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Every kind of PANCY JOB PRINTING executed in the best manuer, promptly and at low prices. Statlonery. 'A full 'assortment of paper, envelopes, ink, pensidesk furniture, etc., always on hand at Charleston

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Communications may be addressed to THE PORT ROYAL COMMERCIAL, Benufort, S. C.

THE RING BROKEN.

In another column will be found the report of the special committee, James A. Bowley, chairman, appointed to investigate the refusal of the Republican Printing company to employ colored printers. It appears that the committee enlarged their own powers somewhat and made some investigations as to what the printing costs. We have been roundly abused as false to a lifelong profession of republican principles because we have attacked this giant swindle; our assertions have been denounced as false; our flyures have been sneered at as garbled; a paper has been established to crush us out. All these things we were prepared for. But that a committee of the House should proceed to substantiate every charge of fraud, bribery and extravagance made by the COMMERCIAL, was something we were unprepared for.

We cannot repress a feeling of exultation in view of the fact that the COM-MERCIAL was the first paper in this state to point out the enormity of this fraudulent business. While the conservative papers in almost every county were quieted by a few hundred or a few thousand dollars worth of pap; the COMMERCIAL has always preserved its opposition to the printing swindle. In 1871-72 we printed the laws, and made out a bill for them amounting to \$1,621 of which we got only \$1,200, being obliged to pay the balance to a member of the legislature from this county to get the bill paid. Our necessities compelled us. When the bill for sixteen bundred dollars was made we were told to make it out at the same rate as the Beaufort Times, which was \$7 021. We could as easily have had that sum as the one we did get, but we would have been thenceforward the "slave of the Ring." We have alluded to this only to show the means taken to silence the press. It has been generally successful. The sentinels of the opposition party have been in the pay of the enemy. What wonder then that the defence of the state has been so feeble, and that the baggage train and provisions have mostly been captured.

Another blow has been struck however, and it is a telling one. Whether it is an honest effort to beat off the matended retreat is immaterial. The fig ures are there. Admitted by a republican committee of a republican house. Our efforts have not been in vain. Public ity has been the weapon wherewith this sortie has been successful, and we appeal to friends of good government to aid us in continuing thus to bring the power of the press to bear upon all such wicked, shameless swindles as the Republican Printing Company.

\$474,000-\$100,000-\$374,000.

The above represents an arithmetical showing of the printing swindle. Mr. Woodruff testified, (see report) that he could do all the printing of the general assembly, with the decisions of the su-Preme court and executive documents, for \$100,000. Mr. Bowley's figures show that to do this work \$474,000 has been appropriated. Substract \$100,000 be appointed by the speaker to examine from \$474,000 and there remains \$374. | into and ascertain the cause of this un-600, as a profit to the Republican

printing company for one year's work. Does any believe that Jesephus the said company to give the colored Woodruff and A. O. Jones are allowed compositors of the State an equal opto absorb such a sum. We know the contrary. Both of them have told us that their share was a pitiful one. We believe them. But such supple too's are Printing Company, beg leave to report only used to be worn out. A score of republican members divide this plunder, after paying a couple of slices that they belong to the Typographical to the executive departments. Con- Union, an international as ociation of contract: sidering the odium attached to the printers throughout Canada and the company, the utter wreck of commercompany, the utter wreck of commer-sociation its members are forbidden to cial and personal reputation they have work with printers who are not members, made, Woodruff and Jones ought to and picked to a strike or refusal to have had the whole of the profits. It work should such be employed in the same office with them. Each local Union regulates the rules of admission of its something. Mes as. Woodruff and members-a given number of black balls Jones, if their own stories are true, are the hardest workers for the least pay Throughout the Southern States no colthat we know of anywhere cutside a ciation. The evidence before your comparish workhouse. They have both mittee was that it. New York and Wash-said repeatedly, in the last two weeks, in the neities no calored printers were \$4.36, \$1.404.96. Total, \$15,780.64; add that not ten thousand dollars stuck to members, but we have since direct inforthem out of the \$225 000 of certificates voted at the special session of the leg-

The Oakes Amer of South Carolina.

