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Many ladies who attend church are too much occupied with their own hats to notice the deacon's as he passes it around for a collection.

The County Democratic Executive Committee of Charleston have recommended that the Legislative election in that county be held on the 21st of June, so that the excitement will have all quieted down before harvest time.

The Charleston municipal election bill has passed three readings in the House and two in the Senate and its success is assured. It requires previous registration, and provides that no person can vote without producing a registry certificate. This prevents the wholesale importation of John's Island negroes on election day. With a fair election the Democrats can always carry the city.

Since November, elections have been held in Fairfield, Chester and Orangeburg, and three more Republican counties have become Democratic. We give a comparative statement of the vote:

	Rep. Maj. 1876.	Dem. Maj. 1877.	Dem. gain.
Chester,	899	1,298	1,407
Fairfield,	573	1,887	2,510
Orangeburg,	1,599	221	1,810
	3,071	3,406	6,057

A gain of over six thousand votes in three counties in seven months is calculated to make the heart of the average Democrat glad. It is a finger board on the road to the thirty thousand Democratic majority in 1878.

"Eight Hundred Dollars and Mileage."

The Senate and the House are at complete loggerheads over the appropriation bill. The former has stricken out the clause paying interest on the public debt, but has added over a hundred thousand dollars in the way of increased salaries. As has been remarked, this is poor economy. It is merely a postponement for one year of an inevitable payment, in order to create an unnecessary burden. This means a practical increase of a hundred thousand dollars to the heavy taxation the people already have to bear. There is little probability of the Senate's receding in the interest of economy. It remains to be seen what action the House will take. It is due to the people who have elected the representatives, that these stand firm against any encroachments on the treasury, especially against this extravagant measure. Eight hundred dollars for sixty days services in these days of distressing poverty is an enormous sum. Were the State rolling in wealth we would not be disposed to cavil at a handsome per diem and unlimited mileage for our Solons. We hold that all labor has its price, and that the State should employ first class talent and pay it adequately—when she can. In fust times, a member of the Legislature should have ample means to support his dignity. He should have his wines, liquors and cigars, with which to regale his constituents when they visit the State capital. He should have his paletot for morning wear, his Prince Albert for the serious hours of the session and his faultless spike and patent leather pumps in which to pay court to bright eyed damsels or comely matrons at inauguration and commencement balls and such like. He should have all those attributes which mark the great man; so that when he walks the streets the undersized peanut merchants, street Arabs and newspaper vendors may remark "There goes a member of the Legislature," and then stand with bated breath in the presence of a supraterrrestrial being. No such mean thoughts as to the relative liberality with which the landlords and innkeepers fit their mint and

anise and cummin should distract his attention from the weightier matters of lawmaking. He should be placed above and beyond the terrors of exorbitant hash bills. Indeed a being of such transcendent importance should spurn hash and all things thereunto belonging, or in any wise incident or appertaining, and his only qualms should be those of conscience, not those of the stomach. This is a picture of an ideal legislator, a Solon of 1880, we trust.

But our present Legislature must be content with less. Economy must begin at home—in the Legislature. The people are watching with a jealous eye. They insist that while the masses receive less than the worth of their labor, legislators shall not receive more than the worth of theirs. The acts of the members are not done in a corner. And while grave Senators assert that the law says they must receive a certain salary, the people are determined that they must receive a smaller compensation. A senator announced a few days since that he cared not for the attacks of the newspapers, that editors are paid to write one way or another. The senator is not wise. Does he know who "pays the editors"? The people pay them; the same people who send the senators and representatives to Columbia. And when the editors censure the lawmakers, they do so in behalf of the people who pay them to report the proceedings of the public servants. If the senators have no regard for the warning voice of the newspaper man, the day may come, when their constituents are after them, that they will wish they had paused to listen to counsel.

Senators may or may not take advice. But they shall not have the opportunity of saying that when they paid themselves eight hundred dollars for sixty days work, the press stood silently by. It is never too late to retrace a false step. Let the Senate recede.

LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS.

FRIDAY, JUNE 1.  
SENATE

Mr. Gary introduced a resolution to authorize the governor to effect a loan, which was laid over. A bill to regulate municipal elections in Charleston was read a second time, the amendments of the committee were rejected, the time of holding the election was changed to the second Tuesday in December, and the bill passed to a third reading. Several bills of local interest passed.

