

R. MANSFIELD, Editor, JNO. B. REYNOLDS, Associate Editor.

John Lee, postmaster of Chester, has been declared ineligible to a seat in the Legislature, and Mr. John J. Hemphill, who received the next highest number of votes, has been admitted.

The New York Legislature has partially passed an act to cast the Electoral vote of that State by congressional districts instead of as a unit.

Some person styling himself a "repentant thief" has written to the secretary of the treasury, acknowledging that he stole ten dollars from the Confederate treasury during the war.

The circular issued by the commissioner of agriculture of Georgia, advising the farmers of that State to plant corn, in view of the probable rise in breadstuffs owing to the European war, is well worth the careful consideration of our own people.

The County School Commissioner.

The News and Courier, commenting upon a recent article of THE NEWS AND HERALD, advocating free schools, asks:

"Is it necessary, however, to have paid school commissioners? We think not!"

We believe that a careful examination by our contemporary of the free school system, as embodied in the constitution and statutes of the State, would result in an alteration of the opinion quoted above. The county school commissioner is an essential portion of the machinery thus constituted, and his duties are such as will not be performed properly unless he be made responsible by the receipt of a salary.

These duties are manifold. They are defined in the Revised Statutes, Chapter xxxviii., and some of them are here quoted:

The county school commissioner shall give bond for twice the amount of his salary.

It shall be his duty to visit each school in his county three times a year, to note the course of instruction, and the branches taught, and to give such recommendations in the art of teaching in each school as shall be expedient, so that uniformity shall be secured in all the schools.

aid the teachers in all proper efforts to improve themselves in their profession.

He shall encourage the formation of associations of teachers for mutual improvement, shall attend such meetings and give advice and instruction in regard to their conduct and management.

He shall prepare annual reports, giving a complete statement of the condition of schools in his county, and making any suggestions he may conceive to be conducive to educational interests.

He shall examine teachers, and decide as to their competency.

He shall also regulate the disbursements of school funds by countersigning all school warrants on the treasury.

It will be seen that the county school commissioner's position is one of grave responsibility. Upon his shoulders rests the entire educational system of a county.

Especially is some guiding hand needed now to reduce order out of chaos. With the schools running smoothly, it might be argued that no general superintendence is necessary, though even in New York an experiment made before the war to abolish the office of county superintendent utterly failed.

In South Carolina the schools are in a desperately bad way. The people know nothing of the system; the teachers are not up to the times; the officials have been incompetent or corrupt.

The bill to authorize county commissioners to submit to the qualified electors of their several counties a proposition to alter the fence laws, was made the special order for Tuesday, May 1, at 1.30, p. m.

Yet this is a precisely analogous case. Here is an army of children who should be marching all in line against the strongholds of ignorance. They are scattered and straggling everywhere. Their officers have been recreant to their trust.

It is proposed to remedy the defects. How? By repeating in another form the evils that existed before. Instead of worthless officers, the army is to have none at all. Instead of a squandered appropriation, no appropriation at all.

The theory of free schools is that they are component parts of a great whole. The State superintendent surveys the entire field and delivers his orders to his subordinates in each county.

Another view to take is this. The different schools in each county are united in one. The school commissioner is the "head schoolmaster" of the county. His business is to teach the teachers.

The hue and cry raised against the school commissioners is against they have been such abominable humbugs. But because they were humbugs, can no competent officials be obtained?

We must apologize for the length of this article, but we feel constrained to use every effort in behalf of free schools. They are the salvation of the State.

LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS. MONDAY, April 30. SENATE.

A number of bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read by their titles, and appropriately referred.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. A number of bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read by their titles, and appropriately referred.

The joint committee on the admission of members of the Mackey House reported the following resolutions:

1. That from the county of Darlington, Messrs. Richard H. Humbert, Samuel J. Keith, Zachariah Wines and Jackson A. Smith, on presenting their credentials and purging themselves at the bar of the House of their contempt, have the oath of office administered, and be allowed to take their seats as members.

2. That Messrs. Will H. Thomas, from the county of Newberry, and D. A. Straker, of Orangeburg, on account of the gross contempt by them committed, and the defiant attitude assumed against the law and the dignity of the House, such acts tending to overthrow the government, be denied admittance;

Mr. Myers, from the minority of the committee, made the following report: That in the matter of W. H. Thomas, a member from Newberry county, and D. A. Straker, a member from Orangeburg county, they be admitted upon the same conditions as persons who had previously been members of the so called Mackey House.