Woodruff and Jones are amiable fellows. Everybody sympachizes with them. They take all the odium of the printing swindle, and their legislative profits. We have heard that Wood ruff has kept a "memorandum book" and a "check book" Such apparently harmless weapons once juiled down the reputations of christian statesmen in Washington as easily and as surely as the smooth stone from the brook over threw Goriath of old.

Let us have the figures Josephus, and you will be forgiven. You did not ated from the public treasury within the keep those weapons without a purpose.
You knew the kind of men you were which the contract for the public print.

Add for Supreme Court decisions tha

The Port Royal Commercial dealing with. You knew that when they were done with you they would desert you and leave you naked to your enemics. The time has nearly come, Preserve therefore those little books. \$3 00 and purchase immunity for yourself by \$1 00 exposing your legislative pals. Be the Oakes Ames of South Carolina.

> A Conundrum for Mr. Cardozo. If the entire cost of a year's printing for the general assembly, and the supremo court decisions in addition, according to the terms of the contract with the Republican Printing company, only amounts to \$12,319,60, what kind of vouchers are required to draw \$474,000 out of the treasury for doing the work? Have you the items of the bills? Tweed and Ingersol are in jall, the one for making out fraudulent bills and the other for allowing them. .

The political history of South Carolina since the close of the war has added o lustre to its previous fame, but on the ontrary is exhibited a page that would nake every honest man blush at its record. Nor does the future bring any signs of relief. Each administration that comes into power is pregnant with promses that not many moons shall wax and wane before a change for the better is isible, and that the burdens that have heretofore borne our patient people down shell be be lifted, and prosperity will again sit at their firesides. The good words that have been whispered in our ears, have been uttered only to turn into ashes, for each succes ive day that dawns only plunges us still farther into

Within the comparatively short space if five years the taxes required for State nurnoses have been on the increase from even mills until at the present it reaches twe've mills, and yet there is no visible or real diminution of the State debt. excepting what has been done by a socalled scaling process, only to deceive the reorle. Thousand of dollars are wrongfully taken from the pockets of tloe who can ill afford it to support powerful organizations that are nothing but putrid matter upon the body politic-and they are so linked in and interwoven with members of the General Assembly, that the remedy is difficult to find. Retrenchment and reform is what they clamer for to suit their constituency, but facts and figures which are paraded efore the tax-payers is evidence that the lay for the execution of these promises

THE PRINTING SWINDLE.

The Truth at Last-a Legislative Committee give the Figures-Printing bill Multiplied by ten-\$174,000 Approwork.

In the Legislature, almost the only opic for the past ten days, has been the \$34,316.46. ollowing report to the House: Mr. Bowley, from special committee,

ubmitted the following: "The committee to whom was entru-ted the duty of investigating the charges against the Republican Printing Company of unjust and illegal discrimination rauders, or whether it is a ruse of pre- against colored compositors, in accord-

nce with the following preamille and resolution: "WHEREAS, The constitution of the United States and of South Carolina guarantees to all citizens, irrespective of race, color or previous condition of servi-

, equal rights and privileges; and "WHEREAS, The Republican Printing Company, although sustained by the Republican party, has repeatedly refused to employ colored compositors because their white employes, being members of the Typographical Union, dislike to work in the same apartment with colored men, and threatened, it alleged, to leave rath-

er than to do so; and "WHEREAS, By their action in pan dering to the prejudices of their white compositors, the said company violates the constitution of the United States and of this State, and disregards the princi ples, platform and pledges of the Republican party, and inflicts upon the colored compositors of the State a flagrant wrong, deserving of consure and rebuke; thereresolved, That a committee of five

just discrimination and refusal to empl y colored compositors, and to recommend some practical means to compe portunity with the white to obtain a liveithood; and that the said committee report to this House the names of the por ous composing the satd Republican That the foreman and journeymen orinters employed by the Republican Printing Company are all white men; United States. By the laws of this asmation from Washington city that col-

ored men are there members.

