

The Fairfield Herald.

VOL. XI.

WINNSBORO, S. C., WEDNESDAY MORNING, MARCH 22, 1876.

NO. 40

THE FAIRFIELD HERALD

IN PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY WILLIAMS & DAVIS. Terms.—The HERALD is published Weekly in the Town of Winnsboro, at \$2.00 quarterly in advance.

All transient advertisements to be PAID IN ADVANCE. Ordinary Notices and Tributes \$1.00 per square.

LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS.

Monday, March 14. SENATE.

Mr. Whitmore, from the special committee appointed to consider house and senate bills to divide the state into five congressional districts reported that they have duly considered the same, and recommend that the house bill be indefinitely postponed, and that the senate bill be taken up. Laid over.

Mr. Whitmore, from the committee on the judiciary, to whom was referred bill (house) to amend an act entitled "An act to provide for the settlement and payment of certain claims against the state," reported back the same, with the recommendation that the bill do pass, with certain amendments. Laid over.

The same committee reported favorably on a bill to require all persons authorized by law to disburse moneys for the state to publish monthly statements.

Joint resolution (by Mr. Whitmore) to appropriate \$30,000 of the phosphate royalty to the payment of the balance of salaries of the members of the general assembly, passed to a third reading.

Bill to settle definitely the periods at which returns shall be made of phosphate rocks and phosphatic deposits dug and mined in the beds of the navigable streams and waters of the State of South Carolina, and the royalty to be paid thereon, and to fix the terms on which this act may be accepted by the parties named therein, passed to a third reading, with certain amendments.

At 12 m., in accordance with the amended rules of procedure, the senate resolved itself into a court of impeachment.

After a session of some hours, the court adjourned.

The house was not in session, there being no quorum.

Tuesday, March 14. SENATE.

The senate assembled at 11 a. m. A joint resolution to appropriate \$20,000 of the phosphate royalty to the payment of the balance of salaries of the members, officers and attaches of the general assembly for services rendered at the present session and for contingent expenses of the same, and a bill to enable W. Christie Benet to apply for admission to the bar were passed and sent to the house.

At 12 m., the senate resolved itself into a court of impeachment. Messrs. J. Carrington, W. W. Rice and J. C. Smith were examined on the part of the state.

At 3.05 p. m., the senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The senate notified the house of its concurrence in the bill relative to trial justices in Anderson county.

The governor returned, without his approval, a bill to repeal the charter of the town of Brunson, in Beaufort county. The veto was sustained.

The writ of attachment ordered to issue against C. C. Bowen was discharged.

The committee on ways and means, to whom was referred the petition of B. B. Garnett, of Greenville, for exemption from taxation on account of injuries disabling him from work, reported unfavorably. The report was adopted.

A joint resolution to ascertain the number of the outstanding bills of the Bank of the State was made a special order for Wednesday, March 15.

The enacting clause was stricken out of a bill providing for the issue of licenses to erect public gates across public roads in this state.

A joint resolution requiring the state treasurer to pay the members and employees of the general assembly from any moneys in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, was laid on the table.

Adjoined.

Wednesday, March 15. SENATE.

A number of bills, of no general interest, received their third reading and were sent to the house.

The senate then resolved itself into a court of impeachment for the trial of Judge Montgomery Moses. Col. James H. Rion, of counsel for the accused, asked for time, until the 20th inst., to prepare a defence. The court refusing this request, Col. Rion stated, on behalf of all the attorneys for the defence, that, in justice to the respondent as well as to themselves, they could not be in the deed to proceed further with the case, and on Thursday, 16th inst., would submit in writing the con-

siderations which had forced them to adopt the course agreed on by themselves. The counsel for Judge Moses thereupon retired. The senate soon after adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. Senate bills to provide for the filling of vacancies in the office of circuit solicitor; to provide for the manner of passing claims against the state by the general assembly; to incorporate the town of Clinton, Laurens county, were read a third time and passed.

Mr. Simons introduced a joint resolution requiring the repair of the pulmetto tree in front of the state house.

Mr. Andrews introduced the following concurrent resolution, which was adopted and ordered to be sent to the senate:

Resolved, That the special joint committee appointed to investigate the failure of the South Carolina Bank and Trust Company be, and are hereby, required to report on Thursday, March 16, at 12 o'clock. Adjourned.

Thursday, March 16. SENATE.

Mr. Colman introduced a bill to incorporate the Masonic Mutual Benefit Association of South Carolina.

The house returned with amendments the bill to appropriate \$30,000 of the phosphate royalty to the payment of the salaries of the members and employees of the general assembly. The amendments were concurred in, and the title changed to an act.

The enacting clause was stricken out of a bill to compel the husband to support and maintain his wife and minor children. Adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The following received a third reading: Bill to amend an act entitled "An act to provide for the settlement of certain claims against the state;" bill to provide for the public printing; bill to amend section 9 of the appropriation bill for the current fiscal year; joint resolution to appropriate \$30,000 of the phosphate royalty to the payment of the salaries of the members and employees of the general assembly; senate bill to enable W. Christie Benet to apply for admission to the bar.

Adjourned.

Friday, March 17. SENATE.

Bills to provide for the maintenance of the state penitentiary; to incorporate the Palmetto Underwriters' Association of South Carolina, and to amend an act entitled "An act to provide for granting certain charters" passed.

The following was adopted by the senate and concurred in by the house:

Resolved, That the general assembly adjourn sine die on Thursday, March 23, 1876.

A bill to amend an act to divide the state into five congressional districts was read the third time.

