

CAMDEN



GAZETTE.

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CAMDEN, S. C.

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Volume I.

TERMS :

The price to Subscribers is \$3 per annum, exclusive of postage; and in all cases where papers shall be delivered at the expense of the publisher, the price will be \$3 50 a year, to be paid six months after subscribing.

It is expected, however, that subscribers living at a distance, from the inconvenience of collection, will pay in advance.

Terms of advertising in this GAZETTE.

Advertisements not exceeding eight lines will be printed for FIFTY CENTS, for the first publication, and half that price for every subsequent insertion. Larger advertisements will be charged in proportion.

A liberal discount will be made on the bills of those who are constant or considerable customers in this line.

If no directions are given with an advertisement, it will be continued till forbid.

Wholesale Prices Current.

Domestic Articles.	Charleston	Camden.
Cotton, Sea Island lb	00 0 .0 48	
" Upland,	0 24 .0 25	0 21 .0 23
Rice, prime new cwt	0 00 .5 00	
Flour, Superfine bbl	15 .	13 .14
" Fine country	00 .0 00	
Corn, bush	0 00 .1 00	87
Wheat,		1 30 0 00
Tobacco, leaf lb	0 14 .0 16	0 10 .0 11
" manufactured		0 20 .0 25
Whiskey, gal	0 60 .0 65	0 80 .0 85
Butter, lb	0 23 .0 25	0 18 .0 23
Bacon,	0 14 .0 17	0 12 .0 15
Lard,	0 20 .0 22	0 12 .0 15
Tallow,	0 18 .0 20	0 00 .0 18
Bees Wax,	0 28 .0 30	0 00 .0 25
Hemp,		
Homepun cotton yd	0 23 .0 28	0 30 .0 37
" N. Carolina tow		0 25 .0 30
Shoe thread, lb		62
Indigo, prime,	0 75 .0 80	0 75 .0 87
Dear Skins in hair,		18
Foreign Articles.		
Coffee, prime, lb	0 19 .0 23	0 30 .0 38
" old		
Sugar, Muscovado	0 12 .0 15	0 18 .0 20
Salt, bush	0 55 .0 65	1 00 .0 00
Iron, 100 lb.	5 00 .6 00	7 00 .8 00
Molasses, gal	0 45 .0 48	0 87 .0 00

REPORT

Of the Committee appointed on the 4th instant, to inquire into the expediency of repealing or modifying the law passed at the last session, changing the mode of compensation to the members of Congress.

(Concluded.)

There now remain some other topics connected with this subject, which the committee would submit to the consideration of the House.

Of all the powers with which the people have invested the government, that of legislation is undoubtedly the chief. In addition to its own important ordinary duties, the legislature is the only power which can create other powers. Departments with all their duties and offices, with all their emoluments, can emanate from the Legislature alone. Over the most numerous branch of the Legislature, therefore the people have retained the power of frequent elections; and with this branch alone they have trusted the original exercise of the right of taxation. The members of the House of Representatives are the special delegates and agents of the people in this high trust.—They, and they alone, proceed immediately from the suffrage of the people.—They, and they alone, can touch the main-spring of the public prosperity.—They are elected to be the guardians of the public rights and liberties. Can the people then, have any greater or clearer interest, than that the seats of these, their representatives, should be honorable and independent stations, in order that they may have the power of filling them with able and independent men? Is it according to the principles of our government, that the legislative office should sink, in character and importance, below any office, even the highest in the gift of the executive? Or can any thing be more unpropitious to the success of a free representative government, than that the representatives of the people should estimate any thing higher than their own seats, or should find inducements to look to any other favour than the favour of their constituents? It would be a most unnatural state of

things, in a republic, if the people should place greater reliance any where else, than in their own immediate representatives; or if, on the other hand, representatives should revolve round any other centre than the interests of their constituents. Through their representatives, the direct influence and control of the people can alone be felt. In them the rays of their power are collected; and there can be no better criterion by which to judge of the real influence of the people in the government, than by the degree of respectability and importance attached to the representative character. Evil, indeed, to the republic will that time be, should that ever arrive, when representatives in Congress, instead of being agents of the people to exercise an influence in government, shall become instruments of government to influence the people.