The facts above stated show conclusively that under the present arrangement for the public printing of South Caronina colored men are practically and effectually debarred from the pravilege of crapleyment in that department of the State service. This distinction becomes more odious when viewed in the light of surrounding facts. that colored men compose a large majorpartners squeeze out of them all the ity of the Republican party in South are line; that the large sums of money which are annually voted to pay the caims of the Republican Printing Company, and the preference given to those ons, are dependent upon the votes of colored Republican mombers of the Log. \$2,766; reports and resolutions, \$5,888; sictive, and that the responsibility of add one-quarter, \$2.841; calendars, \$4, thes large expenditures attaches mainto them, the injustice is apparent. In this connection, it is pertinent to review the amounts which have been appropri-

ing is made. During the last regular session the following sums were appro-priated, viz: Under joint resolution of December 21, 1872, to pay the claims of the Republican Printing Company, \$25(,0.0); under act of Jan arry 29, 187, for current printing. \$55,000; under at act to make appropriations and raise suplies for the fiscal year commencing November 1, 1873, approved February 16, 173, for permanent p inting \$7,000. At the special just closed there was appropriated, under act of November 19, 1873, for printing imm gration report, \$75,000, for printing decisions of the Supreme Court, \$25,000; for printing tax dup icates, &c., \$25,000; so that the ag gregate of appropriations to the Republi can Printing Company during the last twelve months amount to \$474;000. The Legislature has also appropriated during the same period \$100,000 for publishing the laws. The total revenues of the State from all resources during the fiscal year ending October 31, 1873, were, according to the State treasurer's report. \$1,719,728.37.

In the statement of the treasurer of undrawn appropriations, or deficiencies, at the close of the fiscal year ending October 31, 1873; we find. Free schools. \$216,919.29; sa'aries, \$116,064,93; State Normal School, \$24,980; State Orphan House, \$18,526.38; Lunatic Asylum, \$22,915.71; current printing, \$8.000; permanent printing, \$92,589.63. The last two item only have been provided for. The act of November 19, 1873, authorizes and requires the State treasurer to issue certificates of indebtedness, recievable for taxes, to the Republican Printing Company, for \$100,589.93, with interest, and for the additional amount of \$125,000, appropriated by the act of

November 19, 1873.

The contract for the prin ing is given to the Republican Printing Company under authority of the act of January 23, 1871, as follows: "And they (the clerks respectively of the Senate and House of Representatives) are further authorized to provide by contract for the permanent and current printing of the General As-sembly: Provided, That said contract be approved by the Senate and House of epresentatives." The present contract is found on pages 1,455 and 1,426 of reports and resolutions of the General Assembly, 1870-'71, and signed by J. Woodruff and A. O. Jones, clerks of the two Houses, respectively, on the second part, and the Republican Printing Company on the first part. Mr. Woodruff, the clerk of the Senate, testified before your committee that Mr. A. O. Jones, the clerk of the House, and himself, composed and were the sole proprietors of the Republican Printing Company. He also stated that his company could do all the printing of the General As-sembly, with the decisions of the Supreme Court, and the printing of the executive departments, for \$100,000 per annum, were the pay regular and assured. This would be a saving to the State, but other prominent and responsible printers of the Republican party have said to the undersigned that they would do the entire work for \$50,000 per annum.

The total disbursement for printing under the first Republican Legislature of South Carolina, from September 1868, to October 30, 1870, over two years, will be found on page 107, report of the joint special financial investigating committee, Multiplied by ten-\$174,000 Appro-priated to pay for \$50,000 worth of General Assembly, 1871-72, stated thus: Printing laws special session 1868,