At the evening session the conference committee on the appropriation bill, having failed to agree was discharged, and Gary, Howard, and Crittenden were appointed a committee of free conference. The appropriation bill was amended by inserting \$105,000 in lieu of \$81,400 for Legislative expenses, and the bill was returned to the House. The subject of judicial vacancies was made a special order for Saturday. Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The speaker read the returns from Orangeburg, giving Dibble (Dem.) 2757 votes, Straker (Rep.) 2536, and Mr. Dibble was sworn in as a member of the House.

The bill to give the Mackeyites \$100 each was killed. The bill to utilize convict labor, and to reduce pay for dieting prisoners, passed to a third reading. At the evening session, Messrs. Hood, Bamberg and Miller were appointed a committee on a free conference with the Senate committee concerning the appropriation bill. Judge Wright was postponed till Monday evening. After other unimportant business the House adjourned till 8 p. m. Monday.

Chamberlain, having closed up his affairs in Columbia, departed for New York by the 12:30 train Thursday.

A Massachusetts Republican, on a visit to the Columbia, S. C., Legislature, was surprised at the fine voices and easy oratory and correct English of the negroes, and equally surprised at the lack of pith and logic in what they had to say. They did most of the talking, jumping up and airing their education continually, but the weight of thought was all with the whites.

AFFAIRS IN FLORIDA.

THE INEVITABLE RESULTS OF DEMOCRATIC RULE.

Stopping Leaks and Saving Money—Labor Appropriations to Educate the People—Reforming the Blacks—No New Party in Florida.

Mr. Smalley, the staff correspondent of the New York Tribune, while in Tallahassee recently, had a long interview with Governor Drew. The governor said: "We are fast straightening out the snarls and stopping the leaks. Close economy is being introduced in all branches of the government. We shall save this year thirty thousand dollars in our court expenses, twenty-five thousand dollars in the cost of running the penitentiary, and a very large gross sum in county expenses. Our Legislature last winter cost one-fourth less than the year before, and the next session will cost still less. The bonded debt is about \$1,100,000. It was increased at the rate of \$100,000 a year by the Radicals to meet ordinary running expenses. The immense fraudulent railroad debt which was put upon us was decided by our Supreme Court, you remember, to be illegal and void. We can easily carry our valid debt, and provide a sinking fund to redeem it at the expiration of thirty years, when the bonds fall due. The one-mill tax levied annually for the sinking fund will wipe out the entire debt in eighteen years, and it was decided by the Legislature last winter to suspend its collection for five years, but owing to a disagreement between the two houses about other matters concerning taxation this provision fell through. We levy a total State tax of seven mills on the dollar, of which two mills are for interest on the debt for the sinking fund, and one for common schools.

Correspondent—What is the condition of your public schools? Are they as well maintained as under the Republican administration?

The governor—Better, I think. The counties are allowed to levy not to exceed five mills on the dollar for school purposes. In addition to the proceeds of the one mill tax, the interest on a fund derived from the sale of the sixteenth section of land in every township is distributed by the State to the counties. The laws relating to the schools are the same as when the Republicans were in power, but they are enforced with more efficiency, and the money is more faithfully applied. In some of the counties the Radical county superintendents were incompetent and dishonest. The former superintendent of this county is under indictment for stealing the school fund. He has cleared out, and destroyed or carried off all the books and accounts of his office. I hear that he is holding a treasury clerkship in Washington. There is still some opposition to the public schools, and especially to negro schools, on the part of the unprogressive class of whites, but it is diminishing all the time and is not strong enough to influence the action of the Legislature. Our most intelligent people are convinced that the education of the blacks is essential to the welfare of the State, and I look to see our schools constantly improve. The funds for educational purposes will be applied with entire impartiality for the benefit of the two races.

Correspondent—How do the negroes take the order of things?

The governor—At first they seemed to think that something dreadful was going to happen to them because the Democrats had got in power. Now that they see their rights are not interfered with I think they are disposed to be more industrious than before, and quit pilfering. The curse of this section is the thieving propensity of the blacks. This used to be a good stock country, but now you can travel for miles without seeing many cattle or hogs. Planters could not keep stock, because the negroes killed them in the woods. Now I learn that there is less of this done than before, the negroes fearing that the laws will be more rigidly enforced against them than under the Radical administration. The planters think they will be able soon to raise stock as they used to before the war, and stop the ruinous practice of buying their meat, which has been forced upon them by the depredations of the blacks. The trouble with the negroes in respect to their pilfering, is confined mainly to the cotton counties in middle and west Florida, where they largely predominate over the whites.

