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THE FAIRFIELD HERALD.

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LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS.

Monday, March 20.

SENATE.

The committee on claims reported favorably on a large number of claims and recommended that others be referred to the commission on claims. A bill to incorporate the Narrow Gauge Railroad and Transportation Company of South Carolina, and a bill to amend section 3, chapter 111, of the revised statutes were passed. The report of the special joint committee appointed to investigate into the cause of failure of the South Carolina Bank and Trust Company was made the special order for Tuesday, March 21.

At 12 m., the senate resolved itself into a court of impeachment. Mr. Whittemore submitted the following order:

Ordered, That the senate, as a court of impeachment, stand adjourned, to meet on Tuesday, March 21, at 12:30 p. m., when the senate shall proceed to vote, without debate, on the several articles of impeachment in the case of Montgomery Moses, judge of the seventh judicial circuit.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The senate returned, with amendments, bill to incorporate the Bishopville, Sumter and Wateree Railroad Company; bill to amend an act entitled "An act to raise supplies for the fiscal year commencing November 1, 1875," bill to incorporate the Charleston and Georgetown Railroad and Transportation Company.

The amendments were concurred in and the titles changed to acts. A resolution was adopted, instructing the state treasurer to report to the house the amounts of money collected up to date under the general appropriation bill, the "big bonanza" and the "little bonanza."

A resolution was adopted, instructing the state treasurer to inform the house out of what funds he paid the claim of Thomas W. Price & Co.

Senate bill for the relief of J. P. Latimer, late county treasurer of Greenville county, and J. P. F. Camp, late county treasurer of Spartanburg county, and senate joint resolution to authorize and empower the county commissioners of Greenville county to apply a certain county fund to the payment of the past indebtedness of said county, were passed.

The enacting words of senate bill to regulate the conduct of the execution of capital punishment in this state were stricken out.

Joint resolution requiring the repair of the palmetto tree in front of the state-house, and joint resolution to ascertain the amount and status of the outstanding bills of the Bank of the State, were passed. Adjourned.

Tuesday, March 21.

SENATE.

Bill to provide for the public printing was amended, passed, and sent to the house.

The senate then resolved itself into a court of impeachment in the case of Judge Montgomery Moses, and proceeded to vote upon the respondent's guilt or innocence of the several charges. The result has been stated.

The senate, sitting as a court of impeachment, then adjourned sine die.

The governor returned, without his approval, a bill to appropriate \$30,000 of the phosphate royalty to the payment of the members and attaches of the general assembly. His Excellency likewise returned, as duly approved by him, a number of bills—among which is an act to amend a joint resolution entitled "Joint resolution to authorize the county commissioners of Fairfield and Clarendon counties to levy a special tax of 1/2 mills on the dollar to pay the past indebtedness of said counties, and to regulate the manner of discharging the same."

Adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Senate bills to amend an act entitled "An act to reduce all acts and parts of acts in relation to county commissioners, their powers and duties, into one act, and to amend the same;" to regulate the transmission and delivery of messages by telegraph companies, and to regulate times for holding the circuit courts of general sessions and common pleas in the seventh circuit, were passed.

The special joint committee appointed to investigate the official conduct of W. Buttz, solicitor

first judicial circuit, submitted a report. The house resolved itself into secret session to consider the reports and testimony.

The committee on the judiciary reported back a senate joint resolution proposing certain amendments to the state constitution, and recommended certain amendments.

The report of the special joint committee appointed to investigate the failure of the South Carolina Bank and Trust Company was made the special order for Wednesday, March 22.

Hayne introduced a resolution to expel Gary, a member from Kershaw county, which was indefinitely postponed.

A resolution was adopted, providing that the two houses should meet in joint session on Wednesday, March 22, to elect a judge for the seventh judicial circuit recently made vacant by the impeachment and conviction of Montgomery Moses.

The committee appointed to investigate the transactions of the land commission made a report, which was made the special order for Wednesday, March 22.

After some unimportant business, the house adjourned.

Wednesday, March 22.

SENATE.

The house sent to the senate a concurrent resolution to pay J. H. Sawyer \$250 for services rendered the special joint committee to investigate the failure of the South Carolina Bank and Trust Company, which was indefinitely postponed.

