

Valuable Paper on Edgefield County in 1876 by Mr. Francis Simkins.

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and write some in favor of Hampton."

On August 15, the Democratic convention met in Columbia, all delegates sincerely united in advancing the interests of the white race, but still divided as to the better policy to secure this end. Applause from the floor and the crowded galleries greeted every word counselling unity. On the second day, the battle between delay and action was fought to a finish, the debate being between Butler, Gary, Lipscomb and DePass, of Kershaw on one hand, and Conner, of Charleston, on the other. By a vote of eighty-eight to sixty-four the Edgefield leaders were triumphant. Butler, then amid enthusiasm nominated Hampton for governor.

There was no other person in South Carolina better fitted than this nominee for the role of arousing white sentiment and of convincing Northern opinion of the liberal intentions of his party. Hampton was the wealthy son of an illustrious and aristocratic house in the state of strong aristocratic traditions. His association with the Confederacy as ranking officer from South Carolina and as sometime chief of cavalry (in the moment of defeat) made him dear to the hearts of a people who cherished so passionately a Lost Cause.

He was of handsome physique a leader of men without military training, and was filled with enthusiasm for the cause of white supremacy. To appeal to the negro and Northern opinion were qualities of moderation not possessed by Gary and Butler. He always cherished a sincere love for the black man in the role of mediator; he had opposed Secession and was ready to boast the fact that he had early advocated Southern acquiescence in the recent amendments to the constitution of the United States, giving the negro full civil rights. But for his moderating influence, the plans of the South Carolina revolutionists might have failed.

Yet Hampton was by no means possessed of those full qualities of genius with which his uncritical admirers have since endowed him. He was a most ordinary speaker with little variety of utterance. He was possessed of a limited intelligence. Like the Julius Caesar of Shakespeare, his was a name, and personality to conjure with; others possessed of less reputation and more powers of understanding and action were destined to supplement the movement of which he was nominal head by the use of qualities that he did not possess. In the opinion of Ball and Tillman, he went to his grave believing that his powers of eloquence in the canvass of the state converted enough negroes to secure his election.

The Democratic plan of campaign moved on two lines of strategy: The first was the Hampton canvass of ovals and words which served to arouse the whites and play upon the sentiment of the North. This supplemented by the real and effective use of force which was effectively hidden beneath the Hampton pageant. By these methods, in which the Edgefield leaders took leadership, the campaign of 1876 was won, and not by the oratory of Hampton. I shall therefore omit from my article consideration of the canvass that opened at Anderson and closed in Columbia.

Back of the conservative speeches of Hampton and the moderate editorials of Dawson was the determination of the advocates of the Straight-Out Policy to drive the Republicans from power by the continued prudent use of force. For this purpose military clubs, which as early as 1867 had been recognized, as harmless social clubs, were by the summer of 1876, multiplied into formidable military organizations that in reality performed in their way, more of the functions of government than the government in Columbia. They were by express statute outlawed. The ostensible purpose of their existence was the protection of whites against black organization—then a real danger; their more immediate purpose was to strike terror into the hearts of the black majority. Babbit, Chamberlain's private secretary, enumerates with places or organization and names of officers 287 of the "rifle clubs," "artillery companies" and "red shirt brigades." In five counties no data could be obtained concerning their organization owing to the risk of securing information. Multiplying 287 by 50 (average number in company) we have 14,350 men duly enrolled. We are safe in concluding that the actual number of men included all the white males able to ride. Edgefield County led the list with thirty-five of these companies; Aiken came next with twenty-nine.

Their activity consisted of: First, breaking up or disturbing Republican meetings; second, defensive and offensive action against negroes guilty of crimes; third, dexterous action on election day; fourth, making Chamberlain's attempts to be governor of more than the state house a de facto farce. The first of these enumerated lines of activity demands detailed treatment.

On August 12, three days before the Democratic convention, the practice of forcibly disturbing Republican meetings as first resorted to in Edgefield by six hundred mounted and fully armed white men under the leadership of Butler and Gary. Governor Chamberlain, Judge Mackey, and Robert Smalls, a colored member of congress—the speakers of the day—were forced to listen to the two Edgefield Generals, backed by the drawn pistols of their retainers, roundly denounce the governor. Chamberlain's speech was interrupted by jeers. Butler replied in bitter words in which he demanded that the charges of the governor concerning the Hamburg Riot be proven. The third speaker, Mackey, fearful of the personal safety of the Republican leaders, was very mild in his words. While he spoke the improvised stand collapsed. The last speaker, Gary, accused Chamberlain of fraud and personal dishonor. He, at a later meeting declared "that the Democrats would carry this county peaceable, but carry it they would." Chamberlain left the village of Edgefield in hot haste, never to return. At a later date on which he was scheduled to speak here, the train en route was searched vainly at every station by armed men in search of the illusive governor. The conduct of interrupting Republican meetings, begun in Edgefield was repeated in Newberry, August 18, and at almost every meeting at which Republicans tried to speak. Only at Chainho, Charleston County, did the negroes get the better of the day; there the whites were driven away and six of their number killed.

