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Cuba and St. Domingo.

The war fever is abating. The government cannot respond to the excitement of the people, being apparently convinced that there is no ground for a demand for the rendition of the Virginias, she bearing about the same relation to Spain and her rebels as the Alabama did to us.

Now is the time for Grant to revive his St. Domingo proposition. If we had been in possession of that island the Spaniards would have been far more cautious about insulting us.

The Chicago Road—Charleston and Savannah.

Both these cities have suddenly waked up to the fact that a railroad is in contemplation from Chicago to the South Atlantic. Neither of them had a delegate in the convention held in Chicago last month, but their editors read the proceedings—without publishing them, however.

Since then a convention was held at Warm Springs, N. C., in favor of a road from Lake Erie to the South Atlantic, the proceedings of which we gave two weeks ago.

In neither of these conventions were Charleston and Savannah alluded to as ports on the South Atlantic worthy of a moment's consideration as the terminus of a railroad whose purpose was to bring the products of the Great West to the sea for shipment to foreign countries.

Not a man in either convention thought of any other port than ours. Our neighboring cities would furnish to such a road valuable customers, they were connections to be made as of course, just as it would be well to interest Columbia in the road, and seek Augusta as a good distributing point.

The Body Politic.

In the present condition of state affairs it is aptly illustrated that "a little knowledge is a dangerous thing." The child when it has commenced to walk, often overestimates its strength, by which frequent falls are sustained, sometimes resulting in permanent deformity.

Our Republican Reputations. On second thoughts the Union Herald is not so enthusiastically certain that a refusal to pay wipes out a state debt. The fact is getting through its wool that there are two parties to a sealing process, and that the holders of six millions of convertible bonds will doubtless be able in some way to take care of their interests.

Alex. H. Stephens still lives; he wants Cuba and has gone to Washington to see why some thing has not been done about it. It would be a just punishment for the Captain General of that Isle when captured to be compelled to read about a thousand yards of one of Alects editorials on the situation.

courses, irresolution, dissensions, avarice and prejudice, which are the friends of anarchy, and the enemies of every republican principle. This done and we may hope for better results.

The State Fair. We hope we have seen the last of such gatherings and recommend the passage of the bill repealing the charter under which they have been organized. The last specimen was a disgrace to the state. Five hundred dollars spent in the ordinary markets would have bought as fine a display of the products of the earth. The patch work quilts, pin cushions, samplers, etc., must be the property of the managers—their wondrous have done duty doubtless since "before de war." We admit its usefulness as an advertising medium for the Columbia store keepers, but imagine that they had better patronize the newspapers. The cattle, hogs, sheep, etc., are too insignificant to notice.

The fact is that a large ground is kept in which to collect every year a crowd out of which gamblers, showmen, cheats, ruffians, swindlers, and prostitutes may make a prey. The racing is almost the only attraction, and the sooner the whole concern is abolished the better for the morals and best interests of the state.

Something Needed. The United States government owns sites on Port Royal harbor for light-houses and fortifications. During the late war this harbor was a great naval depot, and without it, the blockade could never have been maintained. If we should have a war with any naval power this harbor would be no less important. Especially would it be so in case of a serious Cuban complication. The government would need it at once for a rendezvous for the navy and as a coaling station. Yet in spite of its importance in war, to say nothing of commerce in peace, we have neither fortifications or suitable light-houses. We hope that our representatives in congress will see to it that action is taken early in the coming session to remedy this neglect.

A Warning to Corrupt Officials.

At last, after years of delay and the exhaustion of all possible tricks to baffle justice Wm. M. Tweed has taken his place among convicted felons. He was sentenced on Saturday last to twelve years in the Tombs and twelve thousand dollars fine for corrupt malfeasance in office. This man's seeming immunity since the time of the exposure of his enormous robberies was one of the scandalous array of facts which gave rise to the belief abroad, as well as at home that, in New York, it was only necessary to be a rascal on a giant scale to be perfectly free from punishment. His sentence sets this scandal at rest, at least so far as Tweed is concerned. Three years ago he was the ruling power over a city of nearly a million of inhabitants. He wielded all political authority there; he controlled the Legislature of the State, whether Republican or Democratic, whenever it suited his purposes; he had the unlimited use of the public moneys; he had possession of all the elective machinery; he had judges who were his creatures; he seemed to be impregnable entrenched behind his solid barricades of ill-gotten power, and acted in all respects as the absolute king of the most potent "Ring" this country ever saw. His audacity knew no bounds. Even after his plundering had been demonstrated to an extent that made successful denial impossible, his insolent response to the outraged taxpayers of New York was, "What are you going to do about it?" This expressed his unbounded confidence in his ability, by means of his stolen millions, his control of the election machinery, his possession of creatives everywhere in the courts of justice, to defy the people and defy justice. But he has at last learned what the people intended "to do about it." The process has been painfully slow, demanding the utmost patience, the strongest persistence; and it has been sure, and the people and justice have triumphed at last over a "Ring" kind so potent that the his imitators here and elsewhere are dwarfed into pigmies. Of what value to him are his plundered millions now? His diamonds, his gorgeous equipages, his luxurious carousals, are to be changed for that badge of disgrace and crime, the striped garb of the convict, his fare the coarse fare of the penitentiary, and his palace the narrow cell of the felon.

