

WORK OF THE SESSION

ACTS OF GENERAL INTEREST PASSED BY THE LEGISLATURE.

The Measures that Got Through and Were Ratified by the Senate and House of Representatives—The Usual Number.

The following are the acts and joint resolutions of general interest passed by the Legislature at its late session which closed last Wednesday morning:

AN ACT TO Provide for the taxation of telegraph telephone, palce car, sleeping car, drawing room car, dining car, express and fast freight, joint stock associations, companies, copartnerships and corporations transacting business in the State of South Carolina, and to repeal acts in conflict.

Prohibit unreasonable discrimination by telephone companies doing business in this State in the rates at which they furnish telephones and telephone service to their patrons in different localities.

Amend an act entitled "An act to amend Section 27 of an act entitled "An act to provide a system of county government for the several counties of this State, so far as it relates to the working and maintaining the roads and highways in this State," approved March 23, 1895, and also amended and approved February 25, 1897.

Regulate the practice in the courts of this State in actions ex delicto for damages.

Amend Sections 4 and 27 of an act entitled "An act to provide a system of county government for the several counties of this State, so far as it relates to the working and maintaining the roads and highways in this State," approved March 23, 1895, and also amended and approved February 25, 1897.

Create the county of Lee from portions of Kershaw, Darlington and Sumter counties, and to divide the territory hereinbefore described, and to provide for the erection of court house and jail, for the holding of courts and for the election of county officers.

Authorize and empower the county boards of commissioners of the several counties of this State, to establish and maintain free ferries.

Declare the law as to fees of Clerks of Courts and Registers of Mesne Conveyance for certifying to the recording certain written instruments.

Regulate express and telegraph companies and to amend an act entitled "An act to regulate express and telegraph companies, so as to give them power and authority to regulate charges by express companies for transportation, to regulate the charges of telegraph companies for the transmission of messages by telegraph, or charges by persons engaged in the several businesses of express and telegraph companies, by law, over railroad companies to all companies or persons owning, controlling, or operating a line or lines of express and telegraph, and make the same applicable against railroads for violating commissioner's rules apply to the companies and persons herein named, whose line or lines is or are wholly or in part in this State.

Amend Section 1654 of the General Statutes of 1895, appearing as Section 432 of the Revised Statutes of 1895, Volume 2, so as to prohibit the destroying of the nests of certain birds.

Charter the Central Carolina Rail- way and to authorize towns and cities interested in and along the lines of said railway to subscribe to the capital stock thereof in bonds.

Amend an act entitled "An act to amend all persons or corporations building or using a barbed wire fence within fifty feet of a public highway, when same runs parallel with and within fifty feet of a railroad track, to place a plank on or near the top of the fence, approved December 24, 1879, so as to make the terms thereof more explicit.

Amend Section 2 of an act entitled "An act to apportion the road fund derived from the special county tax, approved 17th February, A. D. 1897, as to length of bridges to be repaired or built.

Amend Section 1692 of the General Statutes of South Carolina, being Section 425 of the Revised Statutes of 1895, Vol. 2.

Amend Section 693 of the Revised Statutes, relating to certain claims against counties.

Construct mortgages of real estate within this State.

Amend an act entitled "An act to declare the law in relation to liens on real estate," approved December 24, 1879.

Create the office of State Librarian; to fix the salary and prescribe the duties thereof; to constitute a Board of Trustees for the State Library, and to designate the powers and duties thereof; to appropriate money for the use of the State Library, and to make certain offenses herein specified a misdemeanor.

Amend Section 1299 (595) of Vol. 1 of the Revised Statutes, 1895, as to labels on commercial fertilizers.

Amend an act approved 17th February, 1897, entitled "An act to provide for the pupils attending the free public schools with school text books at actual cost."

Amend Section 1776 of the General Statutes, being Section 1968 of the Revised Statutes of 1895, as to the effect of registration of a deed.

Amend Section 279 of the General Statutes of 1892, appearing as Section 335 of the Revised Statutes of South Carolina of 1895, Vol. 1, relating to the powers and duties of the Comptroller General in the non-payment of taxes, in special.

Amend Section 352 of the Code of Civil Procedure of 1882, appearing as Section 352, Vol. 2, of the Revised Statutes of 1895, relating to stay of execution and sale on appeal to the Supreme Court in certain cases.

Require the Magistrates to hold pre-liminary hearings in criminal cases beyond their jurisdiction unless waived in writing.

Protect boarding houses and inn keepers.

Empower magistrates to order ser-vices by publication upon absent defendants.

Provide for the payment of certain pensions.

Incorporate the Saluda and John-son Railroad Company.

Make the drawing of jurors public.

Authorize sheriffs and deputy sher-iffs of the State to arrest criminals within warrants in certain cases. Establish a law to declare the law as to distress for rent.

Exempt students of colleges from road duty or the payment of commutation tax in the towns and cities of this State.

Provide for the inspection of foods, drugs, spirituous, fermented and other liquors, and to provide for the punishment for adulteration thereof.

Providing for the erection and maintenance of gates across public highways at certain points and for the punishment of persons failing to close same.

To amend the act entitled "An act to provide for the formation of certain corporations and to define the powers thereof," approved 9th March, 1895, so far as the same relates to the notice to be given in order to obtain a new charter or an amendment to a charter, and an order to mortgage a corporation's property to secure the payment

BRYAN ON THE RATIO.

REASONS FOR PRIMACY ON THE MONEY QUESTION.

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The Journal prints the following article by William J. Bryan:

In answer to your inquiry, I submit some of the reasons which lead me to believe that the money question presents an issue which is still paramount in importance.

