Charleston Has Spoken.

The mass meeting in Charleston on Thursday night was a fit opening of the final act in the grand drama of a people's recovery from a government of misrule and corruption. In the number and character of the citizens who composed it, and in the spirit and purpose which animated them, it was without a parallel in Charleston. It was presided over by Charles T. Lowndes, Esq., assisted by over 100 vice presidents, and addressed by the President, C Richardson Miles, S. Y. Tupper, M. P. O'Connor, J. Adger Smyth, B. H. Rutledge and R. S. Tharin, Esqs., and General James Conner. The address and resolutions were adopted unanimously. The resolutions are as follows:

Resolved, That the Conservative citizens of Charleston, Democrats and Republicans, do recognize Wade Hampton, and none other, as the lawful Governor of South Carolina. To him alone will they yield, as Governor, obedience and support, and to him they pledge such aid and assistance, moral, financial and material, as may be required for the establishment and maintenance of the constitutional government of which he is the head.

Resolved, That we recognize Wm. D. Simpson, and none other, as the lawful Lieutenant Governor of South Carolina; and that we recognize the House of which the Hon. W. H. Wallace is Speaker as the "legally constituted House of Representatives" of South Carolina.

Resolved, That D. H. Chamberlain, having been defeated at the polls as a candidate for reelection, and placed in office under the declaration of an illegal General Assembly, by the unwarrantable use of military force, is regarded by us as an usurper, and we here avow our unchangeable resolution never to recognize him as Governor, and our inflexible determination to repudiate his every act, and every act of the pretended Lieutenant Governor, and every act of the pretended General Assembly, as being without authority of law, null and void.

Resolved, That while we, by these resolutions, assert our right and determination to be governed only by the officers whom the majority of the people have chosen, and while we are fixed in the purpose to oppose to the uttermost the efforts of D. H. Chamberlain and his associates to usurp the functions of government in this State, we expressly disclaim any intent to resist the execution of the process of the United States Courts, however harsh they may seem, or to resist, under any circumstances, the military force of the United States.

Resolved, That the pretended government of which D. H. Chamberlain is the head has no power, force or authority in South Carolina save what is given to it by the continuous support and actual use of United States troops. It is the creature of political fraud and armed force.—Without that armed force, it is as impotent as it is audacious and unlawful.

THE SECURITY SMASH.—Mr. Sherfesee, the South Carolina agent of the Security Life Insurance and Annuity Company, still declines to furnish any data as to the amount or number of the policies held in this State. The following circular was issued yesterday to the policyholders in this State:

CHARLESTON, S. C., December 20, 1876.

Dear Sir: I regret to inform you that our company has been declared insolvent by the Insurance Commissioner of New York, and that it has been placed in the hands of a receiver, Mayor W. H. Wickham, of New York.

The first intimation I had of it was through the daily papers of the 15th. I immediately proceeded to New York in the interests of the policy-holders. Upon my arrival there, I found the receiver in charge, and was informed that the company was not in condition to reinsure, and that it would be wound up as soon as possible, and its assets be divided among its creditors. No regular statement of its condition has [illegible] The receiver is now [illegible] It is supposed [illegible] New York that its assets are nearly sufficient to pay three-fourths of which consists of premium notes [illegible] will be asked [illegible] It is believed that [illegible] who hold all cash policies will get their dividend in cash, and that all policy holders, whose policies were in force on the 15th December, will be entitled to such dividend as may be declared.

Let me warn you against all efforts of insurance agents, who may endeavor to induce you to part with your policies. If your policies are worth anything to them, they are worth more to you, and I would advise you to keep them, so that you may participate in any dividend which may be declared by the receiver. I will try and keep you informed as to such matters as may be of consequence to you in the winding up of the affairs of the company, and will do my best to protect your interests, and realize what can be secured for you, if you will entrust me with your policy. Yours truly,

LOUIS SHERFESEE,
Late Agent of the
Security Life Insurance and Annuity Co.

