

The Louisiana Commission will spend two weeks in New Orleans, gathering evidence, so to speak, and will then return to Washington to submit their views to the procrastinating President.

The telegraph brings the startling rumor that Mr. Hayes has been served with a writ of habeas corpus by which it is intended to test his title to the present office received from the Returning Board at the hands of Judge Bradley. The news is discredited in Administration circles.

Along with Governor Hampton on his errand to Washington, there were, besides Generals Conner and Butler, a committee of merchants and capitalists from Charleston. They put plainly before the President the present depressed state of business and the evil results certain to follow a continuance of the present unsettled condition of the State government.

In his conference with the President, Governor Hampton reiterated his intention to maintain inviolate the rights of citizens of all classes, and to resort to none but legal remedies for the attainment of the end he has in view—the possession of the State records and the State buildings. In the purpose thus expressed, the Governor only gave utterance to the feeling of the entire Democracy of South Carolina.

And now comes a correspondent of the Richmond Dispatch, and says that the beautiful story about Grant's declining the sword of Lee at Appomattox is all a myth. He says Lee never offered his sword, the terms of surrender being that officers should retain their side-arms. It seems really a pity to deprive history of such a pretty tale. Much worse is it to take from Grant all the credit he has enjoyed for one of the few manly and soldierly acts of which people ever suspected him.

The impression made by Governor Hampton, during the past six months, upon the people of all political parties, is nowhere better illustrated than in the following article from a recent issue of the Washington National Republican:

The next Democratic candidate for the Presidency will be a Southern man, if that party thinks best to run any one in 1880. His name is Hampton. That he will be a formidable candidate no one will doubt. During the last campaign his conduct won for him the respect and confidence of all classes North and South. He was for four years a bitter rebel, but that is counterbalanced by the fact that he has been a gentleman for fifty years.

That was decidedly a poser put by Captain S. Y. Tupper, the president of the Charleston Chamber of Commerce, to Mr. Hayes. In the course of the interview between the Charleston Committee and the President, Captain Tupper asked him if he apprehended any difficulties or disorder in the State. The President replied that he was glad to say he did not. Captain Tupper then asked if there was any reason for Executive interference in South Carolina—at which the President said, laughingly, that he could not answer such pointed questions. A pointed question, truly, and one which Mr. Hayes will find it difficult to answer to the satisfaction of any reasonable mind.

The Situation in Washington. There is but little report from Washington. The President has heard both sides of the question—both Governor Hampton and ex-Governor Chamberlain have presented their views, and all the facts needed for a thorough understanding of the situation here have been plainly put before him. It is worthy of notice that in his interview with Governor Hampton and the gentlemen that accompanied him, the sole object of the Presi-

dent's inquiries seemed to be to ascertain the probable results of the withdrawal of the troops. The question of Hampton's right to the office was not discussed. What passed in the interview with Chamberlain has not yet transpired.

There now remains nothing for President Hayes to find out, and nothing for him to do but to order the troops out of our State House and let the Hampton Government take that peaceable possession which must be the result of such withdrawal. He has said all along that he wanted light. In all conscience, he ought now to have all the light that can possibly be thrown upon the matter. He has claimed to be "maintaining the status quo." But, as a matter of fact, he has sustained the usurpation of Chamberlain, and thus aided him in obstructing the work of the lawful government of the State. The Chamberlain officials and their pimps have had exclusive access to the State records, and all others who wanted to enter a public office in the State House have been kept out at the point of the Federal bayonet. This is a strange sort of neutrality—it might well be termed an "armed neutrality"—and it is high time that the Administration cease to play the part of partisan, under the guise of pretended impartiality. The people of South Carolina are heartily sick of delay, and they demand, as a simple act of justice, that Mr. Hayes, in his capacity of commander-in-chief of the United States military forces, shall order his soldiers to their proper camping ground, and leave the State House for the occupancy of those lawfully entitled to its possession.

SOUTH CAROLINA NEWS.

Aiken is organizing another militia company.

Croft, deputy collector, has been seizing tobacco at Blackville.

On Sunday night one of the hardest rains the "oldest inhabitant" ever heard of fell in Chester.

Professor Greener, of the South Carolina University, is trying to get a government position.

Work on the Spartanburg and Asheville Railroad is being rapidly pushed forward.

A militia company was organized at Lowndesville on the 17th inst., under the name of the "McGowan Rifle Guards."

The dwelling of Mrs. C. J. Robertson, of Yorkville, took fire last week, but the flames were soon discovered and promptly extinguished.

Gen. W. A. Walker, of Chester, has a rock found on his premises which evidently bears some symptoms of being strongly tinged with gold. The General will have the rock investigated.

Capt. A. E. Bristow, a prominent citizen in the Brownsville section of Marion county, was seriously stabbed by one John Cox last week. The assailant was drunk, and committed the deed in Capt. B.'s own storehouse.