Bills to amend an act entitled "An act to grant the use of a vacant lot in the city of Columbia to Palmetto Lodge, No. 5, I. O. O. F., on certain conditions," and to incorporate the town of Greer's, in Greenville county, were engrossed for a third reading.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The speaker laid before the house the petition of a committee appointed by a public meeting of the citizens of the county of Lancaster and resolutions adopted by the meeting.

Mr. Miller introduced a resolution that a committee of seven be appointed by the speaker to investigate the charges against the Hon. T. J. Mackey, judge of the sixth circuit, which was rejected by 46 to 37.

Mr. Barnwell entered a motion of reconsideration.

The committee to inquire into the official conduct of Hon. J. P. Reed, circuit judge, reported that in the testimony taken will be found in favor of Judge Reed, except that of Mr. W. Courtenay; and the evidence of this gentleman does not sustain any charge of improper conduct. The report was adopted and the committee discharged.

Adjourned.

Saturday, March 18. SENATE.

Bills to prohibit county treasurers from charging commissions on school funds paid out by them; to incorporate the town of Greer's, in Greenville county, and to amend an act to amend an act to divide the state into five congressional districts, were read and passed, and the titles changed to acts.

The French Centennial commissioner General, M. Du Sommerard, has informed Director General Goshorn by cable, that four large trans Atlantic steamers will shortly be sent direct to Philadelphia, bringing the commissioners, engineers, contractors, all the finest art collections, national manufactures and private exhibits.

Tennessee has a law which prohibits a man from marrying the daughter of his deceased wife, but a former living near Memphis did it. He was indicted, tried, convicted and sentenced to the penitentiary, but Gov. Porter has pardoned him.

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Things Farmers Should Not Do.

A farmer should not feed his stock in the public highway, thereby losing the droppings of his stock that may stray off; he should not let his open ditches become filled with falling timber and decaying grass, but keep them quite clear; he should not have his plows and harrows out all winter; should not keep more stock than he can feed well; should not put off going to mill until the mill-lab is empty; should not put off hewing wood until the wood-house is empty; should not go to town oftener than he has business, and when he does go, should keep away from the hog-stalls; should not beat his stock unmercifully; should not run his wagon without grease; should not put his plows away covered with mud; should not eat wood with a dull axe; should not bother his neighbor too often to turn the grindstone for him; should not depend too much on borrowing; should not let his wife milk in bad weather; should not suffer gaps left low in the fence; should not throw the grubs from the fence-corners into the public highway; should not let too much fence rot down before beginning to repair; should not keep scrub stock of any kind; should not put off ditching until plowing time, thereby having two jobs on hand at once and but one hand to do them; should not let corn stand out all winter as food for birds and mice.—*Indiana Farmer.*

NEWS ABOUT THE CENTENNIAL.—Italy will send to the exposition two hundred pieces of statuary and hundreds of paintings.

Eleven minor buildings for states, associations, &c., are under contract and will be commenced in a few days.

The Torture Chamber.

Hartford Courant.

Passing through several narrow passages, closed by stout doors, we came to the torture chamber where the implements of persuasion of the inquisitions or of private tyranny are still preserved. Outside the entrance of the narrow chamber is a bench upon which the victim was seated in order that he might reflect whether he would confess before torture or after. One side of the room was a lattice screen, behind which the secretary sat at a table to take down any exclamations wrung from the sufferers. Within were seats for the judge and scribe, who attended from motives of humanity, in order that the victim should not be too soon released from his sufferings by death. The room looks like the lumber room attached to a farmer's wood-shed, or rather like a cheaply-fitted up gymnasium. At one end is a pillar, with an iron band for the neck, that once stood in the public square. Lying on it were two pieces of board, two feet long, each pierced with three round holes—one for the neck and one for each wrist. They were put, said my guide, upon base women. Two of them, yoked with these insidious of their disgrace, were coupled together and led to the street, a warning to all frail and imperfect beings of their sex. I saw no such badges for men. One of the instruments used to teach men the beauty of holiness was a ladder, the rungs of which were sharply triangular sticks of wood, which revolve. The recusant was drawn up and down this ladder by a pulley, his back abraded by the revolving prisms of the wood. Another machine is a stretcher, upon which the condemned was laid, his feet fastened to one end and his arms tied to a rope which passed over a windlass. Under his back was a roller armed with blunt spikes, over which his vertebrae were drawn backward and forward. The playful inquisitors called this machine the "hardened hare." There is also a frame with a windlass and crane for hoisting a man up by his arms. Two big stones, which weigh over 100 pounds each, were tied to his feet; and when he was drawn up to the ceiling he was suddenly let drop, and the jerk would dislocate every socket. Sometimes his feet were secured to rings in the floor, and he was drawn up till all his joints cracked. The stone weights were also used in a different way. There is a chair called the "Maiden's Leap," the seat of which is studded with a hundred wooden pins. The victim sat on this with stone weights in his lap. The Spanish Ass is a simple board, 15 inches wide, set upright in a standard. The upper end is shapened. Upon this the patient sat astride, with the big stones attached to his feet. On one side of the roof is a recess in a thick wall. Before it is a screen of masonry, with a fireplace in it. The condemned stood in the recess, which has no opening above, and was slowly or quickly suffocated or roasted by the smoke and heat. Any New England boy who has been properly brought up on Fox's Book of Martyrs, and stands all about the rack and the thumb-screw and the regular appliances of torture. But I confess until I saw these machines that I had no idea of the ingenuity of the old masters. What especially impresses you about their instruments is that they are intended to hurt. They are rude, unpolished; the chamber is mean. It is not even mysterious. The whole thing is vulgar and disgusting.

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