A resolution for the appointment of a special joint committee to examine the manner in which the comptroller general's warrants have been issued under the provisions of an act entitled "An act to provide for the payment of certain claims" was concurred in.

The house resolution providing for a joint assembly to elect a judge to fill the vacancy caused by the removal of Montgomery Moses, was laid on the table.

The house returned with amendments the bill to amend the act dividing the state into five congressional districts. There were amendments by the house which defeat the bill proposed by Mr. Cochran's original bill—an equitable division of the state into congressional districts. The bill was passed as amended.

The senate proceeded to the consideration of the veto message of the governor on the bill appropriating \$30,000 of the phosphate royalty to the payment of the members and employees of the general assembly. The bill was passed over the veto by a vote of 21 yeas to 9 nays.

The bill to amend an act entitled "An act to provide for the settlement and payment of certain claims against the state" was taken up, amended and passed. Adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The senate bill having reference to the congressional districts in this state was taken up, amended and returned to the senate.

Leslie introduced a resolution requiring the secretary of state to bring into the house all deeds made to or in the name of C. P. Leslie as land commissioner.

The governor returned, as duly approved, a large number of acts—among which are an act to authorize the governor to appoint one additional trial justice for Fairfield county, and an act to legalize the streets and ways in the town of Ridgeway.

Mr. Hayne moved that the house proceed in open session to the consideration of the report of the special committee appointed to investigate the official conduct of C. W. Buttz, solicitor of the first judicial circuit. The motion was rejected, and the house then resolved itself into secret session.

The house shortly afterwards adjourned.

Thursday, March 23.

SENATE.

A concurrent resolution to rescind the resolution to adjourn sine die on Thursday, March 23, was concurred in.

A number of joint resolutions were introduced and properly referred.

A concurrent resolution was adopted, and sent to the house, authorizing the state treasurer to borrow \$25,000 for the pay of members and employees of the general assembly.

A joint resolution requiring the repair of the palmetto tree in front of the State House and a bill to amend an act entitled "An act to provide for the settlement and payment of certain claims against the state" were passed.

A concurrent resolution directing the attorney general to institute civil and criminal proceedings in behalf of the state in the case of the failure of the South Carolina Bank and Trust Company was laid on the table. Adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

A resolution was adopted, directing the state treasurer to report

forthwith the amount to the credit of "legislative expenses," and also whether he would be able to borrow \$25,000 to pay the members and employees of the general assembly.

A concurrent resolution was adopted, and sent to the senate, providing for the appointment of a joint committee to obtain full information concerning the collection and disbursement of all the tax levies made by law.

The bill to define the duties and powers of the lieutenant governor of this state was laid on the table. Bill to incorporate the Merchants Steamship Company, of Charleston, was read the second time and ordered engrossed.

Senate resolution authorizing the state treasurer to borrow certain moneys for the payment of officers, attaches and other employees of the general assembly was concurred in.

A communication was received from the state treasurer, informing the house that he had failed in his efforts to borrow \$25,000, as instructed by the house.

The following resolution was adopted: Resolved, That the secretary of state be requested to furnish this house with a statement of the amount of fees (other than land commission) turned over to the state treasurer since the commencement of the present fiscal year. Adjourned.

Friday, March 24.

SENATE.

The house returned, with amendments, which were concurred in, resolution authorizing the state treasurer to borrow certain moneys for payment of officers, attaches and other employees of the general assembly.

Concurrent resolution instructing the attorney general to institute suit against all persons guilty of perjury and embezzlement in the matter of the failure of the South Carolina Bank and Trust Company was laid on the table.

Bill to incorporate the Bishopville and Adkin Railroad passed.

Resolution instructing the clerk of the senate to draw a pay certificate for one hundred and ninety-two dollars, payable out of senate contingent fund, in favor of J. B. Hubbard, for services rendered as assistant sergeant-at-arms during the impeachment trial, was agreed to.

Bill to extend the time for the commencement of work on the Anderson and Port Royal Railroad passed a second reading.

Report of joint special committee appointed to inquire as to execution of contract by Columbia Water Power Company was made the special order for Saturday, March 25.

