

THE OLD STORY about the capture of ex-President Davis was given a short time since in the Philadelphia Times by one Gen. William H. Wilson, and of course it told all about Mr. Davis' being disguised in the garb of a female. The imaginative Wilson went fully into particulars, with a view, as he said, to show that he knew all about the matter. But he was only carrying out the precept of Boecher, that "the only way to lie correctly is to lie sublimely." In the last issue of the Times is a letter from Hon. John H. Reagan, postmaster general of the Confederate States. Mr. Reagan was with President Davis at the time of the capture, and of course knows whereof he speaks. Alluding to Wilson's statement, he says emphatically that there is not one word of truth in it all. In short, Wilson, or his informant, has simply lied. And the lie he now repeats has been believed by a large number of people all over the North, for more than ten years! It is about time for the truth to be known and accepted.

THERE is a great deal of noise being made now, over the so-called "persecutions" at ex-officials in this State. Several of the Radical newspapers of the North go so far as to assert that there has been a breach of faith on the part of Governor Hampton. They pretend to say that he promised a general amnesty for all past offenses. This, of course, is altogether untrue. Governor Hampton simply pledged himself that the removal of Federal bayonets from the State House would result in no breach of the peace on the part of the Democrats. How sacredly this pledge has been redeemed, it is needless to say. But there is nothing wrong in following up the thieves who grow fat on the people's money during the eight years of Radical rule. They deserve the very worst the law can do for them. And it is sheer folly to call it persecution when they are made to answer for their crimes before a court and jury. No attention should be paid to those silly partisans who are now endeavoring to make political capital by exciting sympathy for the most abominable gang of thieves that ever got possession of other people's money. Let them all suffer—and suffer the severest penalties of the law.

THE INSTRUCTIONS of the comptroller-general, with regard to the pay of county auditors, will doubtless cause a pang of disappointment in the breast of many an impudiculous ex-auditor who once reveled in the greenbacks so abundantly given him for the comparatively little work he had to do. But these fellows should not complain. On an average, they managed to get, by hook or by crook, a very handsome living, and it is time they are satisfied. True, they did some work voluntarily—as, for instance, the entry of the levy made by the Mackey House last winter. This work was done in Fairfield; and we are informed by experts that, considering there was never the barest possible chance for that tax to be collected, the work was very creditably done. All the different items were accurately—that is to say somewhat accurately—made out, and there was only wanting the taxpayer who was foolish enough to pay money to Chamberlain. For the work thus done, the auditor and his assistant are entitled to the gratitude of—Mr. Chamberlain. They were loyal to him, to say the least. They even had an idea, it would seem, that he was governor! They were mistaken, as it were, and have had their labor for naught. Maybe the Legislature will do something for them yet, and maybe it won't.

RAILROAD MATTERS.

Another Interesting Communication from "Fairfield."—The Chester and Georgetown Railroad.

Messrs. Editors :

In summing up the facilities opened to our town and county by the proposed railroad, I failed to mention still other competing lines between Asheville, N. C., and Winnsboro, viz: the Spartanburg and Asheville Railroad to Spartanburg, the Air Line Railroad to Gastonia, the Chester and Lenoir, and Chester and Georgetown to Winnsboro. This is, you are aware, a virtually completed line to Chester. Again, the Carolina Central of North Carolina, which from Charlotte gives us an air line to Wilmington, is about to extend its road from Lincolnton to a junction with the Western N. C. R. R., at Hickory. This gives us still another competing line, via Lincolnton and the Chester and Lenoir to Chester. Lastly, the Chester and Lenoir Narrow Gauge and the Air Line Railroad, give us direct communication with Atlanta and thence to the entire Western and Southern country and the metropolitan cities of St. Louis, Cincinnati and New Orleans.

