

# The Orangeburg News.

GOD AND OUR COUNTRY.

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## Mass Meeting in Charleston.

At a mass meeting held in Charleston last week, at which five or six thousand persons were present, Gen. Meigs, Judge Melton and Gen. R. B. Elliott were the principal speakers. Judge Melton made an extended speech, beginning with the history of this State during and since the war, and a vindication of his reasons for becoming a Republican. He disclaimed any feeling of hostility to that vast majority of the white people of the State who differed with him in politics, and paid a high tribute to the worth and character of the people of his native State. He believed that the reason the colored men had been compelled to turn to the carpet bagger for leadership and advice was because the native South Carolinians had refused to lead them. The colored people, in their ignorance and inexperience, had to have white men to lead them; there was a demand for white men, and, as is always the case, that demand found its supply. He had no words of opprobrium for honest Republicans coming to the South, but for those men who had come with their shrunken carpet-bags, intending only to swindle a fortune for themselves out of this State and then return to their native North, he had the most ardent contempt. The result of carpet-baggism had been that the State was bankrupt in funds, in resources and in credit, and was left standing before the civilized world a burning disgrace to Republican institutions. There was no use mincing words about the matter, and the State had been run clear into the ground by unbounded and unprecedented inequalities. The white men from the North came down here, took charge of affairs and found the colored men docile, obedient and anxious to discharge their new duties of citizenship in an honest and creditable manner. Among them came his esteemed friend, Mr. Reuben Tomlinson, his other highly respected friend, the Hon. D. T. Corbin, and many others whom it was unnecessary to mention. One of those men was now the Bolters' candidate for Governor, and he had one or two little remarks to make about him. He came down here in 1862, lauded by the Bolters and engaged in the occupation of a school-master. That was very laudable thus far, and if he had stuck to teaching school he would probably not have had to say these things against him. But he only pursued that profession until reconstruction came, when he was elected a Representative in the General Assembly. At that time the colored people had no idea of bribery and corruption, and, but for the teachings they soon received, they would still be pure and uncorrupted. But bribery was brought to them, and they were hardy to be blamed for beginning it. The State then had a bank, of the bills of which a large amount had been issued before the war. Those bills were bought up in 1867 and 1868 by a few sharp men, and one of the first statutes enacted in this State by the new Legislature was an act to issue bonds to redeem those bills. That act was passed through the Legislature by means of bribery. He would not name the bribers, but he had already mentioned them, and they still held firm Charleston County. Next his esteemed friend, Mr. Reuben Tomlinson, was elected auditor, and in 1868, while he was auditor, a bill was passed creating the sinking fund and sinking fund commission. The direct object of that bill was to enable the Greenville Railroad King to obtain for themselves, for a mere song, the shares of stock of the Greenville and Columbia Railroad then owned by the State, and he charged directly that bill was passed by means of bribery, and that Tomlinson was connected with the passing of that bill, and was a prominent member of that Ring. In that transaction he prostituted his office, betrayed his trust, debauched the Legislature, and pilfered the property of the State. In carrying out the conspiracy he got James L. Orr, who then had the confidence of the white people of the assembly, to induce them to sell their shares in the Greenville Road for a mere pittance, and for that service James L. Orr was well rewarded. The Ring got possession of the road, and the company was reorganized. A Pennsylvania man was made its president, another Pennsylvania man was made vice-president, and Reuben Tomlinson was made the treasurer, at a salary of

three thousand dollars a year. He was at one and the same time treasurer of the Greenville Road at three thousand dollars per annum, auditor of the State at twenty-five hundred dollars, and member of the Legislature at about one thousand dollars. It was said that about that time Tomlinson had gone to Corbin and told him that there was a terrible lot of stealing going on around him, and he thought he had better resign, and that Corbin had said, "Yes, Reuben, you had better get out of that. Scott is a thief, Parker is a thief, Neagle is a thief, Cardozo is a thief, they all are thieves. You had better slide out, old boy, and get away." But if they had discovered all that why did they not stand up and denounce the frauds as they were bound by their oaths as a senator and a representative of the people to do. Just about that time another little job was sprung, by which the right to mine the whole phosphate deposits of this State was given to a private corporation for the pitiful royalty of one dollar per ton. Tomlinson was a member and Corbin was a member of that conspiracy. It required fifty thousand dollars to get that bill through the Legislature, because it was a swindle, and Tomlinson and Corbin were the men who put it through. Then Gov. Scott vetoed the bill. Tomlinson up to that moment had been the friend and spokesman of the Governor, but that day they had a falling out, and they never have been friends since. It required \$75,000 more to pass the bill over the Governor's veto, and he charged that Tomlinson was engaged in that. He charged that when the senators refused to trust the promises of future payment made to them by the man who was employed to lobby through the Senate, Reuben Tomlinson came forward and pledged his personal faith and credit that the bribes should be paid them. That, he said, he stood ready to prove against Reuben Tomlinson whenever and wherever he chose to meet it. He also charged that when he left the office of the State auditor he left, first, to take charge of the Greenville and Columbia Railroad King, and, secondly, to put up the phosphate job, and that he got for his services \$40,000 worth of phosphate stock and the trusteeship of the company, of which D. T. Corbin was the president and attorney.

