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#### Disaffeeted.

A journal which owes its feeble existence to the printing ring, and which would never draw another breath if it should fail to receive its weekly sustenance from that source, speaks of the COMMERCIAL as an "unrecognized, uninfluential and disaffected paper," edited by a "supposed republican." The facts are that we have shown our influence in the breaking of the ring; we are recognized by the house of representatives which has withstood, so-far, the efforts of the ring papers to hush up this seendalous printing swindle; and our "disaffection" is a disgust for those who wear the livery of the republican party to pull it down into Tweedism.

When the main part of the white leaders of the ring were fighting to keep in slavery the main part of their black allies, we wore the blue in the service of the Union. 'Our republicanism dates to a time when four-fifths of the present republican party were either white dough-faced defenders and apologists for slavery or were black slaves themselves.

### THE LIONS IN OUR PATH.

There are four financial lions in the path of the republican party of this state. Between them it is likely to be quickly destroyed, unless it should be wise in time and enter upon the straight and narrow way of honesty and economy.

The bills of the bank of the state have already been adjudicated upon by the U. S. Supreme court, and have been declared receivable for taxes. The shallow tricksters who occupy the positions of statesmen at Columbia imagine that this decision can be defeated 1871, by a legal quibble to the effect that 1872, only the bills immediately before the 1873. court were adjudicated upon. We know that measures are now being taken which will force the treasurers either to take the bills next year or practically cease to get any taxes at all This is lion number one.

In 1871 a tax was levied to pay the interest on the public debt. The money was collected but the interest was not paid. A similar case in North Carolina has produced a suit on the part of bond holders to compel the treasurer to pay the money due them for interest before paying any other appropriations. An injunction was asked for, and though it was refused, the opinion of the federal court plainly intimated that when the case was fully heard and taxes. decided that the injunction would be granted. Such a suit will soon be commenced against the state treasurer o. South Carolina, and he will be forced to retain enough money to pay the \$600,000 collected to pay interest and subsequently misappropriated to other purposes. This is lion number two.

The Blue Ridge scrip is not yet dead. Like a fabled Hydra it seems to thrive on wounds. The federal courts are to be appealed to to force the state to fulfil the contract entered into with the Blue Ridge railroad company. The asdemand the surrendered bonds or the scrip for which they were surrendered. The holders of the scrip rely upon the decision of the U. S. Supreme court in since reconstruction. the case of the bills of the bank of the state as applicable to the contract expressed upon the face of the scrip. The state agreed with the holder that it would receive the scrip for taxes. Much of it was received and was again paid out of the treasury. The form of the scrip has been decided by our state supreme court to be illegal. No decision has ever been given against the binding force of the contract as expressed upon its face. That something daylight. This is lion number three.

highest judicial authority of the land was clipped from the New York Times, "States has given a decision in favor of executive members of the administra-"George O. Marcy, of Boston, con-"firming the validity of \$40,000 worth | their chances were small when such a " of Illinois registered town bonds, is. legislative maw was to be filled. "sued in aid of the Illinois Grand "Trunk Railroad. The town attempted "to avoid paying interest on the bonds "plies the same rules to these bonds as he has a remarkably strong stomach.

"are applied to commercial paper." the bonded debt under this decision? sum his commission for receiving is two attorney-general to institute legal pro-The fact that a resolution has passed and a half per cent, and he will also be the legislature that we don't intend to entitled to two and a half per cent again pay our debts will hardly stand agains, when he turns it over to his successor. adictum of the U. S. supreme court. In These percentages together will net him fact we do not doubt that a deci ion \$40,000, or thereabouts. If such a dose similar to the Morton-Bliss decision does not gorge him it may be accounted could be obtained from the state su- for from the fact that he had associates preme court, after the next election, on the committee to investigate the state aid and encourage manufactures has sustaining the validity of every conver- of the fund. The whole business is scan- been ratified and approved. It makes sion bond in existence. This is lion dalous. number four.

LEGISLATIVE EXTRAVAGANCE. For the year ending October 31 868, (special session) there was paid Legislative expenses, \$130,796 10

(nothing appearing for

pricting.) For the year ending October 31, 1869, there was paid on account of Legislative expenses due \$12,833 00 on special session

169 005 79 Regular session, 12,000 00 Public printing, 193,839 51

For the year ending October 31, 1870, there was paid for \$210,440 98 Legislative expenses, 22,616 46 Public printing, \$233,157 44

Total. For the year ending October 31, 1871, there was paid for \$280.361.30 Legislative expenses,

133,651 44 Public printing, \$414,012 74 For the year ending October 31, 1872, there was paid for \$712,249 43

Legislative expenses, 215,129 86 Public printing, \$927,379 29 For the year ending October 31, 1873, there was paid for

Legislative expenses for \$ 3 ,358 08 previous years, Legislative expenses for 1873.