With the projected railroad completed only from Chester to Winnsboro, it is hard to conceive of a community more completely fortified against oppressive freights than this will be, toward the north and west. Let us now survey our position toward the south and east, supposing the Chester and Georgetown Narrow Gauge completed to the sea at Georgetown. First, then, at Camden we reach the South Carolina Railroad, and secure a new and direct route to our beloved old "city by the sea"—a route almost as short as the C. C. & A., and free from the interminable differences and complications that seem to characterize the relations between the two roads—a state of things that has, we believe, done great injury to them and to Charleston; and, we know, has wrought unspeakable inconvenience and vexation to this part of the State. Surely, Messrs. Editors, this one connection would justify us in making the effort necessary to secure it. At Camden, too, we get not only a new line to Charleston, but another outlet, via Augusta, to Atlanta, St. Louis, Cincinnati and New Orleans.

But another short link, through a fine ridge country, brings us to the important and flourishing town of Sumter. Here we cross the Wilmington, Columbia and Augusta Railroad, which affords a direct outlet eastward to the port of Wilmington, with the great advantage of new and independent connections with all the great freight lines to Baltimore and New York. The same road gives us still another route, via Augusta, to all points south, west and north-west.

We now enter the great pine forests that offer inexhaustible stores of timber; and, running along an almost unbroken ridge, reach a point on the North-Eastern Railroad at either Lane's or Gourdin's stations. By the North-Eastern Railroad, we reach Charleston in one hundred and sixty miles from Winnsboro; it is one hundred and sixty-seven miles via Columbia. But should the North-Eastern Railroad be at all refractory in the matter of rates—a contingency rendered most unlikely by the condition and prospects of that road—we have only to go on thirty-six miles to our terminus at Georgetown. There we find a good port with regular lines of vessels to New York and Baltimore, and a first class line of packet steamers to Charleston, besides the freight steamers that ply regularly from Charleston up the Santee and the Pedee river.

The citizens of Georgetown will, no doubt, at the proper time, set forth the advantages they can offer in low ocean tariffs, small port charges, &c. This I leave to them. It is surely not claiming too much, Messrs. Editors, to say that it has been demonstrated that the building of this line would place Fairfield—yes, the entire county—absolutely and forever beyond the reach of unjust or oppressive rates. And in leaving this branch of the subject I must again call attention to the important and encouraging fact that each link in the chain of road affords great and palpable advantages for the future, as well as certain and immediate relief as soon as completed. Thus, be-

gining it Chester, should either our energies, or means, or both, become exhausted in building the road to Winnsboro, we could, as has been already shown, well afford to stop here—at least for a long rest. But once refreshed and strengthened by the relief and independence brought by our first effort, nothing could stop us short of Camden, and our new line to Charleston. Thence to Georgetown, we need trouble ourselves little about the project. Let us bid our confederates "Godspeed," and good cheer. They can and will do the work. At another time, if you desire, I will treat of the cost, ways, means &c.

FAIRFIELD.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

Postmaster-General Key will not resign.

Congress will meet on the 15th of October.

E. P. Stanton, son of the late Secretary of War, died on Saturday in a lunatic asylum.

The people of Georgia seem generally very well pleased with the proposed constitution.

The Tammany and the anti-Tammany Democrats are getting ready for a big fight this fall.

Alvin Adams the founder of Adams Express Company, died in Watertown, Mass., last Saturday night.

Brigham Young left nineteen wives, seventy-three children, and a property of seven millions.

An imperial edict has been issued prohibiting the smoking of opium in China, the order to take effect three years from date.

The Chicago Tribune says that Admiral Raphael Semmes, who recently died, was a kind husband, a fond father and an estimable pirate.

It is stated on the authority of a Washington dispatch, that General Longstreet has filed his application for the Marshalship of Georgia.

It is estimated that the late strike will cost the State of Illinois \$200,000, which is cheap compared with what it will cost the State of Pennsylvania—\$8,000,000.

A negro woman of Waynesboro, Ga., whilst violently whipping her child last Tuesday evening, burst a blood vessel and died soon afterwards.

A London correspondent says that the Pope has definitely resolved to restore the Roman hierarchy in Scotland. Cardinal Manning will shortly go to Rome on a confidential mission in that connection.