THE NEXT HOUSE.—Washington, December 24.—About one-third of the credentials of members in the next House of Representatives have reached the clerk of the present House. None of these come from the disputed States or from districts where the credentials of contesting members are filed. Clerk Adams treats them as confidential documents, to be exhibited only to the person filing the same. The credentials deposited by the members elect are under different forms in different States, the only general rule adopted by Congress being the instruction to the clerk of the next preceding House to place on the roll the names those of holding credentials showing their election under the laws of their State. At the opening of the present Congress Clerk McPherson refused to place the names of members elect on the rolls where two delegations appeared, each certified by a rival Governor. Should Clerk Adams decide to follow this rule, the next House would organize without Florida, Louisiana and South Carolina.—Taking as a basis the table recently published in the *World*, this would make the first ballot on the election for Speaker 144 Democrats to 133 Republicans, exclusive of New Hampshire, and the result in that State would not change the [illegible] majority, even if all three districts [illegible] Republican. By many Republicans in [illegible] regard the verification of the [illegible] enough to determine [illegible] the composition [illegible] States has been a subject for considerable speculation. Excluding the delegations where two Governors claim to have the power to issue certificates, the State delegations will stand sixteen Democratic to eighteen Republican. A contest existing in three states, the precise composition of the delegations will be a matter for Congress to determine, while a fourth delegation (New Hampshire's) will be decided by an election.—*New York World.*

FLORIDA ALL RIGHT.—Tallahassee, December 22.—The Supreme Court sustains the demurrer to the answer of the canvassing board, and grants a peremptory order to the board to recanvass from the face of the returns. This gives the State to Tilden by a small majority, and of course elects the ballance of the Democratic ticket, including both Congressmen. The Democrats are quietly but heartily enjoying their victory. The counsel for the board gave notice of a motion to answer. The court adjourned to 9 A. M. to-morrow, and announced its determination to adjourn *sine die* to-morrow.

INFORMATION WANTED.—Can anybody give us information as to the whereabouts of Ira W. Rice, formerly Clerk of the Court for Laurens county? He locked up the seal of the Court, took with him the key of the office safe, and has been absent one month.

The law requires the Clerk's office to be open every day in the year with one or two exceptions. The absence of Rice interferes with business, and he should be indicted for official misconduct.—*Laurensville Herald.*

CAN'T BE HELPED.—Ex-Treasurer Cardozo announces that the payment of interest on consolidated bonds and stock of the State has been postponed, &c., &c., on account of unavoidable delay in the levying and collection of taxes.—*Register.*

The Weekly Union Times.

R. M. STOKES, Editor.

UNION, FRIDAY JANUARY 12, 1877.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

1 Copy, one year, IN ADVANCE,	$3.00
2 Copies one year, " "	5.50
5 " " " " "	11.00
10 " " " " "	20.00

ADVERTISING.

One square or one inch, first insertion, - - -	$1.00
Each subsequent insertion, - - - - - -	75

Liberal discount made to merchants and others advertising for six months or by the year.
Obituary Notices of ten lines or less, inserted free.
" " " over ten lines, charged as Advertisements.
☞ 20 per cent additional for advertisements ordered not to appear in consecutive issues.

☞ The second Wednesday in February is St. Valentine's day, and the day when the Presidential vote will be counted in Congress.

☞ The Washington *Nation* says: "The only difference between Chamberlain and Hampton is, that Hampton is making troops of friends, while Chamberlain is making friends of troops.

☞ Commodore Vanderbilt, the great millionaire of the country, died at his residence in New York last week. Poor fellow! he had made a fortune of $80,000,000, and did not take a cent of it with

☞ A convict re[illegible] from the Penitentiary, after hi[illegible] went to the residence of one of the [illegible] officers of the institution and induc[illegible] the officer to let him have a sixty-[illegible] suit of clothes, representing that the officer had sent him for them. The ex-convict now struts about in broadcloth, while the officer wears his old clothes.

☞ A meeting was held in New York last Thursday, to discuss the question of abolishing the office of President and substitute in its place, an Executive Council to be composed of seven Secretaries or heads of departments; four to be elected by the House of Representatives and three by the Senate, from their respective bodies, to be removed at the pleasure of the house electing them.