A concurrent resolution that the general assembly take a recess from Friday, March 24, 1876, to April 10, 1876, at 12 m., was adopted. Adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. Cannon introduced the following resolution, which was adopted: Resolved, That the committee on ways and means inquire and report as to the expediency of authorizing the state treasurer to direct a portion of the salary fund (temporarily) to the payment of the two houses of this general assembly.

Resolution that the general assembly take a recess from Friday, March 24, to April 10, 12 m., was agreed to. Adjourned.

The State Democratic Convention. COLUMBIA, S. C., Feb. 23, 1876. At a meeting of the State Democratic Executive Committee, held in Columbia on February 22, 1876, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That it is recommended to the democracy of the State of South Carolina to meet by township or precincts, and elect delegates to county conventions, to be held in April next, that these county conventions shall elect delegates, in number equal to twice the representation of the county in the present house of representatives of the state, to a state democratic convention to be held in Columbia, on Thursday, May 4, for the purpose of appointing delegates to the national democratic convention, to be held in St. Louis on the 27th June next, and to take such further action as the convention shall deem proper and necessary.

The several county chairmen will take steps in their respective counties to carry into effect the foregoing resolution.

The township and precinct meetings can be held when is most convenient; the county conventions for the election of delegates will be held in April only.

The county chairman of Richland, with the resident members of this committee, will make all necessary arrangements for the accommodation of the state convention.

M. C. BYLER, Chairman State Democratic Ex. Committee. F. W. DAWSON, Secretary.

The inhabitants of Belknap, Iowa, want to change the name of their town.

THE FALL OF FLESH.

Particulars of the Wonderful Phenomenon in Bath County, Kentucky.

From the Louisville Courier-Journal.

A correspondent of the Courier-Journal, writing from Mount Sterling, Kentucky on the 8th of the present month, mentioned the occurrence of a most wonderful phenomenon in Bath county, seventeen miles east of the terminus of the Louisville, Cincinnati and Lexington Railroad. The correspondent related that a shower of flesh fell from a clear sky, in broad daylight, during the afternoon of March 3; that the sun was shining at the time, and after the appearance of the flesh, hogs and chickens appeared and devoured it. The fact of the phenomenon thus made known has produced considerable interest in the country, especially among scientific souls, who seem to have never heard of a like occurrence. Last evening a reporter visited Capt. J. M. Bent, of Mount Sterling, whom he found at the Willard Hotel. Capt. Bent is the gentleman who first informed the general public of the phenomenon through the Courier-Journal. Last evening he exhibited specimens of the flesh to the reporter, who proposed that they proceed with them to the residence of Prof. J. Lawrence Smith. The gentlemen agreed, and thither they went. At Prof. Smith's Capt. Bent and the reporter entered into a conversation about the flesh and its fall.

"When did the phenomenon take place?" asked the reporter.

"At two o'clock last Friday, March 3."

"In what county?"

"In Bath county, near Harry Gill's Mudlick Sulphur Springs, which are, I think, about seventeen miles east of Mount Sterling."

"Did you witness the occurrence?"

"No, sir. My information first came from Judge Day, of Monroeville, a perfectly reliable gentleman. Hundreds are willing to attest the truth of the matter with affidavits."

"Will you please relate to me all you know in relation to the phenomenon?"

"Well, sir, as nearly as I can ascertain, the occurrence took place about two o'clock in the afternoon. The day had been pleasant, and at the hour mentioned, the heavens were clear and beautiful. The sun was shining brightly, and except a few straggling light clouds, nothing unusual was visible to the naked eye in the appearance of the horizon. The wife of farmer Cronch, whose place is near Mudlick Springs, was standing in her doorway, and, observing particles of a peculiar and unusual kind descending from a clear sky, called others to witness the startling phenomenon. The fall of the flakes lasted about ten minutes. They came down in scattering showers and settled on a space of Mr. Cronch's farm, probably one hundred by two hundred yards in extent. After the fall the people collected around the ground thus covered and examined what had so mysteriously descended from the heavens. The flakes were from the size of a pea to that of a human finger, and rather thin. They were of regular flesh color, and, in touching texture and feeling, left a mark similar to that of blood in its secondary condition. The flesh was somewhat like mutton in appearance."

