able to carry the heavy load through the summer. Let all come up promptly and pay what they owe.

Howes Great London Circus lost a \$10,000 Walrus in Charleston last week, at the North Eastern Rail Road Depot. The water was up to the waists of the men unloading the cars. The open vat filled with water in which the walrus was kept, tilted to one side, while being taken from the box car, the monster was spilled into the water, and making a rush escaped, first into Ashley River, and thence to the ocean. His mate however, did not escape, and she gave vent, every ten minutes to her grief in musical howls.

Mr. A. H. Aycock died at Batesburg on Sunday morning last, about 4 o'clock, after a painful illness.

The deceased was a native of North Carolina. He came to this place some five years since, and engaged largely in the turpentine business. About two years ago he moved to Edgefield, and carried on the same business there. Recently he went to Batesburg where he started a hotel, being also interested in turpentine in Georgia.

Mr. Aycock was a man of energy and enterprise. He leaves a large and interesting family, who have the sympathy of the many friends of the deceased in this county.

In accordance with the notice of Hon. S. P. Wingard, Master of the County Grange, a Pomona Grange was organized at this place on Wednesday last, by delegates from the various County Granges, with the following officers for this quarter:

- Master.—J. W. Dreher. Overseer.—S. P. Wingard. Lecturer.—W. T. Brooker. Steward.—Dr. J. W. Geiger. Asst. Steward.—W. A. Leaphart. Chaplain.—L. W. Rast. Treasurer.—J. G. Able. Secretary.—Maj. G. Leaphart. Gate Keeper.—Robert N. Senn. Ceres.—Mrs. M. A. M. Wingard. Pomona.—Mrs. S. F. Rast. Flora.—Mrs. Edward Geiger. L. A. Steward.—Mrs. J. H. Counts, Jr. Next meeting of Pomona Grange July 4, 1877. Col. J. N. Lipscomb, of Newberry, came over and assisted in organizing this Pomona Grange.

Use Crampton's Imperial Soap, which is said to be the best manufactured. For sale at Mr. P. A. Hendrix's store, where everything of the best quality is always found.

Chamberlain turned over the Executive Chamber, and records in the State House, to Governor Hampton on Wednesday last. Col. Parmele, Superintendent of the Penitentiary, sent a squad of convicts, and had the vermin and dirt scrubbed and washed away, and on Friday, Governor Hampton moved in, his State officers temporarily taking possession of the ante chamber to the Executive office. In accordance with the request of Governor Hampton, nobody went near the State House, until Chamberlain cleared out. On Friday and Saturday, however, the Governor received his fellow-citizens and friends, Democrats and Republicans, in the State House. Among the rest, several of the Republican constituents for the State offices called, were cordially received, and favorably impressed with the Governor.

Despite the hard times, or rather as a result of the embarrassments under which our people have been laboring, everything will be found extremely low at the Mammoth Dry Goods Store of Messrs. James, Davis and Bonkuights, Columbia. They are always receiving new goods from which all can be suited, both in quality and price. The new styles of Spring and Summer dress goods are neat and pretty, adapted to old and young. Besides everything embraced in the dry goods line, they have a tremendous stock of boots, shoes, hats and caps, which they are selling at the very lowest figures. Mr. G. A. Metzger is always there and will take pleasure in showing his Lexington friends around. Give them a call when in town and see for yourselves.

He had not slept a wink for twenty-four hours, coughing all the time. His sister bought a 25 cent bottle of Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup at the nearest drug store, gave him a dose, and the cough was broken at once and he slept quietly during the night.

No mail this morning. Carrier asleep. This is the third time, within a week, that the morning mail has not reached us. We are therefore deprived of the latest news from the North and Columbia.

BODY FOUND.—The body found on the Lexington side of the river, yesterday, about ten miles below Columbia, which was supposed to be the remains of Mrs. Julia Weber, who drowned herself in the Congaree about three weeks ago, proved to be the body of a white boy, about 16 years of age. The fleshy part of the head was eaten away, the bowels exposed, and the body terribly mutilated. The remains were taken in charge by Trial Justice Guignard.—Register.

State News.

Beef sells in the Camden market at 10 and 12 cents per pound.

The Abbeville Yellow Fever, at his residence in Columbia.

Considerable damage done the South Carolina Railroad by the rains of last week.

United States Court is in session in the city of Charleston.

It is said that the last colored man in Columbia, Chamberlain's carriage driver, has "give up the ghost," and now accepts the situation.

One day last week Mr. Henry Smock, of Orangeburg County, caught a cat fish in Edisto river, weighing thirty-two pounds.

The Port Royal Railroad has reduced its force of hands. Cause decline in business and the dull season.

Mr. Willis, a farmer residing four miles from Aiken, on Shaw's Creek, set a trap and caught four wild turkeys, on Saturday night last.

One day last week a rattlesnake, was killed near Lancaster Village, which measured three feet and ten inches and sported eight rattles and a button.

In 1876, South Carolina had 232 Granges and 8,440 members; in 1875, 357 Granges and 10,992 members—a loss of 125 Granges and 2,552 members.

Last week the editor of the Georgetown Comet was presented with a mess of new Irish potatoes, the first of the season, grown by Mr. A. J. Smith, of that place.

Gordon has been suggested as the proper name for the new county to be formed from Beaufort and Colleton counties. This is a complement to Senator Gordon for his untiring efforts in behalf of the redemption of South Carolina.

The storm of Friday night last, injured property in various parts of the city of Columbia, blowing down several small houses, fences, &c. No lives lost. The mail was delayed at the various railroads leading into the city.

Last week a colored woman in the Lo Cane section of Abbeville County, gave birth three children, two girls and a boy. At last counts the mother and the children were do well.

Friday next 20th instant, the ten Lewin's murderers are to be hung at Abbeville. Governor Hampton has been petitioned to have sentences of ten or five of them commuted to the penitentiary for life.

The South Carolina Railroad President and Directors in their recent report make encouraging exhibit. The earnings of the road during the year have been \$1,296,437.05. The expenses of operating and maintaining, \$647,752.64. Balance of earnings, \$1,754,909.

Mr. Samuel Lambeth, of Lancaster County, an old gentleman, was called to his door one night last week, and shot down without warning. Several bullets entered his person, though he was not considered fatally wounded.

The store of Mike Watson, at Ridge Spring, was entered last week and robbed of about \$200 worth of goods, a part of which were recovered. Three negroes concerned in the robbery have been arrested and lodged in Edgefield jail.

Charleston is to present Senator Gordon of Georgia, with a testimonial of her gratitude for his services in behalf of South Carolina.