

THE ALLEN RECORDER.

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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1881.

A Word of Caution.

Representative men from all sections of the State are now assembled in Columbia, who are the exponents of decency and civilization and the honor and glory of the Commonwealth. Now then is the appointed time to take friendly counsel concerning the methods by which the next campaign is to be conducted.

We, therefore, as a preliminary step to organization, advise that a searching investigation be made as to the best means for obtaining a full and fair expression of the popular will in the primary assemblages of the party.

While our earnest hope that the people will be able to elect a more enlightened and more liberal administration, we do not wish to see the people misled by the false promises of any man.

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A Miserable Mail Arrangement.

We desire to call attention of the postoffice department to the fact that mail matter for Greenville from the South Carolina Railroad from any point south does not reach its destination until the next day.

ALL of the South Carolina Congressional delegation have been sworn in, and although Stollbrand, Sam Lee, Small and E. W. M. Mackey are present, the chances of successfully contesting any of their seats is improbable.

Defeat of the Lien Law Repealers.

It will be seen elsewhere, in our report of the Legislature, that the repeal of the Lien law has been defeated by the decisive vote of 70 to 57 in the House, upon the question to strike out the enacting clause of the bill.

While we do not accept this view of the case, we are glad that it has not been repeated, because we believe that a measure like this, which after all, is regulated to a great extent by the laws of supply and demand, and which involves no infringement of the personal rights or liberties of the citizen, can safely be left to those who utilize its provisions for the establishment of the necessary checks which justice, common sense and sound economy will naturally suggest.

We do not desire to enter into a discussion of the Lien law, as the newspapers throughout the length and breadth of the State have rung the monotonous charges on this subject for months past; but we do say that if the objections to the existing law were even greater than they are alleged to be, still the members of the House have acted wisely in refusing to repeal it in the face of a hard crop year and in the face of so respectable an opposition.

It is not to be expected that the bill will flicker out in defeat at the hands of the Senate, if by never so small a majority. This is no time for radical changes in our established modes of doing business. Our State is prospering under the rule of an honest Democratic administration.

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LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS.

Summary of the Most Important Legislation of the Week. COLUMBIA, Dec. 5.—The third week of the Legislative session began this morning with nearly all the members present at home excepting the recess of three days, and a slim attendance in the House.

The following are among the bills introduced: By Mr. Bissell, a bill to exempt the County of Colleton from the provisions of the Act to regulate the sale of intoxicating liquors in this State, approved December 24, 1881.

By Mr. Williamson a bill to amend Chapter XVII of the Revised Statutes relative to the time to allow counties to pay their taxes. The bill provides for the State so as to allow two hours in court and one hour in the Supreme Court subject to limitation of the presiding judge.

A bill to regulate the laying out and working of new roads and highways. After getting through with about one-fourth of the business on the calendar, a very interesting little skirmish was commenced by a motion made by Mr. Pierce of Anderson, to take a recess until half past 4 o'clock.

COLUMBIA, December 6.—The business of the day was devoted to routine matters and the discussion of the militia bill. The section providing a levy of one-tenth of one per cent. of the assessed value of all real estate was bitterly opposed, but the section finally passed by a vote of 59 to 37.

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Agricultural Department.

Book Farming vs. Experience. Scarcely differences constantly arise from a mere misapplication of terms, and this is never more evident than in the case now under consideration.

There is another feature of the existing law in its economic aspect that is worthy of our attention. From the impoverished condition of our people, the scarcity of timber in some sections and of labor in others, the great bulk of the fencing in Aiken and other counties is merely nominal, a sham, not a reality.

On Thursday the 8th inst., a theatre in Vienna was destroyed by fire, and it is estimated that six hundred lives have been lost.

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