"Was any of it eaten?" asked the reporter.

"Yes, sir, by the hogs and chickens which gathered in large numbers, and devoured the flakes with evident relish. A butcher of Mount Sterling was in Bath county at the time, and shaved off a piece of the flesh with his knife. He roasted it, and said the substance was palatable, but he was not able to tell from what animal it came."

"What evidence have you of the authenticity of this?" inquired Dr. Smith.

"There is no doubt of it, sir. Harry Gill, of Mudlick Springs, who is a gentleman of very high reputation, and a hundred others, will furnish affidavits if necessary."

"What of the condition of the heavens during the fall of the flakes?" said the reporter.

"The heavens underwent no change, sir."

"How do the people take it?"

"The people, after it was noised abroad, flocked around in dozens and gathered considerable quantities of the flesh."

doubtless will occupy the attention of the world of science for some time to come.

Prof. J. Lawrence Smith, the scientist, says in his analysis of specimens examined: "In my mind this matter gives every indication of being the dried spawn of the Batrachian reptiles, doubtless that of the frog. They have been transported from the ponds and swampy grounds by currents of wind, and have ultimately fallen on the spot where they were found. This is no isolated occurrence of the kind, I having come across the mention of several in the course of my reading. The only way I can now fix the date is by an instance recorded by Muschlenbroeck as occurring in Ireland in 1675. The matter is described by him as being glutinous and fatty, which softened when held in the hand, and emitted an unpleasant smell when exposed to the action of fire. The ovum or egg of a like occurrence. Last evening a reporter visited Capt. J. M. Bent, of Mount Sterling, whom he found at the Willard Hotel. Capt. Bent is the gentleman who first informed the general public of the phenomenon through the Courier-Journal. Last evening he exhibited specimens of the flesh to the reporter, who proposed that they proceed with them to the residence of Prof. J. Lawrence Smith. The gentlemen agreed, and thither they went. At Prof. Smith's Capt. Bent and the reporter entered into a conversation about the flesh and its fall.

The maiden name of Mrs. Belknap third wife of the Secretary of War, was Miss Tomlinson, of Harrodsburg, Kentucky. She first married Mr. Bowers, and was the sister of Gen. Belknap's second wife, who died in the latter part of December, 1870, and in consequence of her death there was no reception at the White House on New Year's day, 1871. Mrs. Bower, who was then a widow, was the guest of the Secretary of War during her sister's brief married life, and upon the death of Mrs. Belknap Mrs. Bowers took charge of the infant that her sister left. The child died in the West, and Mrs. Bowers, after a trip to Europe, took up her residence in Gen. Belknap's home in Washington. During the ensuing winter she presided with rare grace at the dinner parties and receptions that he gave. She is about thirty-five years of age of tall, commanding presence, with dark, lustrous eyes, and a flashing smile that discloses a most perfect set of teeth. Remarkably brilliant color, together with other personal charms, has given Mrs. Belknap the reputation of being one of the handsomest ladies in Washington. Her fine culture and fascinating manners won Gen. Belknap's heart, and he married her just two years after her sister's death. Since she assumed the duties of a lady of the Cabinet her receptions have been among the most popular, and her manner has been characterized by a genial warmth, elegance and grace. She professed not to care for the whirl of fashionable society into which she was thrown, but rather to prefer the quiet of her home, and the society of her husband and beautiful child, little Alice, who has been the pet of her mother's guests. Still, Mrs. Belknap is a woman possessed of great ambition, and indulged the most ardent hope that her husband would have been elected to the Senate. Worth furnished all her toilets. Her reception and evening dresses were magnificent. Her neck and arms are of faultless beauty, and the diamonds which flashed on them were of great value, often being mentioned as among the most elegant worn in Washington. Many of these jewels were the wedding presents from Gen. Belknap, who, it is now known, received dishonestly certain sums of money previous to his marriage with Mrs. Bowers. Brilliant has been the Secretary of War's and Mrs. Belknap's social reign, and muchacho beyond description is the social and official downfall that marks one of the most painful phases of an unbridled love of gain.

A MOTHERLY WARNING.—The other day a little boy about four years old was drawing his sled up and down in front of his mother's house when the old lady came to the door and called out:

"Come in here, boy."

