

Prohibition.

The election last week in Atlanta indicates that the prohibitionists are on deck again. They carried the day in the gale city by a majority of about 216 votes.

The Death of Vice-President Hendricks.

With a deep sense of the loss, we announce the death of Thos. A. Hendricks, Vice-President of the United States. Mr. Hendricks died at his home in Indianapolis on last Wednesday, without even a premonitory symptom of the hasty and wholly unexpected demise.

The Governor's Message--Additional Appropriations Needed.

The Governor's message gives the aggregate of the State debt as \$6,522,188.51--practically the same as last year. The total revenues of the State for the fiscal year ending Nov. '84, \$2,089,000, of which \$1,836,000 was raised by taxation and \$157,000 from phosphate royalty.

The New Tax Bill Killed.

The tax bill was taken up but its consideration had only been resumed for a few minutes when Senator Earle, of Sumter, moved to strike out its enacting clause.

In Sight of the Promised Land at Last.

After weary years of waiting the fruition of our hopes, it seems, is about to be realized. At a meeting of corporators of the Augusta, Edgefield and Newberry Narrow Gauge held yesterday at the law office of Norris & Folk, a letter was read from President Mitchell, announcing the fact that he had put a canvasser in the field, of tried experience and success.

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Legislative Proceedings.

COLUMBIA, S. C., November 25.--Both Houses of the Legislature met at the usual hour this morning and proceeded to the consideration of bills left on the calendar from the last session. A number of matters of minor importance were disposed of in the Senate, and that body took up the bill prepared by the Tax Commissioner, and amended by the Comptroller General, providing for a better system of tax laws for the State, and discussed it until the hour of adjournment.

Gen. McCrady, of Charleston, has introduced the most sensible resolution yet offered. It provides for the appointment of a committee to consider and report what steps, if any, can be taken to limit the number of the bills introduced in the General Assembly. If the General can succeed in ascertaining how this can be done, and have it done, he will be rendering the State a great service.

Mr. Folk, of Edgefield, has introduced the following: A bill to require the Clerk of the Supreme Court of this State to furnish copies of all decisions filed by the Supreme Court to the courts below in all cases free of charge; also, a bill to establish and charter a bank in Edgefield village; also, a bill to amend an act entitled "An Act to incorporate the Edgefield and Augusta Railroad Company," also, a bill to change the Constitution of this State so as to make all county officers in the several counties of this State elective for the term of four years; also, a bill to reduce the pay of Sheriffs for detaining prisoners in the county jails from thirty five cents per diem to twenty five cents per diem; also, a bill to abolish the salary of the Lieutenant Governor of this State; also, a bill to change the law relating to years within which to prove a will in solemn form to six months; also, a bill to require the Master of Elections to transfer the records in the office of the late Commissioner in Equity to his office, and to label and index the same.

General Hemphill, of Abbeville, has introduced a bill to abolish the office of Supervisor of Registration and devolve the duties of the office upon county auditors.

Mr. R. D. Lee, of Sumter--A bill to provide for taking a State census. Col. Folk asked for and obtained leave of absence for his colleague, Capt. J. P. Blackwell, to enable him to attend a reunion of the 9th Ohio regiment at Zanesville, Ohio, and return to the regiment its flag captured by Capt. Blackwell during the war. Col. Folk paid a very pretty tribute to Captain Blackwell's gallantry, when as a mad boy in Virginia he distinguished himself by his splendid courage. The leave of absence was granted unanimously.

The following letter from General Capers explains the object of Capt. Blackwell's visit to Ohio, and is a fitting tribute to the services rendered his State on a great occasion: GREENVILLE, S. C., November 24, 1885.

My Dear Sir--I have agreed to return the flag of the 9th Ohio Volunteers, captured by our regiment at Franklin, on the 30th inst. The survivors of the 9th met at Zanesville, Ohio, on that day to receive their flag, and I wish you, as one of the parties immediately concerned in its capture, to bear it to them in my name and in behalf of the 24th South Carolina Volunteers. I have sent me the most cordial invitation, and extended the same to any representative of the 24th whom I may designate.

It will be impossible for me to go to Zanesville, and as I particularly wish some one of the regiment to represent it on so interesting an occasion, I knew of no one more suitable than yourself, who, with the gallant Tillman, Anderson, Walls, J. E. O. Carpenter, and others, took the colors of the Ohioans from the hands of their flagman. If it is necessary for this purpose that you should obtain a leave of absence for a few days from the sessions of the Legislature, I am sure that honorable body will readily accord it to you especially as you go to do honor to South Carolina on the soil of Ohio. Telegraph me your consent. Most truly yours, E. CAPERS.