In the platform adopted at Chicago, the Democratic party said: "Recognizing that the money question is paramount to all others at this time, we invite attention to the fact that the federal constitution named silver and gold together as the money metals of the United States, and that the first coinage law of 1792 authorized our government on every other subject whenever occasion arises for the exercise of that control. Suppose, for instance, that the money question were dropped and the fight against the trusts made the main issue. Much foreign capital in this country, and much of our own, would be withdrawn, and our government would be followed by the withdrawal of foreign capital and a panic. If they can threaten the withdrawal of foreign capital to prevent a change of our financial policy, they can threaten the withdrawal of our own capital to prevent the regulation of other corporations."

Not only can this threat be made in regard to our domestic policy, but it can be made to prevent the adoption of any foreign policy which does not meet with favor in Europe. We cannot, therefore, afford to let our citizens average an insult to the flag, extend the Monroe doctrine or express our sympathy with those who are struggling to be free, if we are to be deterred by the threats of foreign investors.

The right to legislate for our people on the money question involves the right to legislate on all questions, and until this right is secured the discussion of other questions will avail nothing.

When we have released ourselves from the shackles of the gold standard, and have thrown the reins of control over our financial policy into the hands of our people, we shall be in a position to undertake the extermination of other trusts and the protection of our people from all forms of monopolistic oppression.

"OTHER PLANKS NOT ABANDONED." The other planks of the Chicago platform, therefore, stand as firm as ever. The gold standard is still a plank, and will carry out all the reforms enumerated in the platform, but they will not lessen the emphasis placed upon the money question by the party itself in its latest utterances.

The platform of 1892, it is true, was not a surrender of the right to redeem its obligations in either gold or silver.

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"THE ONLY REMEDY." In 1895 independent bimetalism was pointed out as the only remedy for the gold standard, and the failure of our monetary commission to secure international bimetalism strengthens our contention. The senate has recently put itself on record in favor of that plank of our platform which declares that the silver dollar shall have a debt paying power equal to the gold dollar, and that the government shall not surrender its right to redeem coin obligations in either gold or silver, and the house has declared against the proposition.

The effort of the secretary of the treasury to secure authority to issue more bonds and his demand for the retirement of the greenbacks are in direct opposition to the positions above stated. This will be seen that events, not free silver agitators, are keeping the money question before the country.

The evil effects of the gold standard are so apparent that the Republican party refuses to become sponsor for the system; it is so indefensible that even Secretary Gage in his recent speech at Philadelphia took occasion to say that the president is in favor of international bimetalism and has the support of all his cabinet officers.

Because international bimetalism can only be defended on the theory that the existing gold standard is unsatisfactory, and the Republican party leaders know that the Republican party has no real intention of abandoning the present gold standard, they cannot, therefore, afford to say anything which would make the people dissatisfied with it.

Neither do they, as a rule, say anything in favor of the gold standard, because to do so would at once raise the question of the gold standard, and international bimetalism would be the result.

"GAGE ON BOTH SIDES." Occasionally a speaker will be found who will take both sides of the question as did Mr. Gage at Philadelphia. After trying to show that the gold standard had been a great blessing to the laboring man, he declared in favor of the intention of the Republicans to substitute another system. The question at once arises, if the gold standard has been a blessing to the laboring man, why does not the Republican party advocate its retention, rather than its abandonment?

Because international bimetalism will have exactly the same effect as independent bimetalism in raising prices. If a fall in prices is an advantage, then a rise in prices cannot be desirable; and if, on the other hand, a rise in prices, whether obtained through independent bimetalism or through an international bimetalism, is an advantage, then the fall in prices caused by the gold standard must be admitted to have worked an injury.

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A GEORGIA HORROR.

Three Black Friends Set Fire to a Young Lady.

An Atlanta dispatch says Governor Atkinson is in receipt of a letter from Sheriff Patterson, of Decatur county, Ga., giving the particulars of a most distressing crime committed in that county one day last week, and asking the governor to offer a suitable reward for the arrest and conviction of the guilty party.

The sheriff tells of the heinous attempt to burn to death the 16-year-old daughter of a prominent citizen of Decatur county by three unknown negroes who escaped after their terrible crime, and are still at large. The negroes accosted the girl while at a spring a short distance from her father's house, and without apparent cause caught the child and proceeded to set fire to her clothing. She was then released and she ran screaming to her home, where she was expected to disalt accounts.

The governor is investigating the case fully, and if the facts warrant it, will offer a suitable reward for the capture of the three negroes.

The full particulars of the crime are contained in a clipping from the Bainbridge Democrat of recent date, which Sheriff Patterson sent Governor Atkinson, as follows:

"A story has reached here to the effect that on Monday the 16-year-old daughter of Mr. Jim Alday, of a lower part of this county, was in the spring for water, situated 200 yards from her father's house, and on reaching there was accosted by three negro men, who asked her name and who she was, and upon being informed asked if she was Jim Alday's child, and upon receiving an affirmative reply said:

"Well, — you, we are going to burn you up," and seized her, two of them held her while the third fired her skirts and then liberated her and told her to run.

"Scrambling for life, she ran like a deer to her father's door, but when she reached there every stitch of clothing had burned from her body and she was horribly burned all over, and by this time the unfortunate mother was probably dead from her injuries, although receiving the prompt and best medical attention.

"Whether the demons who perpetrated this horrible crime have been apprehended, we are unable to learn.

"The account of the crime was detailed to us by a gentleman who learned it from Dr. J. D. Chason, of Iron City, who just left the bedside of the young lady, and he expressed no hope of her recovery.

She was a thin old lady and climbed into the car at Kingstons with many hesitating turns of the head, and when her big black valise and other bundles had been piled upon the seat in front of her, she pushed back her red-striped shawl and looked out of the window with an air of contentment.

The train had