DEATH OF J. NEWTON CARLISLE.—We regret to state that a telegraphic despatch was received here on Wednesday morning, dated at Okalona, Miss., Jan. 8, stating that J. Newton Carlisle died that morning from a wound received in a personal difficulty. In the death of Mr. Carlisle the State of Mississippi has lost a brave, true and honorable citizen. He was born in this County and the announcement of his sudden death will cast a gloom of sadness over an extensive circle of warm friends and admirers. A good man has fallen.

☞ The New Orleans *Democrat* makes the Returning Board of Louisiana a pretty set to decide upon the election of a whole sovereign State. It says: Mad. Wells, the chairman, is a defaulter; Thomas C. Alexander is a detected blackleg; L. M. Kenner, a colored man, was a gambling house waiter and a till-tapper,—which means a sneak thief; C. Casanane, colored, an ass. Now, Senator Sherman says these members of the Returning Board of Louisiana are respectable men.

☞ The way some people do is very peculiar. It has come to our knowledge that a *paying* subscriber to the *Times* has been very active in his neighborhood in [illegible] up a club for a Northern newspaper, and succeeded in getting twenty [illegible] and $80 to send [illegible] Now, we would not object to that if it were not that we have only five subscribers at that office and some six or seven of the club alluded to refused to take the *Times* because we could not credit them for an indefinite period. They can find money to pay in advance for New York papers, but home papers must wait until it suits their pleasure or convenience to pay.

☞ In consequence of the extreme weather which set in on the night of the 24th of December, no freight trains could be run on the S. and U. R. R. for two weeks. A supply of paper for us was placed on the cars at Spartanburg on the 24th, just in time to be caught in the blockade, and, consequently, did not come to hand until last Saturday. That is the sole reason why the *Times* was not issued last week; and that is the only apology we have to make. It was a visitation of Providence and no one was to blame.

For some years we were able to lay in a supply of paper sufficient to last some months, but as it is a cash article and our collections have been so very small and uncertain the past six months we have only been able to order in small quantities and upon short notice, which has often caused us great trouble and anxiety in getting it in time.

☞ Judge Lawrence, the Republican member of the House Congressional Committee, is a firm believer in the honesty and integrity of any being with African blood in his veins, and had about thirty-five of these "men and brothers" hanging around him all the time he was in Columbia, drawing their per diem and mileage. One evening the Judge told them their services were no longer needed to testify for Hayes and Wheeler, and ordered them to go home. On retiring to his room that night the Judge deposited on the outside of his room [illegible] one of the testifiers [illegible] and walked home in [illegible] the next day the Judge was running around the Wheeler House in his slippers, enquiring if any one knew the Post office address of a "colored gentleman" with a pair of fine boots on. No one could tell him, but advised the Judge to address "*Robbins box*," *Barnwell.*

We Stop When the Time is Out.

Every one of our subscribers is well aware that when they subscribe for a paper published in Columbia, Charleston, New York, or any other place *out of the County*, they *must send the money* before the paper will be sent to them, and further, they know that directly the time paid for expires, the paper is stopped; but they are not aware that upon the strict adherence to those two rules mainly depends the success, size and value of the papers in those places.

Now, we ask, why should the Editor of a County paper be expected or even asked not to adopt and strictly adhere to the same rules?—For the life of us we cannot see why the same rules are not as just and necessary in one case as the other, and we have determined to make the experiment this year. With this number we shall drop every name whose subscription has expired, irrespective of race, color, or any condition of circumstances. *The blue mark* will be sufficient to notify each subscriber that it is the last paper he will receive unless he renews his subscription. Of course, we are ready to correct any errors.

The Political Condition.

The general features of our political affairs have undergone no material change the past three weeks.

In Louisiana, Nichols, the Democratic Governor, has been inaugurated, and his government has taken possession of all the police stations and Court rooms in New Orleans, while the Packard Legislature and authorities hold only the State House. The same condition of affairs exist in Louisiana that is cursing this State.—They have a defeated Radical Governor and a bogus Radical Legislature attempting to force its authority upon the people, while the honestly elected Democratic Governor, Legislature and other State officers are fully organized as a State government, and the people stand firm in their support.