To J. P. Blackwell, Columbia, South Carolina.

The tax bill was taken up but its consideration had only been resumed for a few minutes when Senator Earle, of Sumter, moved to strike out its enacting clause. He maintained that it was inequitable, that its provisions were designed to reflect upon the honesty of the taxpayers, that it was complicated and did not simplify existing laws, and that it was unnecessary in a State which paid 98 per cent. of its taxes. In order to save several days of useless consideration, he made the motion to kill at this time.

Senator Bobo said that the very characteristics of the bill which were objected to by the Senator from Sumter, were its chief merits. He trusted in the honesty of the people of South Carolina, more than in that of any other people, but he claimed that if this "inequitable process" would bring to book one tax dodger it ought to be passed. No honest man could object to telling the truth about his property.

Senator Smythe said that the bill was no child of his. He objected to its provisions and if they were not changed would vote against the bill on its final reading. He did not like some features which had been termed "inequitable." But there were other features which commended themselves to his judgment and which he should like to see adopted. He thought that it would be unfair to the framers of the bill, who had done their work very carefully, and unwise for various reasons to kill the bill before the Senators had had time to examine it and improve it.

Senator Earle said that he had made the motion to save time and believing that the question might as well be settled now. In view of the desire of certain Senators to examine the bill more carefully he withdrew his motion.

The consideration of the bill had, however, hardly been resumed when Senator Earle, at the request of several Senators, renewed his motion to kill. There was no further debate. The opposition to the measure had been carefully organized and was confident of its strength. The vote was as follows: Yeas--Benbow, Biemann, Black, Byrd, Clyburn, Earle, Lettner, Maxwell, Moody, Moore, of Anderson, Reynolds, Simmons, Sligh, Smith, Todd, Taber, Williams, Wingard and Woodward--11. Nays--Bell, Boyd, Field, McCall, Mauldin, Boist of Hampton, Munro, Patterson, Smythe and Youmans--11.

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For Retrenchment and Reform--A Move in the Right Direction. About forty members and Senators met in the hall of the House at 8 o'clock to night. There were two lawyers among them. Half a dozen prominent economists appeared to be engineering the movement. Senator Sligh, of Newberry, was asked to take the chair and Representative H. G. Sunday, of Anderson, was requested to act as secretary. They were subsequently elected permanent officers. Although there are a great many members of the Legislature, and some of them stringent economists, too, they were not invited to the meeting. The reporters were admitted freely.

Dr. Dune of Newberry, explained that the object of the meeting was to seek a reduction of the expenses of the Government by cutting down unnecessarily high official salaries and by uniting the economical members in opposition to excessive or unnecessary appropriations.

Speeches on the necessity and possibility of retrenchment were made by Col. Rucker and Senator Moore of Anderson, Mr. Ready of Edgefield, Senator Moody of Marion, Mr. Sunday of Anderson, and others.

Senator Black of York introduced a resolution which was adopted, that the Chair with the assistance of a committee of five, appoint a committee to investigate certain branches of State expenditure and report upon the reduction in salaries, &c., which might be necessary. The committees announced were: On Penitentiary and canal, Representative Massey, chairman, Senator Moore of Anderson, and Representative Gibson; on department of agriculture, phosphate royalty and privilege tax, Representative Pope, chairman, Representatives Melver and Fox; on salaries of State officers, judiciary, &c., Representative Rucker, chairman, Representatives Blake and Blue; on appropriations for educational institutions and the military, Representative Sunday, chairman, Senator Moody and Representative Pettigrew; on salaries of the officers of the Senate and House and other expenses, Representative McKissick, chairman, Representative Clinckale and Senator Smith; on salary of superintendent and expenses of the Asylum, Senator Black, chairman, and Representatives Ready and Davis; on salary and management of the office of railroad commissioners, Senator Sligh, chairman, Representatives Rutland and Wharton.

When the announcement of the committees was made several members took occasion to say that while they were in favor of economy, and would work and vote for economy, they would not be bound by any caucus decision. Some of the movers of the plan explained that the decisions of the caucus were not to be binding on individuals who objected to them. What they sought was unity of judgment and unity of vote. They wanted to get information on expenditures, and discuss retrenchment in the caucus.

At 9:30 the caucus adjourned, to meet again next Wednesday night at 8 o'clock when the reports of the committees are expected.

A Pleasant Account of a Trip to Charleston, Atlanta, and Minor Points. For the Advertiser.

MR. EDITOR: Hoping it will be interesting to the many readers of THE ADVERTISER, I will give you a short account of my recent visit to Charleston, the "City by the Sea," and Atlanta, the New York of the South and other places of less importance.