The effect of this practice of dividing time is obvious. The Republican orators and audiences were frightened into a timid campaign of defense. The governor himself, the equal of any South Carolinian in peaceful debate, became thoroughly frightened by the "rebel yell" and the open display of revolvers. The timid leaders became so discomfited that the Union Herald, Chamberlain's organ, declared: "Public meetings are not necessary to arouse Republicans or inform them." Chamberlain's frequent trips north during the heat of the campaign were ascribed to fear.

The conduct at Hamburg bore in another riot in Aiken County known as the Ellenton Riot; important because the series of events growing out of it lead to the proclamations of the governor and the president of the United States demanding the dispersion of the rifle clubs. These orders were not obeyed. On August 17 came the war department order to General Sherman ordering the dispatch of all available troops in the military district of the Atlantic, to South Carolina as reinforcements to the eight companies of 589 officers and enlisted men already in the state. General Ruger, the general in command at Columbia, divided the troops sent to him, which on election day consisted of 1,526 in all, into sixty-seven different units distributed throughout the state. 113 men were sent to Edgefield, the largest contingent except at headquarters.

All evidence indicates that the temporary benefits derived from the reinforced military occupation more than offset effect expressed in the justified alarm of those fearful for civil liberty and government. According to General Conner the troops did not in any instance interfere with the voting. The Democratic members of the committee later charged with the investigation of the situation in South Carolina in 1876 said that the bearing of the troops was "prudent and wise." The testimony of B. R. Tillman is to the same effect. The troops, in fact, resolutely refused to interfere with either side by force preventing the other from voting. While they were in the state there was only one serious riot. Hampton's advice to the people of Aiken to submit was obeyed. The people of Charleston feted the gentlemanly West Point officers.

Intense excitement and remarkable good order prevailed on election day, November 7, 1876. The slowly arriving returns indicated as doubtful who had a majority. Robbins Box Barnwell county, having been thrown out. There the voting place had been fired upon, and the box removed to an abandoned school house from

(Continued on sixth page.)

*Reynolds, Reconstruction in S. C. is in error when he says 5,000 troops were in state.

For Sale and Rent.

I have some good mules, a nice mare, some Jersey cows and farm tools for sale at attractive prices. Also wagons and a practically new buggy.

My home dwelling with water and modern fixtures, farm well, fenced and several pastures, for rent. Will give a desirable working man a good chance. Come and see.

G. D. MIMS,
10-12-2t. Clarks Hill, S. C.

FOR SALE: One fine pointer bitch, well broken, good qualities.
10-5-2t S. W. MILLER.

The Edgefield Mercantile Company offers its entire stock of buggies, wagons, furniture, rugs, stoves, etc., at unheard of prices for cash. Come one and all and see our goods and prices and buy what you have needed for a long time.—Advertisement.

Notice of Sale of Real Estate.

In the District Court of the United States for the Western District of South Carolina.

In the matter of S. J. Neal, bankrupt.

Pursuant to an order signed by S. M. Smith, Esq., Referee in Bankruptcy, I will proceed to sell at public outcry in front of Edgefield Court House, at Edgefield, South Carolina on November 7th, 1921, the following described realty:

Tract No. One: That tract containing two hundred acres, more or less, in Edgefield County, Ward Township, and bounded by lands of Huiet, Williams, Clark, Neal, Holmes and being on the Augusta-Columbia road and known as the Jack Holmes Mill Place.

Tract No. Two: That tract being in Edgefield County, Ward Township, containing twenty-three acres, more or less, and bounded by Neal, Lott, Posey, and being a part of the S. J. Neal estate.

Terms of Sale: One-half cash and the balance in one year or all cash at the option of the buyer.

Any information relative to the above may be had by applying to the undersigned at Edgefield, South Carolina.

O. B. ANDERSON,
Trustee.

10-12-3t.

County Treasurer's Notice.

The County Treasurer's office will be open for the purpose of receiving taxes from the fifteenth day of October, 1921 to the fifteenth day of March, 1922.

All taxes shall be due and payable between the fifteenth day of October, 1921 and December the thirty first, 1921.

That when taxes charged shall not be paid by December the thirty first, 1921 the County Auditor shall proceed to add a penalty of one per cent. for January and if taxes are not paid on or before February the first 1922, the County Auditor will proceed to add two per cent, and five per cent additional, from the first of March to the fifteenth of March, after which time all unpaid taxes will be collected by the Sheriff.