Packard, the pretender, has called upon Grant for military assistance to sustain him in the attempt to force his government upon the people, but the President refuses to take any action in the matter. At an extraordinary session of the cabinet last Sunday, he said:

"There will be two inaugurations of Governor to-morrow, unless one of them is prevented. I do not, however, propose to interfere with them. I have nothing before me to justify action in the [illegible] of each house of Congress is now engaged in investigating all the facts of the late election, including the contests of the two Governors and the two legislatures, both claiming to be legally elected. Under these circumstances, for me to recognize one or the other would be hardly justifiable, and I have so informed Governor Kellogg."

In Florida, Drew, the Democratic Governor and the other State officers were inaugurated last Monday, and it is supposed there will be no effectual opposition to their authority.

The Presidential outlook is still cheering, to our mind. The people all over the North are holding large mass meetings and demanding an honest and fair count, and that the candidate elected President shall be inaugurated. These meetings are participated in by leading men of both parties, and a large preponderance of influence is decidedly in favor of Tilden.

Next Monday, we think, is the day appointed by the Constitution for the counting of the Presidential vote in Congress. Upon the manner of counting it is expected that a long and bitter discussion will be engaged in by leading members of both parties in Congress, so that we may not learn the final result for some weeks.

☞ One Jerry Talley, somewhat notorious in this County as a Trial Justice School Teacher and leading Radical, stole two bales of Cotton from Gen. Wallace's Plantation, near Jonesville, some time last month, took them to Gaffney City, sold them and then "put out for parts unknown." The cotton was recovered by the proper owner the next day, but Jerry has not been heard of since. We are sorry for the Gaffney Merchant who bought it, but Jerry's absence is quite a relief to the county.

The last time we saw him was when we were going to the Wilkinsville meeting, last October. We met him in the road, and afterwards learned that he had been all through the neighborhood with orders from Mobley to the colored people, instructing them not to attend the Democratic meetings.

We would describe [illegible] fellow [illegible] has such a peculiar [illegible] that we would easily [illegible] back, a result not to be [illegible] our [illegible] is averse to hard labor as is expected during "bein up" at some penitentiary in [illegible] where they have more [illegible] thieves than this State has [illegible] penitentiary is nearly full with such [illegible] and the little room left Gen. Hampton [illegible] for those scoundrels who are now trying [illegible] those five years more of good stealing [illegible] Carolina. One by one the small rascals are leaving, but each one takes with him something belonging to honest people.

☞ Geewhillikins! what a big Turkey!—Where did it come from? Why, from that Lord of all good fellows, Andrew Murdock, at Lyles Ford. He intended to send on for our Christmas dinner but one of Chamberlain's constituents got into the Coop and stole it. But Andrew is not a man to be defeated when he has made up his mind to do a generous act, so he just hunted round the country until he found one he thought fit to grace an Editor's table, any day in the year, and send it along. It is a whopper, sure, and if the Press Convention had been appointed to be held here we would have saved him to show the hungry Editors these Turkeys we raise in this part of the State.

Thank you, friend Murdock. It was a timely and generous present, and made all hands and the cook unite in wishing that you may live a hundred years and never want a turkey or an appetite to eat one as large as that you sent us.

☞ The tax payers of every County in the State have held mass meetings declaring their determination to recognize no other State government but that of which Wade Hampton is Governor, and their willingness to sustain that government with any moral, financial and material assistance that Gov. Hampton may call for. And they the tax payers of Charleston have responded nobly to the call for 10 per cent. of [illegible] Democratic Assembly [illegible] Gov. Ha[illegible] their portion of it—which was decided [illegible] nearly all. What a grand contrast this one act of an honest Governor presents, when put alongside the acts of our Governors of the past ten years. There was no official grabbing for the money before and after it got into official hands, but a prompt, honest and humane distribution followed the payment of the taxes. Every tax payer should feel a pride as well as a duty, in supporting the Hampton government.

4 Mules Drowned.

Our esteemed friend D'Orsey P. Duncan, met with another heavy loss last Wednesday morning by having four of his best Mules drowned in Tyger River. They were crossing the bridge with an empty wagon, when one of the sills of the bridge broke and precipitated Mules, Wagon and driver into the river. All but [illegible] mules were rescued without much injury.