Up to date Captain Perrin, special agent for Abbeville county, has collected altogether \$11,164.90. Of this amount \$7,708.30 goes to the State under Hampton's ten per cent. call, and \$3,456.60 to the county. Things were pretty lively at the treasurer's office last week.

The remains of the late Gen. John A. Wagner, of Charleston, have been removed to that city from Walhalla. A committee of citizens went up and took the body in charge. It was received in Charleston with solemn and appropriate ceremonies.

Joe Britt, the negro whose evidence before the Congressional Committee was so outrageous, was brought up to Abbeville in a box on last Saturday. Since the troubles in Columbia, he has been one of Chamberlain's guards at the State House.

Several very bold and successful burglaries were committed at the West on last Friday night. The grocery store of Agnews & Bonner was forcibly entered and a lot of goods stolen. Dr. Grier's crib was also broken open and a considerable quantity of corn carried off.

On the morning of the 21st inst., while Perry E. Mitchell, living in Marion, was on his way from his mill, he was attacked by three strange negroes, seized and carried about two hundred yards from the road and robbed of \$11.10. Mr. Mitchell attempted to defend himself with his pistol, but the robbers knocked it out of his hand.

Three of the thieves who broke into and robbed Mr. W. H. Young's dwelling house, in Darlington county, a few Sundays ago, were arrested and lodged in jail Tuesday last.

The Newberry Herald says that the amount of insurance recovered by the sufferers by the late fire is \$48,086.72. If the property destroyed was worth \$150,000, as estimated, then the net loss to Newberry by the fire is over \$100,000.

The fine dwelling house, furniture and a valuable collection of books at Belle Reve plantation on the Peedee River, in Georgetown county, belonging to J. Harleston Beal, Esq., was destroyed by fire on Thursday night, the 22d ultimo. The house was unoccupied and has been for months. The first discovery of the fire was the bursting out at the roof, and in an instant the whole building was enveloped in flames, which made it impossible for anything to be saved.

Mr. James Carter, a young white man and resident of Darlington county, was run over and is supposed to have been crushed to death by the night express train on the Wilmington, Columbia and Augusta Railroad, near Lynchburg, last Friday night. When found, his body was mutilated beyond recognition, and his identity was only ascertained by a gun found near the mangled remains, which the deceased had borrowed from his uncle, Mr. McElveen, on the evening before.

One of the hardest rains ever known in that section fell on Sunday before last in Abbeville county. It came down in perfect torrents for hours. All the water-courses were very much swollen, and fences and footlogs were swept away all over the county. Those on the farms who were eager to get in their bottom land crops will have at least a part of it to do over again.

On last Saturday morning the body of an unknown white man, very much mutilated, was found on the railroad track, near Lynchburg in Sumter county. A flint and steel gun, and a flask with the initials I. M., were found near the body. At last accounts no one had been able to identify the body, and it is supposed that the deceased was a stranger.

Mr. Lambeth, an old gentleman living in the Pleasant Hill section of Lancaster county, was called to his door on the night of Sunday before last, and was shot down without warning. Several bullets entered his person, but he is not considered fatally wounded. Suspicion attaches to certain white men as having been engaged in the outrage, and warrants have been issued for their arrest.

Last Saturday afternoon, while the engineer on the branch road was shifting the freight cars on the switch at Abbeville, Master John Hampton Martin, son of Mr. R. A. Martin, attempted to cross the track in front of a train which was being backed, when he stumbled, falling with his head across the track. The train was so near him he had not time to get away, and the wheels of the cars passed over his neck, nearly severing his head from the body, and killing him instantly.

Some excitement was occasioned in Columbia last Friday by the arrival of a farmer from the country, having in charge an infant which he had found in a basket two miles from the city, on the Camden road. Considerable interest was excited, from the fact that the furniture of the basket and the child's clothing, together with its aristocratic features, all betokened gentle origin. The clothing was of fine linen, and the foundling wore besides a quilted cap and an old opera cloak. The only possible clue in the basket was a copy of the Union-Herald of Sunday before last. The little incog. is of the female gender, and about ten days old. Several hundred people called to see it. The finder, Mr. Midlin, has adopted it.

A very sad suicide occurred on Thursday at the river bank near Columbia. Mrs. Julia Wehner left her husband's house in that city in the afternoon, in company with her father and her two little daughters. The party rode to the river bank, and the children engaged in play of different kinds—the chief source of their amusement being a swing that had been erected for the use of visitors to the spot. After indulging in some exercise in this swing, the unfortunate woman, her children standing near her at the moment, suddenly leaped from the swing, and, rushing to the river, threw herself into the water. Before help could reach her, she had sunk to rise no more, her children and her father helplessly witnesses of her terrible scene. The cause assigned for this sad suicide (the usual one—temporary aberration of mind). At last accounts her body had not been recovered, although the river had been dragged and the Columbia artillery had fired its guns upon the bank. This is the first suicide in Columbia in forty days.

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