The tax levies for 1921 are as follows:

	Mills
For State purposes	12
For Ordinary County	11
For Past Indebtedness	5
For Constitutional School tax	3
For Antioch	8
For Bacon School District	14
For Blocker	8
For Blocker Limestone	4
For Colliers	4
For Flat Rock	4
For Oak Grove	3
For Red Hill	8
For Edgefield	10
For Elmwood No. 8	8
For Elmwood No. 9	2
For Elmwood No. 30	2
For Hibler	8
For Elmwood L. C.	3
For Harmony	3
For Johnston	15
For Meriwether (Gregg)	2
For Moss	3
For Brunson School	4
For Ropers	2
For Shaw	4
For Sweetwater	4
For Talbert	8
For Trenton	14
For Wards	8
For Wards No. 33	4
For Blocker R. R. (portion)	6
For Elmwood R. (portion)	6
For Johnston R. R.	3
For Pickens R. R.	3
For Wise R. R.	3
For Corporation	30 1/2

All male citizens between the ages of 21 and 60 years, except those exempt by law, are liable to a poll tax of One Dollar each.

All owners of dogs are required to pay the sum of \$1.25 for each dog of the age of six months or older. This is not included in the property tax but a tag must be purchased from the County Treasurer for each dog between October 15, and December 31, of each year.

The law prescribes that all male citizens between the ages of 18 and 55 years must pay \$4.00 commutation tax. No commutation is included in the property tax. So ask for road tax receipt when you desire to pay road tax. Time for paying road tax will expire February 1, 1922.

J. L. PRINCE,
Co. Treas. E. C.

Making Extraordinary Mileage a Certainty

Car Owners want more rubber on the tread where the wear is hardest; more gum between cord plies to perfect a resilient and powerful carcass. And they want a scientifically constructed Non Skid tread with all angles and contacts to resist skidding and give sure traction. Firestone Cord Tires have met these demands of the car owners.

Read Letters Below—

Records from 29,000 to 57,000 Miles

Cord Tires built the Firestone way could not fail to produce mileage. Every day, from all over the country, comes the word that 10,000, 20,000 or 30,000 miles are frequent and consistent records.

Sept. 10, 1921

Firestone Tire & Rubber Co., Jacksonville Branch, Jacksonville, Florida.

Gentlemen:—

I submit herewith the history of a 32x4 Firestone Cord tire. This tire has run 57,000 miles. I have retreaded it seven times. The average mileage to each retreading was about 7,000. I think you will agree this is a remarkable record. It is especially unusual as I know the owner to be a severe driver. However, he gives his tires proper inflation. The tire in question is not yet out of service and has every indication of being sufficiently strong for another retread. I am mailing photographs under separate cover.

C. U. Penny,
Plant City, Fla.

Now and then they are emphasized by unusual instances such as quoted below. Performances like these demonstrate the ultimate possibilities of Firestone Cords under careful driving.

Sept. 2, 1921

The Harvey E. Mack Co., Thirtieth & Harmon Place, Minneapolis.

Gentlemen:—

It occurs to me that you might be interested in the mileage that I obtained from a set of Firestone Cord tires on my Dodge coupe. The first tire went over 29,000 miles. The second tire rolled up a mileage of between 34,000 and 35,000. These were both rear tires and had been cut considerably by chains. The two front tires have gone better than 35,000 miles and are still in good condition. I expect to get at least 40,000 miles from each of them. I need scarcely say that the Firestone Cord will be my tire choice for the future.

Archie H. Beard,
522 LaSalle Bldg., Minneapolis.

FABRIC
30X 3 1/2
NON SKID
EXTRA SIZE
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In this fabric tire as in our cord tires only Firestone resources and experience can provide this quality at this price.

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GASOLINE AND KEROSENE ENGINES

Pumping, Wood Sawing and Feed Grinding Outfits.



Eyes scientifically examined and glasses properly fitted.

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Optometrist-Optician,
Edgefield, S. C.

J. S. BYRD
Dental Surgeon

Office Over Store of Quarles & Timmerman
Office Phone No. 3
Residence Phone 87

Consult Your Own Interest by Consulting Us When Buying

Metal or Composition Roofing

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Trim Hardwar
Wall Board
Doors, Sash, etc.

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685 Broad St. Telephone 1697
AUGUSTA, GEORGIA

THE FARMERS BANK

OF EDGEFIELD, S. C.

Capital and Surplus \$175,000.00

SAFETY AND SERVICE IS WHAT WE OFFER TO THE PUBLIC

Open your account with us for the year 1921. Invest your savings in one of our Interest Bearing Certificates of Deposit.

Lock boxes for rent in which to keep your valuable papers, etc.

All business matters referred to us pleasantly and carefully handled. **We Solicit Your Business.**

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—HOGS—

I am breeding nothing but absolutely Pure Bred Duroc hogs, all registered, and have pigs, both sexes, ready for delivery.

Edgefield farmers can get the BEST in hogs right at home, without paying express. Express is a big item now. See or write me.

W. E. B. Tompkins,
Edgefield, S. C.
Route 3.

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