Only a few months ago, Mr. Duncan had his large barn and Gin House and their contents burned up, and his domestic afflictions have been extremely severe since. A man with less nerve and energy than he would have sunk under the trials that have been placed upon him.

☞ A colored man by the name of Bill Pilgrim was found in front of Col. Evins' residence in Spartanburg, on the morning of the 26 inst., frozen to death. He was last seen alive on the evening before, much under the influence of liquor, on his way home.

Gov. Hampton's Call.

We publish this week, a call from Governor Hampton upon the people of the State for 10 per cent of their last year's taxes, to be applied to the urgent necessities of the charitable and penal institutions of the State. That the call will be willingly and promptly responded to by the people of Union County we have not the least doubt. In fact we *know* the people are anxious to show their devotion to the government they have elected by giving it all the aid in their power whenever called upon and in whatever manner Governor Hampton might indicate. They know their taxes will be honestly and discreetly disbursed, and with that assurance they will not withhold the small amount now called for, one moment longer than they know who is appointed to receive it. In no other way can the people give stronger assurance of their settled determination to sustain the Hampton government than by contributing to its financial necessities, particularly when they have the assurance of Hampton himself that the taxes they pay will be appropriated to relieve the sufferings of the unfortunate inmates of the Lunatic Asylum and provide against the now apparent necessity of turning loose upon the people the hardened convicts in the Penitentiary. [illegible] in a deplorable condition for the want of money to feed their inmates. These are State Institutions, held by the State [illegible] and legally bound to support them, consequently the people are doubly assured that the money they pay in on the call of Governor Hampton will [illegible] place, be conscientiously appropriated [illegible] and the receipt of each [illegible] pay becomes a claim against the State in payment of taxes hereafter, under any government that shall be permanently established.

It will be observed that though the resolutions of the Constitutional House of Representatives empowers Gov. Hampton to call for 10 per cent of last year's taxes, he has taken a wise and eminently honorable precaution to ask at this time for only so much as he believes will be necessary to relieve the sufferings of the inmates of the charitable and penal institutions of the State." He asks not for a [illegible] to pay himself and his associates in office; but in the nobleness of his humanity can think of those who fought so nobly with him for an honest State government to first prove the necessity to him and that paramount necessity by entrusting to him a small portion of the indebtedness to the State, not for its own use or benefit but to relieve the urgent wants and contribute to the comforts of those unfortunate classes of our people who have no other reliance for food, care and protection but the State. And that noble call will not be unheeded by the people of Union. Those true sons of this County who sacrificed so much time and money to elect Wade Hampton Governor of the State, will not desert him and the cause of honesty and reform now; but will step promptly forward and with willing hearts ratify their votes given on the 7th of November last, by placing in his hands the means to support his government and make it humane and honorable.

We must, as a people, show to the Chamberlain usurpation and all the world beside, that we will not, in any way, recognize any government of South Carolina but the one we honestly elected, [illegible] Federal bayonets and all the oppressive means that a corrupt and mercenary party can command may exclude our Representatives from the Legislative Halls, and attempt to force a usurper into the gubernatorial chair, but it still remains with the people whether [illegible] government shall be sustained. It cannot live without money, and that money must come from the tax paying people alone. It can find no other source for its supplies; and if the people pay their taxes into the Chamberlain treasury they stultify their action at the last election by first recognizing as officials those whom they declared through the ballot box should not control the State government, and then giving them the necessary means to enforce their usurped authority.

[illegible] essary that the law Courts of the [illegible] kept in operation. Most of the Judges [illegible] on their salaries alone for the support of their families, and it is absolutely necessary that they should be paid.—Juries are [illegible] ry as Judges, and Jurors cannot be expected to leave their farms and other occupations unless they are paid for their services. A prompt response to the present call of Gov. Hampton will provide the means necessary to meet the urgent necessities of all the institutions, and nothing more.

They are all debts that the State is legally bound to pay, and receipts from them, as coming from the taxes of the people, must be recognized at the State Treasury. In fact, it is only asking 10 per cent. of what is due the State and what the people *will have to pay* to any government that may ultimately be established. The question is, will the people now pay a moiety of what they owe the State into the Hampton treasury [illegible] and thereby give encouragement to the Chamberlain usurpation to continue in its present defiant attitude.

