

ANNUAL REPORT

SCHOOL COMMISSIONER

OF THE Abbeville County For the Fiscal Year Commencing November 1 1883, and Ending October 31, 1884.

To His Honor the Presiding Judge of the Court of General Sessions for Abbeville County, February Term, 1885:

The School Commissioner for above County respectfully submits the following report of claims filed, audited, approved, and ordered paid, by him during the fiscal year 1883-84, namely:

Ninety-Six Township. (1)

Table with 2 columns: Name, Amount. Lists names like Emma Burton, W. S. Johnson, and amounts.

Donalville Township. (2)

Table with 2 columns: Name, Amount. Lists names like J. B. Arnold, J. M. Miller, and amounts.

Greenwood Township. (2)

Table with 2 columns: Name, Amount. Lists names like Indiana Butler, S. A. Graham, and amounts.

One West Township. (3)

Table with 2 columns: Name, Amount. Lists names like W. H. Acker, W. B. Acker, and amounts.

Cokesbury Township. (3)

Table with 2 columns: Name, Amount. Lists names like E. J. Marshall, Miss J. E. Glass, and amounts.

White Hall Township. (8)

Table with 2 columns: Name, Amount. Lists names like J. L. Turner, J. L. Turner, and amounts.

Abbeville Township. (11)

Table with 2 columns: Name, Amount. Lists names like C. M. Thompson, C. C. Williams, and amounts.

Magnolia Township. (11)

Table with 2 columns: Name, Amount. Lists names like R. A. Johnson, Newlin Mercer, and amounts.

Calhoun Township. (15)

Table with 2 columns: Name, Amount. Lists names like Miss M. J. Cowan, Miss Belle Morrah, and amounts.

Table with 2 columns: Name, Amount. Lists names like Miss Mollie Wright, J. D. Blackwell, and amounts.

Table with 2 columns: Name, Amount. Lists names like Miss Alice Cooper, H. H. Watkins, and amounts.

Table with 2 columns: Name, Amount. Lists names like J. P. Jones, F. J. Marshall, and amounts.

Table with 2 columns: Name, Amount. Lists names like Miss Mollie Wright, Miss Mollie Wright, and amounts.

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It matters little now to any, save perhaps the strictest theologians, if it be historically correct that our Lord and Saviour was born on the 25th of December. All christendom has by common consent accepted it as true, and observes that day in commemoration of that event which brought hope of redemption and forgiveness to a sin-laden people. And by universal custom the season is observed as one of joy and gladness and festivity. It seems that the spirit of the occasion awakens in us an echo of those Divine attributes of forgiveness of injury, of forgetfulness of wrongs that marked the life of Him in whose honor the day is named—and stirs in us the warm emotions of generosity and kindness. Hearty good-will—warm wishes and services of hospitality pervade society—and there is "peace and good will toward man." Before another week shall have been numbered with the things that are past, Christmas will have come and gone—with its joys and pleasures and festivities—and it is right that we should remember that to the poor who have "always with us" it brings perhaps its sorrows and sufferings. It behooves us in the midst of our plenty, and in the enjoyment of our happiness to remember that "he that giveth to the poor, lendeth to the Lord."

That is a pleasant custom that bids us wish to every acquaintance "a merry Christmas." And we heartily wish that every one of our readers may find in the happy time now almost at hand, all that merriment and joy which are the incidents of the season. To the big folks we wish turkey, egg-nog, a good conscience and a jolly time. To the little folks, all the toys that their fertile imaginations have placed in the inexhaustible store of Santa Claus, and all the enjoyment their innocent little hearts can extract from the possession thereof.

Merry Christmas to all!

THE LIEN LAW.

For years there has been growing in the State a sentiment in favor of the repeal of the Lien Law. Many strong arguments were advanced in the effort to repeal it—the most potent of which was that the system of credit fostered by the Lien Law, produced extravagance and indolence. It was further urged that the law operated to demoralize labor—for that any man could rent a little piece of land, and set up a farm for himself, and thus labor could not be controlled. Now if there be any force in these arguments, that force lay in the total repeal of this law, for only in this way could the temptations to extravagance and indolence be removed. We are frank to say we did not advocate its repeal. But the present Legislature in its stead of repealing the entire law, if it touched it at all, has amended it by taking away the merchants' lien and retaining the landlords' lien for rent. Now under this amended law, the landlord may take a written lien and will have the right to furnish supplies, and will have thrown around him none of the restraints of competition in prices that are upon the merchant. Therefore the danger of extravagance incident to the credit system is not removed, and the laborer and renter is delivered bound hand and foot into the hands of his landlord. Moreover the small land owner who may be forced to buy of the merchant has no security to offer except a mortgage on his land. So how is he benefited by the effort to restrain his extravagance.

We do not like this new law. It savors too much of monopoly, and is an interference with the freedom of action of the people.

THE LEGISLATURE.

We spent two days last week in Columbia, and saw something of the work of that body.

We were much impressed with its personnel. In the House there are a number of brainy young men who give promise of being useful and successful members. Indeed the remark was common, that it is the strongest body that has been elected since '76, and we heartily concur in it. As a general rule its legislation has been conservative and wise and there has been nothing radical in its actions.

Abbeville's delegation is a good one, and ranks well. Its force is felt on all questions, and our people can safely rely on the judgment and wisdom of its members. At the end of their first session we compliment them on their work, and welcome them home for Xmas.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The friends of the University may well felicitate themselves upon the result in the Legislature of the vote on the question of the appropriation for the colleges. In the House it was about 80 to 23, and in the Senate about 23 to 8. Not indeed that there was any danger that the representatives would do so foolish a thing as to close the doors of the college, but because that in spite of the opposition of some, and the specious and plausible if unsound argument of others, the Legislature has by this overwhelming vote set its seal of approval upon this institution.

Expenses of School Commissioner's Office.

Table with 2 columns: Description, Amount. Lists expenses like Amount paid Press and Banner, Annual Report, and amounts.

Receipts.

Table with 2 columns: Description, Amount. Lists receipts like Amount paid Ninety-Six Township, Amount paid Greenwood Township, and amounts.