The postoffice department has received letters from a number of the principal newspapers, refusing to publish advertisements at the rates allowed by law.

The railroad rioters convicted at Harrisburg last week have been sentenced to the county jail for from two to eight months, and fined from \$20 to \$500.

The Pennsylvania Railroad Company having been for five years within six miles of the Cumberland coal region in Maryland has decided to extend its tracks so as to compete with the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

Sergeant Bates, of flag-carrying notoriety, attempted to commit suicide the other day. His family are living at Saybrook, Illinois, in perfect destitution—the objects of public charity.

A boy, supposed to be Charlie Ros was brought last week all the way from Ohio. The resemblance was so great as to puzzle members of the Ross family, but the parents did not identify him as their lost child.

The governor of Wyoming Territory has issued a proclamation for the election of members of the territorial Legislature, September 11. The women vote in that Territory.

Wendell Phillips has been nominated for governor by the Massachusetts greenbackers. As there will be four other gubernatorial candidates in that State, it will be seen that Wendell is running for principle, not for office.

Senator Conkling's friends vehemently contradict the report of a Western newspaper that the next Republican State convention in New York, under his dictation, will condemn the policy of the administration and place itself in antagonism to civil service reform.

Justice Bradley, in a letter to the editor of the Newark Advertiser denies in toto the charges against him in connection with the Electoral Commission. He says he did not read or express an opinion, as charged, to Justice Field. He denies that there were calls at his home, and declares he decided the electoral vote honestly and free from political or other extraneous considerations.

The army worm is devastating the cotton in the counties adjacent to Memphis. Many planters state that their fields look as if a fire had swept through them. It is believed that serious damage will result to the crop in that district.

Rome is not to remain an open and unprotected city. Fortifications are to be constructed in the outskirts of the city, and 130 guns of large calibre are to be brought from the arsenal at Naples for their armament.

The marriage of the Prince Imperial with the Infanta Maria del Pilar, daughter of Queen Isabella, a pretty girl of seventeen, is, according to Parisian authority, likely soon to take place.

Just before leaving Boston for Europe, Professor Graham Bell, of telephone fame, married the daughter of Gardiner G. Hubbard, a deaf mute. He had so carefully instructed her that she uttered distinctly all the responses of the wedding service.

The latest returns from the California election indicate that the Democrats have elected ten senators and fifty-seven assemblymen, and the Republicans ten senators and twenty-three assemblymen. Including the hold-overs the Democrats will have thirty-eight majority on a joint ballot. This is a defeat for Senator Sargent.

Crazy Horse died on the night of the 6th instant, from injuries received while endeavoring to escape from the guard-house at Camp Robinson. His people took charge of his body. At last accounts, everything was quiet, and General Cook telegraphs that the death of Crazy Horse is the end of all the trouble as far as the Sioux are concerned, except Sitting Bull.

The Public Schools.

Judge Kershaw has been holding court in York. Among other things at the request of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, his Honor instructed the grand jury that it is within their province to examine into the public school system of the county; to reform abuses; look into the intelligence and character of those charged with the instruction of the youth of the county; and if they find incompetency, it is within the range of their duty to make presentments, and let the places of incompetent instructors be supplied by persons better qualified for the position of teacher. He hoped, however, there is no occasion for such presentments in York. There never was a time, remarked his Honor, when educational facilities were so much needed by the white boys and girls of South Carolina as the present. So far as his observation extends, the colored people of the State have, with commendable zeal, availed themselves of the educational facilities extended to them, deriving therefrom great advantages; while it is lamentably true that white boys and girls are growing up in ignorance. The time is not far distant, he continued, when the colored children will be as well educated as the white. The public schools ought to be, and his Honor thought they would be, equal to all requirements, presenting, if proper use be made of funds set apart for that purpose, greater advantages than private schools; and there is no reason why there should not be a good school in every school district of the State.



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Yours truly,
ROBERT E. WELCH.
Sleepy Hollow,
Burke County, Georgia, May 1876.

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