It is, probably, the necessary tendency of government that patronage and influence should accumulate wherever the executive power is deposited; and this accumulation may be expected to increase with the progress of the government and the increasing wealth of the nation. To guard, as far as possible against the effect of this on the legislature, the constitution has prohibited members of Congress from holding, while members, any office under executive appointment; but it has not restrained them from resigning their seats to accept such appointments, nor from accepting them after their term of service has expired; nor has it prohibited the grant of such offices to their relations, connections, or dependents.—There are hundreds of offices in the gift of the executive, which, as far as the pecuniary emolument is concerned, are preferable to seats in Congress; indeed there are none except of the very lowest class, which in that respect are not preferable. Is it for the interest of the people, that their representatives should be placed in this condition? Is it expedient that better service should be commanded for any other department, than for the hall of legislation? Or, admitting that offices of high trust and responsibility in the state, such as will be commonly regarded less from motives of pecuniary emolument, than from the love of honorable distinction and devotion to the public service, should possess more attractions than the legislative office, is it still fit or expedient that subordinate places in government, such as have no recommendation but the salaries and perquisites belonging to them, should have the same influence?

And yet not only is it well known that persons, at every election, decline being candidates for the legislature, but the government has not been without instances in which members of either House have relinquished their seats in the Congress of the United States, to accept offices of a very low grade. Can the public interest require the establishment of a habit of filling such places by candidates taken from the legislative body? Or, what is the value, to the people, of the right of representation, if they have nothing to give, which their representatives will not relinquish for even the smaller appointments of the executive power? It cannot but tend more, one would think to the permanent safety of the republic, that no such hopes or motives should exist; that there should be no inducements of this nature, either to an unfaithful and compliant discharge of official duty, or to a more indirect, but not less pernicious exercise of the influence of a public character and a public station.

The geographical extent of the United States furnishes a case out of all analogy with any thing which has heretofore existed, either in any state government or the government of any other country. There are members of Congress who reside more than a thousand miles from the seat of government; a great proportion live at more than half that distance. If these members are accompanied by their families to a session of Congress, even the present compensation, with the strictest economy, does not defray their expenses. To live within the means provided for them, they must come as exiles from their own homes—they must abandon, not only all private pursuits, but the enjoyment of all domestic relations, and live like strangers and temporary lodgers in the metropolis of their own country. How far it is wise in government to demand of those who enter its service this sacrifice of all social feelings, those who have the deepest knowledge of our nature are most competent

to judge. It is a sacrifice, which will not ordinarily, and for any length of time be made, by such as have the dearest and strongest ties to their country, and the greatest possible stake in its prosperity.

One further observation is obvious. If an adequate provision be not made for members of Congress, the office will fall exclusively, into the hands of one or two descriptions of persons; either of the most affluent of the country only, who can bear the charges of it without any compensation; or, of those, who would accept it, not for the compensation legally belonging to it, but from the hope of turning it to account by other means. A reasonable allowance, neither extravagant on the one hand, nor parsimonious on the other, would seem to be the best security against these various evils. Influenced by these considerations, Congress was at the last session, of opinion, that the compensation to members, had become inadequate. The Committee are still of the same opinion. In many cases it was not equal to the expense incurred by individuals in their attendance on the Legislature; and in all cases, it must be presumed that the labour and intelligence bestowed on the discharge of his official duties, by an able and faithful member of Congress, could not but yield a much more profitable result if employed in private pursuits.

If the view, which the committee have taken of this subject, be not altogether an erroneous one, if great changes, in relation to the value of money, and the price of living, have taken place in the country; if it has been found necessary to provide for this change, by an increase of the compensation of other officers throughout the general and state governments; and more than all, if it be desirable to maintain the constitutional importance of the legislative office; to open to the people a wide field for the selection of representatives; to put at their command the best talents in their respective districts; and to enable them to retain the services of those, whose knowledge and experience have best fitted them to promote their interests and maintain their rights; then the object of the law in question was not only a useful, but a highly important and commendable object.

In regard to the mode of accomplishing that object, it has not been, and is not, easy to reconcile opinions. On the whole, the committee are of opinion, that under all the circumstances, it is advisable to provide, that the increase of pay should be made in the form of an addition to the former daily allowance. They, therefore, recommend, that in lieu of all other compensations, there be paid to members of Congress and delegates of territories, — dollars per day for their actual attendance, and — dollars for every twenty miles travel to and from the seat of government. And they report a bill for that purpose.

LAWS OF SOUTH-CAROLINA.
AN ACT to make all the Officers of the Militia of this State, elective.

