

Absolutely Too Small for an Honest South Carolinian's Acceptance.

So these so-called low-country counties contain two-thirds of the area of the State, and \$2,481,800 of taxable property, or about 80 per cent of the total assessed value of the State. This sum is divided into 14 counties, or an average of \$177,271 for each county. This is a very small sum for a county of the size of the low-country counties. It is not only small, but it is also very unequal. The low-country counties are not only small, but they are also very unequal. The low-country counties are not only small, but they are also very unequal.

Why does the Register make a comparison between the wealth of the low-country and the up-country? Why does that paper upbraid us by asking if the up-country should not be willing to allow us the State in view of some voice in the affairs of the State in view of these facts? For perhaps about the one-thousandth time the fact of our poverty has been thrown up to us in one way or another by Charleston or Columbia, or some of their special friends.

In the view of the fact that every citizen in the State, and every citizen in the State, according to their wealth, contributes a pro rata share to the expense of the Government, and in view of that fact, and of the fact that every citizen who is a rich man, or a populous county should enjoy special privileges which others are excluded. The up-country people, to the extent of their property, pay taxes at the same rate that their richer low-country neighbors pay. If we up-country people have less money than our low-country neighbors, it is our misfortune. If we up-country people have more money than our low-country neighbors, it is our good fortune.

So far, very few of the country newspapers have given expression on the subject, but as far as we have done so, we are almost uniformly in opposition to the proposition. The proposition is so much at variance with the public interest, and is based on so slight a pretext that we think the people would have trouble in settling the question, if it should be submitted to them.

The Mayor of the city has issued his proclamation saying that there is no further need of gifts of money to relieve the distressed. The proposition then, to secure the bonds of the State for "Charleston sufferers," must in fact be for the benefit of Charleston speculators or property holders.

The mechanics, laborers and other poor people, must be in a better condition now than ever before. Owing to the great demand for labor of all kinds, skilled mechanics and common laborers are receiving uncommonly high pay, and none of them are without employment.

While the amount of money received by the charity committee is immense, we do not recollect to have seen any statement as to the hands of the low-law as deserving of sympathy, and as deserving of the hand of Providence? We trust, therefore, that this repeated insinuation that the up-country people are less deserving of consideration, and should yield up something of their manhood because they have less money than Charleston, may not be made again.

Getting Down to Practical Business. The questions which have heretofore been put to applicants for teacher's certificates have been the subject of remark and adverse criticism, but we see by the editor of the "Teacher's Department" of the Newberry Herald and News, that the former impracticable questions have given place to practical questions which will put the ability to teach to the proper tests.

Let Charleston Pay the Expense of the Extra Session. In our opinion Governor Sheppard is too wise to be led into the error of calling the Legislature together. But if it shall be insisted that he should do so, we think the city of Charleston should first assume responsibility for the cost of the session.

A Newberry correspondent of the Charleston News and Courier desires to open the field for Abbeville. He urges Judges should be selected from the State at large, and not necessarily from the Circuit in which a vacancy is to be filled. This would give Abbeville an opportunity to furnish Newberry with a good Judge as well as a good Congressman.

A Proposition to Build up Port Royal.

It has been suggested that it would be cheaper for the State to build a town at Port Royal than to attempt to rebuild Charleston at an outlay of \$5,000,000. The water at Port Royal is deep enough for the heaviest ships, and no expense for deepening the bar would be incurred.

If Charleston succeeds in getting her "Earthquake bonds," we want provision made at the same time for the benefit of Ninety-six in case she succeeds in getting up a first-class earthquake. We think Charleston might divide with Ninety-six, if her little earthquake should go into business in real earnest.

Supplement.

We issue this week a half sheet supplement, in which will be found some interesting reading matter, and some diversions of much importance to those who have money to spend.

The Greenville News.

The Greenville News now takes the press dispatches, which will greatly enhance its value. Greenville has never had a better daily than the News has been under its present management, and we trust that its enterprising and laborious editor may be able to keep the paper up to the standard of the other press dispatches a good investment.

The letter of the Hon. J. M. Calhoun, in the House or any other property of the State, does not belong to the State, but to the people of the State. We find, upon the most reliable official authority, that the following have been the receipts of the State in phosphate royalties since the Legislature has been in power, up to and including the present year:

Table with 3 columns: Year, Amount, Total. Rows include 1872, 1873, 1874, 1875, 1876, 1877, 1878, 1879, 1880, 1881, 1882, 1883, 1884, 1885, 1886, 1887, 1888, 1889, 1890, 1891, 1892, 1893, 1894, 1895, 1896, 1897, 1898, 1899, 1900.

The exclusive right to dig phosphates having been granted to favorite corporations in Charleston, and these corporations being thus enabled to realize profits great enough to make the \$100 shares worth something like \$1,200, we see no necessity for the State to extend further aid to these corporations. We believe it has never been contended that the phosphate beds were injured by the earthquake. With exclusive privileges to engage in the most profitable business in the State, and with convicts to do the work, we do not see what more the phosphate diggers can ask.

Earthquake Bonds.

Our city contemporaries the News and Courier and the Register are laboring earnestly to induce Governor Sheppard to call an extra session of the Legislature. It is desired that the organic law of the State may be so altered as to allow the General Assembly to authorize the people to assume liability for the recent losses which Charleston has sustained by the earthquake.

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