\$291.330 47 Total, Public Printing, \$623.285 13

Additional estimated expenses of special session 250,000 00 1873,

\$873,285 13

RECAPITULATION. \$130,796 50 Special session, 1868, Regular session, 1869, 193,939 50 233,157 44 Regular session, 1870, Regular session, 1871, 414,012 74 927,379 29 Regular session, 1872, Regular session, 1873. 623,285 13 S, ecial session 1873, estimate 250, 000 00

\$2,770,470 21 Which amount shows the amount paid for legislative expenses and public printing in five years.

The total amount of taxes received during the same time is as follows:

8653,088 72 1,074,795 13 1,695,829 43 \$6,712,824 95

So that it appears that legislative expenses and public printing have absorbed the enormous proportion of \$2,770,470,21, out of a total tax levy of \$6,712,824.95.

Leaving out the public printing. which is a comparatively modern device to steal the people's money, the total cost of the legislature, exclusive of the last special session, has been \$1,807,126.79. The average annual receipts from taxes has been \$1,118,804.00 and the average legislative expenses has been \$301,184.13, about one-third of the amount raised each year from

In the year 1872, the legislative expenses paid, were \$712,249.43. The receipts from taxes were \$1,223,667.77. So that three-fifths of the sum total raised by taxation was absorbed by the members of the legislature in that year.

But this is not all. There are legislatixe pay certificates and notes given by the treasurer for the expenses of the sessions of 1871-72 amounting to over \$400,000, which would bring up the expenses of the session presided over by Moses and Ransier to eleven signees of that bankrupt corporation hundred thousand dollars. If statesmen are great in proportion to what they cost, we have reason to be proud of those produced by South Carolina

It is not definitly known what amount of fraudulent or irregular certificates were issued during the session of 1872-73. That a large number were signed is generally beliveed, but they have been kept pretty close. A spccimen of them was exhibited in the Allen trial, in which Mr. Cardozo made his curious distinction between two kinds of pay certificates. He said Senator Swails' certificate was genuine but not bona fide. What amount of will have to be done with this scrip so such are in existence is an unknown that it may be retired, is as certain as quantity. A bill has been prepared to pay them, but fear has hitherto

The following recent decision of the prevented it seeing the light. It will be seen from the above statistics that the great leak is through the "The supreme court of the United legislative plank. However much the tion may have been on the "make"

### The Bank of the State.

C. C. Puffer has received from Judge " alleging that they were illegally is- Graham, in his appointment as receiver "sued. The basis of the court's deci- of the bank of the state, about as com-"sion was that no irregularity prece- fortable a bowl of pap as has fallen to the "dent to the issue, not even fraud on lot of any member of the party. As he "the part of the agents of the town, also holds an office in the custom house "can vitiate the bonds in the hands of and is a member of the legislature, if he "an innocent holder. The court ap- is not "gorged to sickness" it is because

The fund turned over to him amounts. Where is the boasted setlement of on paper, to about \$800,000. On this

The simple change of receivers, made . . .

without assigning any reason, involves a diminution of the fund by five per cent at each change. This has been done now three times and on the same principle may be repeated whenever the necessities of judges and politicians make it de

The general opinion is that the fund has been grossly mismanaged in other ways. Beside the \$120,000 given in fees to three receivers there is, it, is said, a loss of three hundred thousand dollars, by improper loans and investments.

We have some information on the subject which we will give as soon as it can be verified which will exhibit in a striking light how recklessness and fraud strikes down and up through all grades of society in this poor state.

### Contracting With Himself.

The contract for the printing of the general assembly was 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 assembly.' The present contract, is signed by J. Woodruff and A. O. Jones.

Mr. Bowley says that Woodruff and Jones testified before his committee that the same Woodruff and Jones were the only members of the Republican Printing Company. So the two clerks being authorized as public officers to contract for the printing, proceed to contract with themselves, not as the lowest bidders but as the only bidders. For no other bids were invited or received. If this is not action of the attorney general we think; out of him. such an officer might as well hereafter be dispensed with.