In conclusion the governor said of fifteen hundred white Republicans in the State, one thousand voted for him last year, while about one thousand negroes did the same. He believes that the Republican party is dead. The carpet-baggers have all cleared out, and the negroes will have no one to lead them. He says there is no new party yet in Florida, and he thinks there will not be any in the near future.

SOUTH CAROLINA NEWS.

Darlington exults over a four legged chicken.

The corn crop through Georgetown doesn't look well. Too much cold weather.

A number of citizens were in attendance at Yorkville last Friday evening for the purpose of taking the initiatory steps of organizing a volunteer militia company. About sixty names were reported as already enrolled.

The small grain crops in Yorkville are looking very fine. As yet there is no appearance of any blight; although the farmers say the crop has not yet reached the most critical stage of susceptibility to injury. Corn and cotton are looking well. Both crops are clear of grass and weeds, showing clearly that the planters have not been idle.

Several meetings have been held at Society Hill for the purpose of organizing a volunteer militia company. On Tuesday, the 22d instant the organization was perfected by the election of the following named commissioned officers: W. H. Jamison, Captain; W. W. Milliken, First Lieutenant; T. A. Gandy, Second Lieutenant; E. T. Coker, Third Lieutenant.

Mr. James C. Gaffney, a young man of promise, was run over and killed on the trestle of the Broad River bridge, on the York county side, about 12 o'clock on Tuesday night last. Mr. Gaffney lived in Spartanburg county, and after eating his supper, left his house remarking that he would go over into York county. The supposition is that while crossing the trestle the train approached, rendering escape, by moving in either direction, impossible. When struck by the locomotive, he was within thirty feet of the end of the trestle. He fell below the trestle, fearfully mangled, and was discovered by the bridge watchman soon after the occurrence. Mr. Roseborough, the watchman, on making his usual inspection after the train crossed the bridge, discovered a coat lying on the track, which led to investigation, when he found fragments of bone, and heard groans beneath the trestle. He then called Mrs. Roseborough, who went down to the dying man, remaining with him, administering to alleviate his sufferings until her husband could call together some of the neighbors.

BRIC-A-BRAC.

Some wit is to be found amid the penalties of the law. The Judge said, "Prisoner, you can have thirty days or \$25." The seedy nob'eman, who had years ago dropped the jewel of his manhood into a whiskey bottle, looked out from under his shaggy eyebrows and answered, "Your Honor, as I feel pretty poor just now, I think I will take \$25. Thank you."

The Salt Lake Women's Exponent says: "How mistaken the world are when they represent Mormon women in bondage to men. There is no greater freedom than the Gospel gives to women. And it is this that makes Mormon women consciences of their power. You think the Mormons an insignificant body of people; they are mighty in spirit, and their women are united in one grand solid phalanx to help build up Zion, to sustain their own institutions, educational and social, and woe be to him who dares to lift his hand against Zion.

Cornell University occupies a very novel and preposterous position. It was started as a neutral institution, where, in the words of the founder, "a man can learn anything." It turned out to be an institution where a man could learn anything except the facts of Christianity. How to get a neuter gender for the chair of Hebrew was a problem. Professor Adler was at last chosen, as a man who came nearer to having no opinion on any religious subject than any other. Now it is discovered that he has been delivering lectures on Nothingarianism in New York, and that the Nothingarians are just as much a sect as the Episcopalians or Methodists. So professor Adler gets a leave of absence.

Feicher Harper, the youngest brother of the firm of Harper Bros., of New York is dead, aged seventy-two years.

Moody and Sanky, the great revivalists, had a farewell meeting in Boston last week when Moody pleaded the police of that city by offering up a prayer that they would become door-keepers in heaven.

The Russians have a way of placing torpedoes under the Turkish monitors and blowing them into atoms; and the Turks, to be revenged for the loss of their men and vessels, slice the calves off the legs of Russian prisoners. This, we suppose, is the Turkish mode of bulldozing.

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