The first resolution was decided in the affirmative. The second resolution and the minority report were made the special order for Tuesday at 2 o'clock, p. m.

The following members elect appeared at the bar of the House, produced their credentials, purged themselves of their contempt, were sworn, and took their seats: From Darlington—Messrs. Richard H. Humbert, Samuel J. Keith, Zachariah Wines and Jackson A. Smith; from Newberry—Mr. Thomas Keith; from Sumter—Mr. J. H. Ferriter.

Mr. Cochran presented the memorial of the Anderson Board of Trade, praying the passage of laws to prevent the several railroads of this State from making unreasonable charges and from so discriminating as to injure one community for the benefit of another;

A number of bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read by their titles, and appropriately referred.

Whittemore rose to a question of privilege, and made a lengthy and bitter reply to charges made against him in the Charleston News and Courier.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. A number of bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read by their titles, and appropriately referred.

In the case of Will H. Thomas, a member of the Mackey House from Newberry county, the report of the majority of the joint committee was adopted, and his seat declared vacant.

Andrews, a member of the Mackey House from Sumter county, refused to make a proper apology for his contemptuous behavior, and his seat was likewise declared vacant.

VEGETINE SHE RESTS WELL.

Thousands will bear testimony (and do it voluntarily) that Vegetine is the best medical compound yet placed before the public for renovating and purifying the blood, radiating all humors, impurities or poisonous secretions from the system, invigorating and strengthening the system debilitated by disease; in fact, it is, as many have called it, "The Great Health Restorer."

SAFE AND SURE. In 1872 your Vegetine was recommended to me, and yielding to the persuasions of a friend, I consented to try it.

Vegetine thoroughly eradicates every kind of humor, and restores the entire system to a healthy condition. The following letter from Rev. G. W. Mansfield, formerly pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Hyde Park, and at present settled in Lowell, must convince every one who reads this letter of the wonderful curative qualities of Vegetine as a thorough cleanser and purifier of the blood.

Dear Sir—About ten years ago my health failed through the depleting effects of dyspepsia; nearly a year later I was attacked by typhoid fever in its worst form, it settled in my back and took the form of a large deep-seated abscess, which was fifteen months in gathering. I had two surgical operations, by the best skill in the State, but received no permanent cure.

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Matters ran on thus about seven years, till May, 1874, when a friend recommended me to go to your office and talk with you of the virtues of Vegetine. I did so, and by your kindness passed through your laboratory, noting the ingredients, etc., by which your remedy is produced.

I commenced taking it soon after, but felt worse from its effects; still I persisted, and soon felt it was benefitting me in a number of respects. Yet I did not see the results I desired, till I had taken it faithfully for a little more than a year, when the abscess in the back was cured, and for nine months I have enjoyed the best of health.

THE undersigned takes pleasure in informing his friends and the public that he has removed to that large and commodious Brick Hotel, located in the centre of business, where he is prepared to accommodate the public with clean and well furnished rooms, and a table supplied with the best that the market affords.

FURNITURE.



WINDOW Shades, Picture Frames, Children's Carriages, Lumber and Shingles. Use economy by buying the best, and buy where you can get the cheapest.

april 26 R. W. PHILLIPS.



WATERS' ORCHESTRION CHIMES ORGAN is the most beautiful in style and perfect in tone ever made. It has the celebrated Concerto style, which is a fine imitation of the Human Voice, and two and a half Octaves of bells.

SPRING GOODS

—FOR— 1877.

To-day the campaign's fairly closed, The lucky man is he Who takes his seat on the 4th of March.

My friends and I went out one day, Some New Spring Goods to buy; And we resolved, before we went, The different stores to try.

Of Hats, Clothing and Boots and Shoes, The latest to our view— The very best styles of Dress Goods, And Prints so cheap and new.

TOILET SOAP. JUST RECEIVED, ONE gross of the genuine Brown Windsor Soap.

Administrator's Notice. ALL persons having claims against the estate of Wm. Dawkins, deceased, late of Fairfield county, S. C., are requested to present them to me at Spartanburg, S. C., properly attested.

Shirts! Shirts! Shirts! WAMSUTTA Muslin and 2200 Linen, at \$3.00 per half dozen.

Winnsboro Hotel. THE undersigned takes pleasure in informing his friends and the public that he has removed to that large and commodious Brick Hotel, located in the centre of business, where he is prepared to accommodate the public with clean and well furnished rooms, and a table supplied with the best that the market affords.

LET your Job Printing done at THE NEWS AND HERALD.