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The Georgetown Planet takes a sensible view of the way in which this question is being handled. It says that the extra session was called, in reality, to restrain obedience to the mandates of the supreme court. It includes that "it is too early for this state, or any other state, to repudiate its debt," and looks hopefully to a more prosperous future which shall save us from dishonesty and disgrace.

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EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

COLUMBIA, Nov. 18.

Monday night the bill to appropriate for payment of the expenses of the extra session, caused the house to become terribly entangled. A kind of "striking" spirit possessed many of the members which in its incipency only made itself manifest only upon those interested in the appropriation for printing the laws; failing to accomplish anything in this direction, when they had the whole bill under consideration, the whole section relating to printing was stricken out; then the sections providing for the purchase of fuel, stationery etc., and finally the bill was trimmed down to a mere nothing and passed a second reading. During the debate, it was shown that the fuel used at the last session had not been paid for, and to make the more obstinate realize the situation, they were compelled to sit in the cold for several hours to-day; this did it, and the vote on the bill was recinded, and it passed a second reading in better shape. The amount of the appropriation for pay of members and subordinates is seventy-five thousand dollars.

The bill to pay for the printing of the immigration reports, supreme court reports and the tax papers has passed, both houses appropriating \$125,000 for this purpose.

There must be something in climatic changes. Our Beaufort friends get by their muscle frequently. The voluble and good natured Greene got into a small state of excitement over the appropriation bill last evening and was ready and willing to meet Humbert of Darlington outside "the bar of the house." The smiling Hamilton, is perfectly willing to stand to his assertions, inside or outside the "bar of this house"; staid Myers looks on and smiles with his usual complacency, but has little to say that is not direct to the question under consideration. Altogether, with the hard work, especially in the committee rooms, done by Senator Swails, Beaufort has more than an average delegation.

November 27.

Meetings have been held for two evenings, at the state house, for the purpose of discussing Cuban prospects. The hall of the house of representatives was packed on both occasions several ladies being present. Patriotic speeches were being made by Judge Mackey, Congressman Elliot, Judge Hoge, Professor Greeney, and others of the republican party, and several by the conservative side of the house. As always has been the case on such occasions, there was a good deal of buncombe talk, but no mistaking the feeling and undecurrent sentiment of the large assemblage. Our senator and congressman omitted themselves to the cause of free Cuba.

This evening, a quiet, but large meeting of the officers of the national guard was held at the state house. There was an entire absence of display of oratory usual on such occasions, and what should be done in case of a demand for troops was considerably discussed. It was agreed that the best method to pursue was that taught by the experience of other states that we found ready to send troops in the field when the late war commenced. For this purpose company commanders will know minutely the material and spirit of their companies, so that should any quota be desired, or should it so happen that coast defence be necessary there may be no time lost. The proceeding is a wise one.

The house has adjourned over until Monday evening having finished their work for which the extra session was called—excepting the arranging of the public debt. There was an exciting debate over the bill to limit the tenure of office for certain state officers to two years, upon which no decisive action is to be reported for this session. The pay bill for this session has sailed through the stormy seas of debate, been mutilated and patched, and finally passed; the senate to-day rescinded the vote whereby twenty-five thousand dollars printing money was knocked out of the bill as it came from the house, and as the bill passed, the printing company will be paid fifty thousand dollars for the work of this session: this in addition to the \$125,000 mentioned before, for immigration reports etc.

The bill to authorize coroners to appoint constables has sunk into oblivion. It is becoming quite a popular sentiment that constables, county treasurers, auditors, and trial justices should be elected instead of being appointed as now provided for, but it is not all probable that any advance towards such a law, than desultory firing of words, will be made this winter. Allendale, Barnwell county will be incorporated at an early date.

A movement has been put on foot by Senator Donaldson of Greenville, (conservative) to ascertain the amount of past due indebtedness to the school teachers in the several counties. The report of the state superintendent of education now being very carefully prepared shows several counties among them Beaufort, that have not received their appropriation of the appropriations for schools.