WHEREAS experience has shewn that it is expedient that the Officers of the Militia of this State should rise by seniority; for remedy whereof,

Be it enacted by the honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the said state, now met and sitting in general assembly, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That from and after the passing of this act, when any vacancy shall take place in any of the Military Commissions of the Militia of this State, the same shall be filled by election in the following manner: when any vacancy shall take place, in the Commission of maj. Gen. the Governor for the time being, shall forthwith issue his Orders to the several brig. gens of the division in which such vacancy shall happen, requiring such Brig. Generals to order an election in each regiment, within the division in which such vacancy have occurred, for a Major General, to fill such vacancy; and all Commissioned officers of the division, in which such vacancy shall have happened, shall be entitled to vote for a Major General, and any Commissioned officer of the division in which such vacancy shall have occurred shall be eligible to the office of Major General; and each Colonel shall return the state of the polls of his regiment, to the Brigadier General, who shall submit the same to the Governor, who is hereby empowered to pronounce the person having the greatest number of votes, to be duly e-

lected, and shall commission such person accordingly.

And be it further enacted, by the authority aforesaid, That when any vacancy shall take place in the Commission of Brigadier General the Major General, and in case there is no Major General, then the next commanding officer of the division shall forthwith issue his orders to the several Colonels of the regiments composing the brigade where such vacancy shall be, to hold in each of their respective regiments, an election for Brigadier General, to fill such vacancy; and all commissioned officers of the brigade, where there shall be such vacancy shall be entitled to vote for Brigadier General to fill the same. And any commissioned officer of such brigade, shall be eligible to the office of Brigadier General; & each Colonel shall attend the counting out the votes, and return the state of the polls of his regiment to the commanding officer of the division, who shall pronounce the person having the greatest number of votes duly elected, and commission him accordingly.

And when any vacancy shall take place in the commission of Colonel of infantry, the same shall be filled by election, by all free white men, above the age of eighteen years, who reside within the said Regiment, (except such persons as attached to the cavalry, or any regiment of artillery) the person having the greatest number of votes, shall be the person elected.

When any vacancy shall take place in the Commission of Lieut. Colonel, the Major then in Commission in the same regiment shall be immediately commissioned Lieut. Colonel, and whenever a vacancy shall take place in the Commission of Major the same shall be filled by election by all free white men above the age of eighteen years, who belong to the Battalion, where such vacancy shall occur, the person having the greatest number of votes shall be elected.

When any vacancy shall take place in the Commission of Captain, first Lieutenant, second Lieutenant or Ensign in any beat company, the same shall be filled by election, by all free white men, above the age of eighteen years, residing within said beat company, the person having the greatest number of votes shall be the person elected: Provided nevertheless, that nothing herein contained shall extend to any volunteer corps of Artillery, Cavalry or light infantry, who shall elect their respective officers from amongst themselves in the following manner.

When any vacancy shall take place in the Commission of Colonel of Cavalry, the same shall be elected from amongst the officers non-commissioned officers and privates of the said Regiment by themselves, the person having the greatest number of votes, to be the person elected.

When any vacancy shall take place, in the Commission of Lieutenant Colonel or Major of Cavalry, or Major of Artillery, the same shall be filled by election, by the officers, non-commissioned officers and privates, composing the said Battalion or squadron from amongst themselves, the person having the greatest number of votes, to be the person elected.

When any vacancy shall take place in the Commission of any Captain, first Lieutenant, second Lieutenant, Ensign or Cornet of any company of Artillery, Light Infantry or troop of Cavalry, the same shall be filled by election by the officers, non-commissioned officers and privates of the said company or troop, from amongst themselves, the person having the greatest number of votes shall be the person elected.

Be it further enacted, That when the Commission of a Colonel shall become vacant, the Brigadier General, or in case there be no Brigadier General or Major General, commanding the said Regiment, the Governor for the time being, shall appoint two fit and proper persons to open and hold a poll at each of the battalion muster grounds of the said Regiment, and two fit and proper persons to open and hold a poll at the Regimental muster ground of the said Regiment, which said managers shall advertise the same, for forty days, in twelve public places, in the said Regiment; the said managers shall hold the polls one day at each place, from eleven o'clock in the morning, until three in the afternoon and shall meet at the Regimental muster ground, on the day following, and count over the votes, and declare the election.

Be it further enacted, That when the