\$8,764.25; printing bond stock and record book, \$359.86; permanent printing,

The opportunity now presents itsself to a Legis ature composed of a majority of colored men, to abolish a system of printing by which colored men are debarred the privilege of working in that department of State service, and deprived of its benefits, while the responsibility of its vast expenditures rests mainly upon them; and to inaugurate one which by its recognition of the rights of their manhood, and by a great re-trenchment in the expenditures of the revenues of the State, will vindicate to the world their just claim to all the rights of freemen. We subjoin a statement, with the calculations carefully made from a high source, a practical printer and responsible man and republican. of the cost of the permanent and current printing of the General Assembly, session of 1871-72, with the decisions of the Supreme Court, under the present contract, and recommend that the act under which the Republican Printing Company was awarded the contract for the public printing, be repealed, and that the committee on public printing be instructed to draft and report to this Huose a bill providing for the award of the lowest responsible bidder, who will perform the work, employing compositors rrespective of race or color; provided that the entire cost of the public prinling shall not exceed the sum fifty thousand dollars.

Respectfully submitted, JAMES A. BOWLEY, JOSEPH D. BOSTON,

S. S. CRITTENDEN, N. B. MYERS, Mr. Thompson moved that the report be received as information and be postponed, and made the special order for Monday next, at 1 P. M., which was finally agreed to.

The Actual Cost.

The fellowing is the actual cost of all the printing done for the General Assembly, for the session of 1871-'72, carefully calculated according to the present

CURRENT WORK .- Senate Journal, 874 pages, at \$2.75, \$2,405; add ru'e and figure work, 116 pages, at \$2.76. \$319; House Journal, 845 pages, at \$2.75, \$2,-324; add rule and figure work, 157 pages, at \$2.75, \$431; reports and resolutions, 1,379 pages, at \$275, \$3,793; add rue and figure work, 762 pages, at \$2.75 \$2,095. Total, \$11,366.

PERMANENT WORK .- Senate Journal, 990 pages, at \$3.48, \$3,446.20; House Journal, 1.000 pages, at \$2.48, \$3,480; reports and resolutions, 2.14. pages, at as above, \$11,336. Grand Total, \$27,-146.64 Add one-quarter to the current work for extra pages, as parts of pages always count as whole pages, and when reports and resolutions are printed, there is often half a page left blank, one quarter current work is \$2.841.50; add for calendars a mean average of 16 pages per day for both houses, at \$2.75 per day, 100 days, \$1,000; average bills per wiewed in the light of day at 20 pages, \$3 per page for 100 When we consider days, \$6,000. And the sum total is reached, excepting contingent printing, such as Governor's message, or sone document sent to the Legislature in a special manner, and ordered printed by

either house. RECAPITULATION-CURRENT WO K .-Senate journal, \$3.722; House journal,

000; bills, \$6,000; total, \$24,207.
PERMANENT WORK.—1,000 Senate journals, \$3,445; 1.000 House journals, \$3,480; 1,000 reports and resolutions, \$7,370; 1,000 Acts. \$1,465; total, \$15,

year. 535 pages, at \$4.36 per pagge, \$2,-

There should be added to this amount for report of the Executive department, printed by order of the General Assembly, job work for the departments, Supreme Court, etc., calculated in the same way, \$18,000 more. The total cost public printing according to the contract

ceed \$61.000. The amount actually paid out for printing during that year, was \$214,629.86. leaving (1872) nearly a hundred thou and dollars worth of claims against the treasury for printing besides.

should therefore, have been not to ex-

Festus wished his lady love was all lips, and Nero wished the human race had but one neck, but the Parisian lover distanced both when he sent a bottle of perfume to his sweetheart, with the sentiment: "When you smell this you will

wish you were all nose." LIVERPOOL

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VICKSBURG, Capt...
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DOMINION, (building)...
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Jan. 1, 1 mo.

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Cotton ginned on toll. jan. 7. PORTROYAL

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Soluble Pacific Guano.

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Selling Agent, Charleston, S. C. JOHN S. REESE & CO., General Agents, Baltimore.

Terms-\$48 ca-h: \$53 time, without interest, To accommodate planters, they can order now and have until 1st of April to decide as to whether they will take at time or eash price. When delivered from the factory by the car load, no drayage will be charged.

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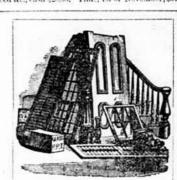
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