We cannot get out of paying the tax of this year, any how, and as we are assured that the instalment called for will be honestly and economically disbursed, and *must* be acknowledged as so much tax paid to the State, there can be no good reason for not responding to the call promptly.

In the interest of honest government and for the sake of humanity we call upon the tax payers of Union to recognize the call of the Governor they have elected and to stand by him with all the aid they can give to consummate the great work of November for Hampton, Home Rule and Reform.

☞ A valued "little friend," who lives at Alston has sent us a bountiful present of sausages, with the injunction that "they are not to be put in the paper." We have already spoken about that, kind friend. We know exactly where to put such delicious things—the paper didn't see one of them. But you can't prevent our *putting in the paper* what we think about them and the kind donor. In the first place we honestly say they were as fine as we ever eat in our life—seasoned to a dot—and we enjoyed them hugely. If they are a specimen of your housekeeping qualifications you are entitle to the first honor. It is said that "the best things are done up in small parcels," and in your case it is true. A truly happy and prosperous New Year to you and yours. Carried unanimously.

The Weather.

We suppose it is not necessary for us to tell our readers anything about the weather we have had for the past three weeks. Most of them know all about it, by severe experience. The people in the country have been under a snow blockade all the time. One gentleman informed us that for two weeks he could not get far enough to visit his nearest neighbor; that he read Shakspeare through twice, wore out two packs of cards and made egg nog till the whiskey and eggs gave out, to keep the cobwebs out of his brains. He did not say that he had looked in the Bible once.

Our country friends were unable to visit the village folks and the village folks couldn't go into the country, consequently we have had a complete stagnation of business. Such a severe and long continued spell of winter weather has not been experienced in this section within the memory of our most venerable citizens. In the North the people can stand such weather, because they expect and prepare for it, but in this section no one had made any preparation for a visitor from the Arctic regions, and it has been a severe trial to all, but more particularly to those who had but small wood piles. Even now, although the sun at mid-day gradually melts the snow where its rays can reach it, in the morning the ground is again frozen hard and it freezes all day in the shade. From our exchanges we learn that the weather has been very severe in every part of the country, and caused great suffering.

The "Times" to be Reduced.

We shall be compelled, after this week, to reduce the size of the *Times* to five columns in a page. This is made imperative by the great falling off in our advertising patronage and the uncertainty of collections to meet our necessary weekly expenses. As retrenchment is the order of the day in all businesses, we must adopt it, and, or discontinue the paper altogether; and we don't intend to stop it just so long as we can get enough money to pay the printers and for paper and buy a cracker and a herring a day for our home folks. Should business revive we will almost assuredly resume the present size, at least make the paper still larger.

The Commissioners' Report.

We received a communication signed by a [illegible] of citizens, making enquiry why the commissioners' report had not been published. We should have published the communication, although its spirit was calculated to create some ill feeling, but on making a personal enquiry of Mr. Duncan, we learn that the delay was occasioned by the Board not being able to get the report signed by a majority of each member. One has been absent in the number of the Legislature and the other, Mr. [illegible], although written to frequently, has not as yet either made a report of his claim for services or taken any other notice of the request of the other members. Mr. Duncan assures us, however, that the report will be published in a short time.

No Taxes for Chamberlain.

Richland spoke boldly and nobly, in the following resolutions unanimously adopted [illegible] largest tax payers [illegible]

Resolved, That we, citizens of Richland County, in mass meeting assembled, [illegible] South Carolina, [illegible] Governor [illegible] we will cheerfully pay the [illegible] as requested by the House of Representatives [illegible] provided by taxation [illegible] ready [illegible] for the purpose, and [illegible] knowledge obedience [illegible] pretended statute or resolution passed in part by the Mackey House.