### OUR COLUMBIA LETTER.

COLUMBIA, Jan. 31. The resolution introduced by Mackey to-day, and its adoption by the louse, may give the quietus to the printing ring It appoints a committee of five to investigate the charges made that certain members of the house had received a part of The clerks in making their sly allusion to

the large appropriations for printing. "the other cause to which we do not think it necessary to call to the attention of your honorable bodies." doubtless thought that no investigation was likely to be ordered by either house into the fact which is so generally known but which it would be rather difficult to prove without 1,248,662 05 the assistance of that little memorandum 1,223,667 77 book of Oakes Ames Wood uff.

Let a committee be appointed to examine the vouchers upon which the printing bills have been paid. There would be something practical in such information. The dodge of appointing committees to prevent investigation is about played out.

Chief Justice Moses was re-elected in joint Assembly on Friday by a vote of one hundred and twenty-three to four. There was no one to oppose him.

The committee appointed to investigate the charge against Judge Carpenter for discriminating on account of color in the discharge of a jury, made a majority and a minority report, the former si, n ed by Minort, Boston, Adamson and P. Simpkins, all colored, and the latter by Tim Hurley. The former was rather condemnatory of Judge Carpenter's action, the latter entirely exonerated him. The former way adopted as the sense of the House, and leaves the whole matter open for the further consideration of the Hou e.

The Governor approved the following acts, viz: To amend the joint resolution authorizing the county commissioners' of Beaufort County to levy a special tax: to charter the Boatman's Phosphate River Mining Company, and to empower coroners to punish for contempt.

In the Senate the bill to regulate the sale of inebriating liquors was passed and sent to the House. Mr. Hope's resolution relative to the report of the expenditures of the contingent fund of the executive department was adopted.

The House adjourned until Tuesday evening at seven o'clock, with a view, it is said, of giving the committee appointed for that purpose time to go to Charleston and investigate the affairs of the Bank of the State. (The result of the investigation was the appointment of one of the committee as receiver of the bank, but no report.) The Senate meets to-morrow as usual.

The young colored men of Richland County have been holding a convention in Columbia, and after several sessions have prepared and presented the following memorial to the Legis ature:

We, the young men of Richland County, in convention assembled, do memorialize your honorable body to consider the matters herein mentioned We respectfully urge such legislative action as may be necessary to secure a just and fair valuation of the taxable property of the State; that the appropriations for the current expenses of the government be curtailed to the limit of the present tax levy; that the disbursing officers of the State be held to a strict accountability for he expenditures of the money under their co trol; that the taxes for the next fi-cal year be reduced to a reasonable extent; that the present printing laws be repealed, and the printing be to the lowest bidder, who will do the work at a cost of not more than \$50,000, and employ workmen irrespect-

The committee to investigate the transactions of the sinking fund commission made a report, accompanying which was a joint Asolution calling upon the ceedings to recover the property of the State alleged to have been made away with by the commission.

The enacting clause was striken out of the bill to provide for the election of county auditors and treasurers, the vote standing sixteen to fourteen. The act to the term of exemption from taxation ten

Hurley utroduced the following resolution, which brought out a little debate and went over under the morning hour: Whereas the columns of the newspapers of this State have been from time to time filled with articles charging that the contingent fund of the Governor has been directed to other purposes than that for which it was appropriated, then be it resolved that a committee of five be appointed to examine into the said fund, and report to this House its condition. The vote upon the subject will indicate pretty clearly how Moses stands with the House.

### W. H. McCaw.

The News and Courier has engaged the services of Mr. W. H. McCaw as its associate editor, residing in Columbia. In him the News has a vigorous and fearless writer. He has not, like too many conservative writers, compromised his character by taking pay from the ring with one hand while feebly protesting against it with the other. His words have had no uncertain sound.

-Allen G. Thurman, has been elected senator from Oliio.

-The committee on Federal relations in the Massachusetts Senate made a report recommending that the resolution censuring Senator Sumner, passed in 1872, should be rescinded.

A good mother was trying to explain to a young hopeful in town, the other day, about fighting against the devil. After telling the little fellow who the devil was, and how hard he was to successfully resist, he turned around and said: "Mamma, I'd be scared of the old devil, but if I was to come across one an offense calling for the attention and of his little devils, I'd knock the stuffing

To holders of County Paper. All persons having claims againt the county who are unwilling to dispose of the same at a discount are requested to

communicate with the undersigned.

ALFRED WILLIAMS, Beaufort, S. C. Jan. 1, 1 mo.

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Terms-\$48 ca-h: \$53 dime, 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 cash price. When delivered from the factory by the car load, no drayage will be Acid Phosphate, Guano, Bone Plasier, &c., always

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