"Wait awhile," he answered.

"You walk right in here!" she continued.

"First you know somebody will abduct you, and first I know some one will want \$10,000 reward to restore you, and here I am, just ready to break my last dollar bill for 'taters and meat!'"

The boy went in.

John Stevens, of Logansport, Indiana, was heir to \$12,000, and at his earnest solicitation the money was given to him when he was only nineteen years old. He has squandered it all, and now sees the trustees to make them pay it over again, his claim being that they should have held the property until he was twenty-one.

Virginia complains that she has had to pay \$100,000 for an eighty day session of her legislature, when one good lawyer for \$1,000 would have prepared more and better laws in a week.

ROYAL GAME.

In no region close to civilization can the enthusiastic sportsman find more varied and noble game than in the northwestern provinces of India. There he roams the magnificent royal Bengal tiger, the very King of beasts. Our double page illustration shows him as he appears at home, in one of the dense jungles, whence, when pressed by hunger, he issues forth on his marauding expeditions. Few people have any idea of the number of human lives annually destroyed by this ferocious and blood-thirsty animal. In 1869 one tigress was reported to have killed 127 people, and to have stopped a public road for many weeks. Similarly, in 1868, the magistrate of Godavery reported that "that part of the country was overrun with tigers, every village having suffered from the ravages of man eaters." On another occasion thirteen villages were deserted, and 250 square miles of country were thrown out of cultivation through the havoc made by a single tigress. And according to the reports of the British government during the six years ending with 1866, 4218 lives were lost through these beasts. It is little wonder that an English sportsman is hailed with joy in these districts. He becomes a second St. George sent to deliver the people from their scourge.

In describing a tiger it is fair to say of him that he is nothing more or less than a huge cat, with power and ferocity excessively developed. Travellers sleeping in their tents may hear one calling to its mate in the neighboring jungles, till night is made hideous by their amatory growls and roarings, just as their diminutive congeners on American house tops serenade the moon, and provoke exasperated auditors to dislodge them with whatever missile comes first to hand. The crowning point of a cat's ferocity and delight in bloodshed is arrived at in the royal tiger. When not raging with hunger, he appears to derive the same pleasure from playing with his victim that the former shows in tormenting a mouse. He will gambol around a buffalo as if enjoying his alarm; and when the frightened animal, in mad despair, feebly attempts to butt at his remorseless foe, the tiger bounds lightly over his head, and recommences his gambols on the other side. At last, as if he had succeeded in creating an appetite for his dinner, he crushes the skull of his victim with one blow of his powerful forepaw, and commences his bloody meal. The following story is told of an unfortunate hunter, who, having attacked a tiger on foot, succeeded in wounding but not killing the beast: "It charged, and seized him by the loins on one side, gave him a fierce shake or two, dropped him and then seizing him upon the other side, repeated the shaking, and again dropping him disappeared. His beaters had escaped up trees or elsewhere meanwhile, but when the tiger departed they came to his aid and carried him to the station. The man suffered no pain, and described how the tiger had seized and worried him. But he sank from the shock and exhaustion within a few hours."

Any one who has ever seen a tiger's skull and examined its formidable canine teeth must wonder how a man can ever escape who has once been gripped in their savage vise. Very seldom does a season pass without the death of some gallant sportsman being reported from a tiger's charge. But the fangs of these creatures are not worse than their terrible claws. As in the cat, these weapons are provided with a curious arrangement of elastic ligaments and muscles, by which they are withdrawn into the foot so as to escape blunting by contact with the ground in walking. These fearful weapons are objects of peculiar care on the part of the tiger. Trees are frequently seen in the jungles scored with long vertical fissures to the height of eight or ten feet from the ground, where tigers have cleaved and sharpened their claws. Some trees are greater favorites than others, and the peepal or Indian fig is often disfigured in this manner.