Judge Melton closed with an appeal to the audience in support of the regular candidates, and Sheriff Mackey, after another interlude by the band, introduced General Moses as the nominee of the regular Republican party of South Carolina for their next Governor. Mr. Moses was received with a perfect ovation of cheers, and made a spirited and effective speech. He repeated the pledges of the regular Republican party and promised their faithful fulfillment in the event of his election; and he then proceeded to make an answer to the charges which had been brought against him. He said that if he were there as an individual he would not open his lips in explanation or denial, but as the candidate of the Republican party, he believed it a duty which he owed to the party and the people to meet and refute those charges. He said, first, that although he had been connected with the State Government since 1862, he had never been in such a position as to have control of one dollar of its finances. Those finances were managed by regularly constituted boards—the financial board, the land commission board, the sinking fund commission. His name was to be found among none of them; and he declared, upon his responsibility and honor as a man, that there had never during his official life been an occasion when one dollar of the State money had to pass through his hands, directly or indirectly. For many months, however, all the little dogs in the party, "Fray, Blanche and Sweetheart" had been barking at him, and on that day a little party in Charleston had propounded a terrible string of questions for him to answer that evening. He would not shrink from answering all those questions, and he challenged that paper to search the record for themselves and ascertain if his answer was in the least degree false or equivocal. He then read from the Charleston Republican the first question, which was as follows:

When it was first made in the report of the joint special financial investigating committee he had risen in his place in the Assembly and made his defence. He had then demanded that the Assembly should if they believed him guilty, take immediate steps to investigate his conduct. That defence had been at the time published in the Charleston daily papers, and even they had done him the justice to say that the charge so far as he was concerned had been cleared away. The writer of the committee's report later afterwards admitted the same thing in the General Assembly, and then proceeded with a repetition of the explanations which he made last winter, which were to the effect that he had been ordered by the Governor to make contracts for tea for the use of 10,200 guns; that he had absolutely nothing to do with the transaction except to make the contracts, the financial agent being directed to pay the bills; that he contracted for the alteration of 2000 at \$7 each, and for 5000 at one dollar each; that the sum total of all the contracts which he made for the State was \$123,000, that the amount charged on the financial agent's books on those accounts was \$209,000, but that he had no more connection with or responsibility for those payments than any private citizen, and that the vouchers, contracts and proofs of those assertions were on file both in the treasurer's office and the adjutant general's office, where any citizen of the State had a right to go and examine them, and test the truth of his assertions.

The next question was as follows: Thirdly. We want to know something about that \$11,000 on the armed force question. Will Mr. Moses explain this? Will he tell the people that it was a draft cashed by certain parties, (we know who,) for certain services rendered? No dodging of this. Let it bring into dispute whom it may, give us the facts backed by incontrovertible proof. The people demand it! They have a right to know.

In reply to this he said that the opinion seemed to be current that the armed force fund had something to do with the military purposes, but the fact was that nobody had anything to do with the drafts upon that fund but the Governor. As to the eleven thousand dollars of the armed force fund which were charged to him between November, 1871, and June, 1872, it had nothing to do with any transaction during that period, and was not paid out at that time. That money was paid to him for legitimate military expenses and for the use of the adjutant-general's department in the summer of 1871, fully one year ago. The Governor at that time gave him two warrants upon the State treasury, one for five thousand dollars, and the other for six thousand dollars, but there was no money in the treasury to pay the warrants and they had to be discounted. They were accordingly discounted, and last winter, when there was money in the treasury, the parties who held them brought them forward, and they were paid, so that they were charged on the treasury books as though they had been paid out at that time and to him. For all those facts the proofs were on file in the treasurer's and adjutant-general's office, and they were

such proofs as a public officer had a right to offer. If those proofs were not sufficient, he could say that no citizen of the State was safe from the charges of maliciously or calumniously such proofs as a public officer had a right to offer. In reply to the charge of issuing fraudulent pay certificates, he fell back upon the report of Treasurer Parker, and declared that that document would prove conclusively that the charge was untrue and he took occasion publicly to brand the men who made it as an infamous libel. He also demanded them to produce the evidence upon which their assertions were based and show to the people of South Carolina whether he had been issuing fraudulent pay certificates, or whether his accusers had been lying. He stood before the people conscious of the immense responsibility devolving upon the position he occupied. He acknowledged that the party he represented had been guilty of errors in the past but hoped that it would redeem them in the future. He solemnly affirmed the earnestness of his party in saying that the government of South Carolina must and should be purified. There was an opportunity afforded all men for repentance, and there never had been a grander opportunity for the repentance of his party over past errors. He invited the white people of the State to come forward and lend their aid in restoring general prosperity, and promised that, should he be elected, he would lend a ready ear to every man who might apply for protection of right or redress of wrong. His party did not wish to rob the white people of their rights they desired rather to protect them in the enjoyment thereof. They wished to fill up the chasm which had been riven between the white man and the black, not with dead men's bones, but by burying within it every division of sentiment, so that the two races could clasp their hands above it and march forward for the good of the State. Many persons had assailed him and filled the air with harsh sayings to his injury, but he could raise his right hand to heaven and affirm that should he enter the gubernatorial chair it would be without cherishing one spark of resentment in his bosom. He concluded by making a strong appeal to the Democrats to come forward and assist in securing the State from ruin, but declared that whether they responded or not, his party were determined that their rights should not be impaired in any degree, and he pledged himself to that effect.