The minority bill introduced by Mr. Cochran of Anderson, was substituted for the supply bill reported by the ways and means committee and has passed the house, and will without doubt go sailing through the senate as if it was greased. It prevents the treasurer in any instance using the money provided by one appropriation to pay claims embraced in another. The provisions are for separate tax levies for each aggregating in all, with county tax, sixteen mills. A great many bills have been introduced for incorporating military companies, churches debating societies, etc., all of which should be bundled up in one bill, thereby saving the expense of printing. Besides those appropriations to pay claims that have hitherto been reported in the COMMERCIAL, others have come in; one to pay ex-servit Frozee of Richland county, \$10,000 for pay proffered; he brought up at reduced figures, has passed the house and will come up in the senate to-morrow—another to pay Mr. Carderilli, a tailor here for those he took in payment for some of the good clothes the members wore two years ago, is being considered. Mr. Herley has introduced a bill to pay certain certificates held by railroad companies; what their nature is has not yet transpired, and since Mr. Hardy Sohier's bill has become law, whereby the \$125,000 advanced by him is to be paid, the measure for paying the claims of the other Columbia banks has been postponed until the regular session.

An attempt to meet in joint session to-day for the purpose of electing a supreme judge, and a register of more conveyances for Charleston was filed, and the matter postponed till the regular session. A bill has been introduced by R. M. Smith, (conservative) Spartanburg, to appropriate \$65,000 for the pur-

pose of relieving the hypothecated land scrip bonds; the ways and means committee still have the matter under consideration. The act to incorporate the Hunter's Baptist church of Barnwell county has been signed by the governor. A bill directing the secretary of state not to press the debtors for land purchased of the land commission, is in a fair way to become a law. Also a bill to prevent railroads from making unfair discriminations in their charges for freights. The claims of the Southern Standard amounting to about \$3,000, for publishing Governors proclamations have passed the senate and have been favorably reported in the house. The bill to incorporate the Harrison Grove Baptist Church of Beaufort county will be passed in due course. An effort is being made to procure from the United States the citadel in Charleston for the use of the militia. The report of the state treasurer has been sent in, and ordered printed. It varies but little from that now familiar to the public. By a resolve, the delinquent railroads, including the Charleston & Savannah will have to make through the Comptroller General's office a showing why the collection of taxes has not been enforced. The bill to charter Whitehall ferry has passed the senate and is favorably reported in the house. Mr. M. Parnell has been confirmed by the senate, as a trial justice for Beaufort county.

Nov. 26. Both houses adjourned sine die on Monday evening. The house appropriated six hundred dollars to speaker Lee, as a gratuity for his services for the extra session, in addition to his six dollars a day. The legislature assembled on Tuesday again in regular session. It is thought that there will be recess, possibly until next year's day, as soon as the tax bill and the bill to adjust the debt are passed.

TYDEE.

Loyal Claimants.

The following is a list of claims presented to the Commissioners of Claims at Washington, D. C., under the following provisions of the act of Congress of March 3, 1871, viz:

"Sec. 2. That the President of the United States shall, and he is hereby, authorized to nominate, and, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, appoint a board of commissioners, to be designated as Commissioners of Claims, to consist of three commissioners, who shall be commissioned for two years, and whose duty it shall be to receive, examine, and consider the justice and validity of such claims as shall be brought before them, of those Citizens who have remained Loyal Adherents to the cause and the Government of the United States during the war, for stores or supplies taken or furnished during the rebellion for the use of the army of the United States in States proclaimed as in insurrection against the United States, including the use and loss of vessels or boats while employed in the military service of the United States. And the said commissioners, in considering said claims, shall be satisfied from the testimony of witnesses under oath, or from sufficient evidence, which shall accompany each claim, taken under such rules and regulations as the commissioners may adopt, of the loyalty and adherence of the claimant to the cause and the Government of the United States before and at the time of the taking or furnishing of the property for which any claim shall be made, and of the quantity, quality, and value of the property alleged to have been taken or furnished, and the time, place, and material circumstances of the taking or furnishing of the same."

The figures on the left-hand side of each name represent the number of the claim as recorded on the official register of claims, and this number should be given in all communications respecting the claim. The figures on the right hand side of each name represent the valuation placed by the claimant on such property as was actually taken or furnished for the use of the army, and, except in a few cases where such items have been erroneously inserted, the amount claimed does not include any charges for damage, destruction, and loss arising out of the casualties or operations of war, nor for unauthorized or unnecessary deprecations committed by the troops, nor for rent or other compensation for the occupation or use of buildings, grounds, or other real estate.

In all but a few cases the claimants herein named have declared upon oath that, from the beginning to the end of the late rebellion, their sympathies were constantly with the cause of the United States; that they never, of their own free will and accord, did anything, or offered or sought to do anything, by word or deed, to injure said cause or retard its success; and that they were at all times ready and willing to aid and assist the cause of the Union, so far as their means and the circumstances permitted.

Communications relative to any of the claims within described should be addressed as follows: COMMISSIONERS OF CLAIMS, Washington, D. C. BARNWELL CO.

Table with 2 columns: No. and Amount. Lists names and amounts for various claimants.

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