THE TAX PAYERS OF LEXINGTON.—A large number of citizens met at Lexington Court House yesterday for the purpose of endorsing Governor Hampton and the only lawful government of South Carolina. Governor Hampton was present. A large number of people met him at the depot, among whom were many of the mounted clubs. The scene at the depot upon the arrival of the Governor reminded one of the exciting times of the campaign which ended in his election. Governor Hampton addressed the people in a lengthy speech, after which resolutions similar to those passed in Charleston and Columbia by the tax payers were unanimously adopted.

Messrs. C. T. Lowndes & Co. have been appointed by Governor Hampton temporary agents for Charleston County, and they are duly authorized to receive, and receipt for, the contribution of ten per cent. upon the amount of the State and County tax of 1875-76, called for by the Governor under authority of the House of Representatives.

Chamberlain not Recognized.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE,
Columbia, December 23, 1876.

S. W. Beard, Esq:

SIR—I am instructed by his Excellency the Governor to inform you that he has removed you from the office of Treasurer for Aiken County. You will, therefore, immediately upon the receipt of this letter cease to exercise the functions of said office. Very respectfully,

H. E. HAYNE,
Secretary of State.

TREASURER OFFICE OF AIKEN COUNTY,
December 26, 1876.

H. E. Hayne, Secretary of State:

SIR—Your favor of the 23d is at hand. In it you say: "I am instructed by his Excellency the Governor to inform you that he has removed you from the office of Treasurer for Aiken County. You will, therefore, immediately upon the receipt of this letter cease to exercise the functions of said office." I presume by his Excellency you refer to Mr. D. H. Chamberlain: not recognizing Mr. Chamberlain as Governor of South Carolina, I ask leave respectfully to say I must decline your request to cease to exercise the functions of said office.

Very respectfully,
(Signed) SIMEON W. BEARD,
Treasurer Aiken County.

A similar correspondence occurred between Mr. W. H. Wise, County Auditor, and H. E. Hayne.

The Hon. B. H. Hill, in a letter to a friend, denies, explicitly and emphatically, all the silly stories which have been published about him since his return to Washington. He denies that he has abused Northern Democrats in Congress; he denies that he is not in thorough accord with Mr. Tilden and the leaders of the Democratic party; and he denies that he has agreed to sell the South to Mr. Hayes for a Cabinet portfolio. This disposes of some bungling falsehoods, and gives Mr. Hill the opportunity to show, in his letter, that he is thoroughly in the confidence of the party.

The Boston *Journal* is anxious to know by what system of arithmetic Mr. Cronin, of Oregon, can count himself a majority of three.—We presume that Mr. Cronin gets the rule from a new and comprehensive plan compiled and published by Chamberlain & Co. at Columbia, S. C., in which work it is laid down that fifty-two is a majority of one hundred and twenty-four.—*News and Courier.*

PUBLIC MEETING.

The Governor we Recognize.

A meeting of the citizens of Union County, irrespective of party, was held in the Court House on Monday, the 1st inst., and notwithstanding the terrible snow storm quite a respectable number of our most intelligent citizens were present.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Shand, who moved that Hon. T. B. Jeter take the chair, which was unanimously adopted.

On motion of David Johnson, Jr., Mr. D. P. Duncan was elected Secretary.

Upon taking the chair, Mr. Jeter briefly explained the object of the meeting. He said it was well known that two persons now claimed to be governor of South Carolina. One of them—D. H. Chamberlain—had received a minority of the votes cast, and was declared elected by the Mackey House, held by the Supreme Court to be an illegal body; the other—Gen. Wade Hampton—had received a majority of the votes cast, and had been inaugurated by the legally constituted House of Representatives. And this meeting was to say which government the people of Union would recognize.

Mr. Shand made a few remarks to the same point. He said it was a question which no one could shirk. That the tax levy of the Chamberlain government, enormously high as it was, had been passed in part by a pretended House which the Supreme Court had already pronounced an illegal body, and had been approved by D. H. Chamberlain, claiming to be governor because so declared to be by this same illegal body. Every cent, therefore, paid under that tax levy would be a voluntary contribution to the support of a revolutionary government, and that no one would pay it except those who wished to see Chamberlain maintain his position. The contribution asked for by Hampton was also voluntary, but that every patriot who desired to see Hampton governor of the State would surely do the little which was asked for. But there were other matters which would soon force every man to avow his allegiance. For instance, before the close of the month persons would claim to be trial justices under Hampton's appointment, while others would claim to hold the same offices under Chamberlain's appointment. It was, therefore, a question soon to be brought home to each one of us, and one which it [illegible] decide it now and here, and to say in advance which of the two claimants we would support and obey.