What is It?  
Some say, in its embryotic State it denoted kinship to the marauding order. Some say, it belonged to the ophioid reptiles. Some say, it was a pachyderm that propagated the droll thing. Others say it was extruded from the womb of an old vertebrate of the biped species. It certainly does not belong to the Cetacea, it has not tail enough. It is not of the owl family, it has not head enough. What is it? Zoology, ichthyology, and all the otherologies fail to establish its exact identity. What it is and what kind of an animal gave birth to it nobody knows. But it is something. What is it? That's the question. Solve it if you can.

Gentlemen you've all failed. Its very easy to tell what it is. Its an "idea," a perspective "idea" that may be an idea by the idea yet to come. Yes it's an "idea"—a grand, glorious and magnanimous "idea" to elevate a little Station somewhere on the South Carolina Rail Road (forget its name, think though it commences with a B) out of mud sluices and cypress ponds. An "idea" to rob Orangeburg of her well earned laurels—laurels which she has won by the enterprise go-ahead-triumph, public spirit, and large heartedness of her merchants and other citizens. An "idea" to tax her for the benefit of this little out-of-the-way station; to force her to open a road and build bridges at the expense of her own citizens; to divert trade from her merchants; to force her citizens to dig in mud and water for no benefit to themselves. An "idea" for this little one-horse affair to play the tune and for the citizens of Orangeburg to pay the piper.

What arrogance! Presumption! Surely, this little side-pocket is trying to put on airs. Maybe it's got a fire engine, who knows? Maybe it's aspiring to have a church steeple. Should it keep

on as it's begun, no doubt, in time it will have a barber shop. Hopes yours. "I'll stop these some of these days, so they all can see the elephant."

Keep quiet little non-descript (forget your name) children must hear and not be heard. Don't be whining around us, you're none of our off-spring, and we ain't going to give you any nourishment. Take a bottle and quill if you can't do any better. Maybe you'd better move over on the Port Royal road—perhaps you'd do better there. Suppose you go over and see. Don't bodder us. SHOO FLY.

Boyhood of Galileo.  
There was once a man named Galileo, who loved the stars, and found out much that was new and strange in the skies; and it was he who first made it known that the earth moves. He was born in Italy three hundred years ago.

He was a poor boy. With his knife he made ships and men out of wood, and he would melt lead and run it into molds that he had made. He had such skill that he could mend the toys which the boys would break, and they would bring them to him, that he might make them whole and sound. When they would whip their tops, he would stand by and think what it was that made the tops move.

He wished to come at the truth of all things he saw. But the dear friends in his home on the banks of the Arno were poor, and though they had hopes for the boy whom all tongues praised, they knew it would cost too much to send him to a good school away from home. So he was kept home for a time, and taught there.

His parents at first thought it would be a good thing if their son would learn to buy and sell, so that his gains would raise them up once more. But as the boy still loved his books they said "Let him go on with them; we will try to send him to a great school as soon as we can."

His father raised some funds and sent him to Pisa, where a great school for young men was kept. It was hoped the boy would learn to be a doctor, and know the use of drugs, and the way to bind up wounds and to cure the sick.

But the boy did not like to be tied down to books that told of drugs, and the way to make sick folks well. It seemed to him like going round and round in a ring, as a mill horse does. They were as wise as any in that day, but he could see they were blind guides at the best.

One day he was in the grand church in Pisa, where he saw the great lamp swing as it hung from the roof by a cord. From this he found out how things swing to and fro, and he gave to the world the law of the pendulum, by which clock work is made to go right.

When Galileo was forty-five years old he was in Venice, and he heard there that a man in a Dutch town had made a tube with a piece of glass in each end, which, when raised to the eye, made things look larger. He went to work at once, and made a tube of lead and put in each end a piece of glass, such as you have seen in a pair of specs. With this tube he looked at which he looked seemed to be three times as large as before.

By means of this tube, which we call a telescope, the face of the moon was seen to be made up of hills and vales, and plains, like our own earth. Jupiter was seen to have four little moons. Venus looked like a moon with horns, and from this fact she was known to be like a ball. And new stars were seen in the sky.

Galileo Galileo—for that was his name in full—was one of the greatest men that have ever lived. —Young Folks News.

Somebody having applied to an editor for a method by which he might cure his daughter of her partiality for young gentlemen is kindly informed that there are several methods of reform. One way is to skin the young person; another is to put her into a well and drop a few loads of gravel or her head another is to bind her ankles to an anvil and upset her out of a boat.

A little boy three years old gave a reason for his infant brothers good behavior as follows: "Baby doesn't cry tears because he doesn't drink any water and he can't cry milk."

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