In charging, a tiger will sometimes burst out of a neighboring cover, and with never a swerve pounce upon his prey, his ears laid back, his tail on end, every feature of his face distorted with diabolical rage. But more often he bears steadily down four or five hundred yards in the open, stopping occasionally and putting his head half over his shoulder, as if to listen for a noise behind him. A most magnificent creature he looks in this position, his head erect, his tail drooping, and the sun glancing from his lustrous yellow skin. This stealthy advance continues until he is within springing distance. Then, with a quick rush and a terrific roar, he dashes his prey to the ground with his powerful arm, and seizing it with his formidable fangs, holds it down until nearly or quite dead, and then drags it away.

At no other time is a tigress so furious as when resenting a real or fancied attack upon her cubs. They are generally two to five in number, and follow their mother, who takes the most anxious care of them, until they are full grown. As soon as they can digest flesh, the mother tigress kills for them, teaching them to provide for themselves by practising on pigs and deer. She is also often wonton and blood-thirsty, killing simply for the pleasure she has in destroying life. With all her affection for her cubs, however, she has been known to desert and even devour them when hard pressed by hunger.

One of the most curious and at the same time well-attested peculiarities of the tiger is that he does not naturally possess, but easily acquires a taste for human flesh. At first he seems to bow to that instinctive dread of man which is natural to all animals. The natives are aware of this characteristic, and carry on their avocations as grass-cutters, herdsmen, and fruit gatherers close to a thicket where a tiger is known to be lying. It is not merely fatalism, as might be supposed, that renders them thus apathetic, but the knowledge that as long as they can procure other food, tigers will not attack men. Even when one of their cattle is struck down, they run up and beat on the ground with sticks. These herdsmen, too, appear to be armed with what Aristotle calls the courage derived from experience, for they will conduct the sportsman up to the "kill" with fearless confidence. But they will not stay one of these animals themselves, for they hold the tiger, like the cobra, in superstitious reverence. According to one writer, the natives in many parts will avoid mentioning his name save by a variety of periphrases or euphemisms. Their objection to killing one is grounded on the belief that his spirit will haunt them or do them mischief after death.

Tigers may be roughly divided into three classes: First, those that lead a perfectly wild and retired life in the jungles, feeding only on game. Secondly, those that may be called cattle-lifters; they are large and bulky, compared to the agile little jungle tiger, and usually make their haunts near pastures and waters frequented by cattle. Disregarding the herdsmen, these animals consume an ox in about five days, while a tigress and her cubs demand at least an ox a night. Lastly, the morose brutes which, having once tasted human flesh, turn man-eaters, and sometimes spread terror throughout a whole district before they are destroyed. Confirmed man-eaters, it is said, are frequently old tigers. With failing activity and decaying teeth, they find the easiest way of procuring food is to knock down some defenseless villager or incautious postman. After a few murders of this kind, a whole village will frequently pull up stakes and depart, leaving the man eater master of the situation.—Harper's Weekly.

THE WORTH OF THE GRANGE.—The Grange is worth to-day almost as much to the agriculturists of the country as the common school. It is, in fact, the only primary school we have which is devoted to agricultural instruction; it is there where our sons and daughters are first taught to love and take a pride in their calling; it is there where they are made to see possibilities in agricultural industry which past generations never dreamed of, and it is from thence that an influence is to go out which in a few years will fill up our agricultural colleges with young men, and young ladies too, with a class of students that will not turn their backs on the farm, or seek other respectability or ability.—Pacific Rural Press.

A Wisconsin trader discovered two men, disguised with veils, robbing his store one night recently, and went for them with a revolver. The rogues fled and he followed, firing as he went, but the thieves apparently escaped. The next morning a man was found dead in the road, with a veil over his face, and he proved to be the trader's brother-in-law.

A clergyman was preparing his discourse for Sunday, stopping occasionally to erase that which he was disposed to disapprove, when he was accosted by his little son, who had numbered only five summers: "Father, does God tell you what to preach?" "Certainly, my child."

"Then what makes you scratch it out?"

The second night after her husband died she sat by the open window five hours, waiting for the cats to begin fighting in the back yard. Said she, "This thing of going to sleep without a quarrel of some kind is so new to me that I can't stand it! Let me alone until they begin, then I can doze off gently!"

London is estimated by the register-general to contain now nearly three millions and a half of people.

John Bright claims that 17-19 of the entire kingdom of Great Britain is in possession of only 13,749 persons. The population is estimated at 32,000,000.