Mr. Shand then offered the following preamble and resolutions, which were adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, It is proper that the citizens of Union County should publicly indicate the course of conduct which they intend to pursue under the complications now existing in South Carolina; and

WHEREAS, it will be necessary for every citizen to decide at an early day to which government he will render tribute, and to which officials he will yield obedience; therefore be it

Resolved, That we, citizens of Union County, in mass meeting assembled, speaking as we believe the sentiments of all classes of our people, recognize Wade Hampton as the legally elected governor of South Carolina; and [illegible] D. H. Chamberlain [illegible] governor [illegible] Carolina; [illegible] pre-

Resolved, That we, the [illegible] County, in mass meeting assembled, [illegible] Carolina, [illegible] Governor [illegible] we will cheerfully pay the [illegible] as requested by the House of Representatives [illegible] provided by taxation [illegible] such instalments as may be designated by his Excellency, the governor, so soon as the [illegible] qualified. [illegible] for this County [illegible]

Resolved, That we will [illegible] pay one cent of tribute to maintain the imbecile and pretended government of D. H. Chamberlain; and to no pretended statute or resolution passed in part by the Mackey House will be acknowledged the slightest obedience.

Resolved, That in all our acts we will keep strictly within the law, and will willingly submit to all judgments from Courts of competent jurisdiction; but, on the other hand we will yield no part of our rights as secured to us by the late election, and the decisions of the Courts thereon.

On motion the proceedings of this meeting were ordered to be published in the [illegible] and a copy sent to Governor Hampton.

On motion the meeting adjourned.

D. P. DUNCAN, Secy.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR OF MCMLXXVI. Christmas and New Year's Day [illegible] time within a dozen years have fallen on Monday. They occurred on Monday in 1860, when the following singular prophecy was exhumed from an ancient folio in the British Museum:

"If Christmas day on Monday be,
A great winter that year you'll see,
And full of winde both loud and shrill;
But in summer, truth to tell,
High winds there shall be, and strong
Full of tempests lasting long;
While battles they shall multiply
And great plenty of beasts shall die
They that be born that day, I ween
They shall be strong each one and keen
He shall be found that stealeth aught
Tho' thou be sick, thou diest not."

It will be remembered that the following year witnessed the Austria-Prussian war, the most memorable for disastrous sales and fortunes in cattle by the cattle plague. In 1871, Monday fell on Monday, and in that year the Franco-Prussian war occurred in Paris, and the next year was noted for prevalence of the cattle plague. Are we to have war and pestilence in 1877?

THE OLDEST AND THE BEST.—These are the claims which the publishers of the *New York Observer* make for their paper in their prospectus of the *fifty-fifth volume*. And, while history bears them out in the first, an undeviating course in sending out a large, full, fresh, readable family newspaper, gives them at least a right to the second. In the great multitude of papers that are published, the *Observer* holds its own position, and an enviable position it is. No paper reaches us that we recommend more heartily.—It is published at $3,15 a year, post-paid, and the premium picture and chromo humbugs are left for those who have nothing better to offer. S. I. Prime & Co., 37 Park Row, New York.

THE FLORIDA COMMITTEE.—Washington, January 8.—The Florida committee has returned. There will be no minority report on the State election. The minority report regarding the Presidential electors, if any be made, will show that there were mutual intimidations—the negroes intimidating their race in negro districts, and blacks in other districts were deterred from voting the Republican ticket from fear of losing employment.

In the National Theatre at Washigton, the play being the "Two Orphans," and the occasion being the first appearance of Kate Claxton in this play since the burning of the Brooklyn Theatre, a cry of "fight!" was mistaken for "fire!" and a panic immediately resulted, in which several persons were severely bruised.—

General Barlow's letter regarding the Florida election, sticks in the crop of all honest Republicans. The very man sent by the party to oversee the count, virtually conceded the State to Tilden.