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Politics and News.

Legislative Proceedings.

COLUMBIA, March 22.—In the Senate, the following acts were ratified to-day: The appropriation act; an act repealing an act to prevent persons holding certain offices of emolument from leaving the State; an act to amend an act to regulate the manner of drawing jurors; an act to amend an act defining the jurisdiction of Probate Courts; an act to define the duties of State reporter and provide for the publication of the Supreme Court reports; an act repealing section eight of an act to amend the criminal law; an act to provide for an election to fill certain vacancies in county offices; an act to incorporate the Dorn Mining and Manufacturing Company; an act to amend the charter of the Town of Greenville; an act to incorporate the South Carolina Improvement and Trust Company; the joint resolution authorizing the Comptroller-General to furnish offices for the officers of the Executive Department.

The Governor sent in his veto of an act to provide for the uniform and proper promulgation of all legal and public notices, and the veto was sustained.

The following were read a second time and ordered to be engrossed: Bill to provide for a land commissioner; bill repealing the tenth section of an act appointing a Board of Commissioners for the City of Charleston.

The Port Royal Railroad bill was postponed to the next session.

The joint resolution authorizing the distribution of twenty-five thousand dollars ordered to be appropriated for school purposes by Gen. Canby, to be apportioned among the several counties, was ordered to be enrolled.

The House Educational bill was laid on the table, thus preventing any educational act passing this session.

In the House, the resolution to suspend *habes corpus* in the Counties of Laurens, Edgefield, Newberry and Abbeville was indefinitely postponed by a vote of yeas sixty-four, nays none.

The following were read a second time and ordered to be engrossed: Bill to incorporate the Palmetto Fire and Marine Insurance Co.; bill to provide a place for holding court in Barnwell County; joint resolution to appoint a committee to investigate the state of affairs in the Third Congressional District; bill to prevent and punish duelling; bill to regulate the manner of granting final dismissal to executors, trustees, guardians or committees; bill to incorporate the various boards of trustees of the M. E. Church in South Carolina; joint resolution authorizing the Commissioners of Oconee to sell the State interest in the Keowee and Luckasege turnpike road; bill to regulate the formation of corporations.

The following were passed and their titles changed to acts and ordered to be enrolled: Bill to facilitate the settlement of the affairs of the Bank of the State; bill to incorporate the Wateree and North Carolina Railroad Company; bill to authorize the financial agent of the State of South Carolina, in the City of New York, to pledge State bonds as collateral security.

The bill to punish bribery and corruption, with several others, was laid over until the regular session.

MARCH 23.—In the Senate Bills read a second time yesterday, received a third reading, their titles were changed to Acts, and they were ordered to be enrolled.

The Senate appropriated five hundred dollars to purchase a new carpet for the University Library Room.

In the House, Bills read a second time yesterday received their third reading, their titles were changed to Acts and ordered to be enrolled.

The Governor has approved the Acts ratified yesterday.

Both Houses have agreed to a concurrent resolution requesting Congress to aid the construction of the Memphis, El Paso and Trans-Continental Southern Pacific Railroad.

A Bill to provide for the appointment of Land Commissioners has been ordered to be enrolled.

MARCH 24.—The General Assembly adjourned *sine die* at 3 o'clock to-day.

Wright and Buck, of the Senate, and Crews, Elliott, McIntyre, Smalls and Bryant, of the House, five Republicans and two Democrats, were appointed a Joint Committee of Investigation for the Third Congressional District.

A Joint Committee was appointed to examine the books and accounts of the Comptroller-General and Treasurer, in accordance with an Act to regulate the manner of keeping and disbursing funds by certain officers.

The House voted Speaker Moses four hundred dollars gratuitously.

In the Senate twenty-three additional Acts, and seven joint resolutions, including those ordered to be enrolled yesterday, also the Bills ordered to be engrossed yesterday, received a third reading, were enrolled and duly ratified.

A concurrent resolution authorizing the Governor to appoint inspectors of guano and fertilizers, was adopted.

A valdictory was delivered in the House by Speaker Moses, and in the Senate by the President and Senators Wright, Hainey, Cain and Leslie. Cain said everything looked lovely, and the old Board of Aldermen, under Judge Carpenter's decision, still took care of the interests of Charleston.

The friends of a wit expressed some surprise that, with his age and his fondness for the bottle, he should have thought it worth while to marry. "A wife was necessary," he said; "they began to say that I drank too much for a single man."

List of the Acts passed by the General Assembly of South Carolina, at the Session ending March 24, 1869.

The following is a full and correct list of the laws passed by the General Assembly, during the session which has just closed:

An act accepting the donation of lands to the State of South Carolina, for agricultural colleges.

An act to renew the charter of the Camden Independent Fire Engine Company.

An act to provide for the payment of the fees of sheriffs for detaining persons confined in jail.

An act to make appropriation for the payment of the per diem and mileage of the members of the General Assembly, and the salaries of the subordinate officers, and other expenses incident thereto.

An act to amend an act entitled "An act to provide for the temporary organization of the Educational Department of the State."

An act to alter and amend the criminal law.

An act to incorporate the Lake Swamp Navigation Company of Horry County.

An act to renew the charter of the ferry across the Great Pee Dee River, known as Old Ports Ferry.

An act to incorporate the South Carolina Phosphate Company.

An act to incorporate the Home Insurance Company of Charleston.

An act to amend an act entitled "An act to organize the Circuit Courts."

An act to confirm and declare valid the recent election of Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Charleston.

An act to incorporate the Columbia Building and Loan Association.

An act to change the location of the county seat of Barnwell County from Barnwell Courthouse to Blackville.

An act to enable the Savannah and Charleston Railroad Company to complete their road.

An act to ratify, confirm and amend the charter of the Charleston, South Carolina, Mining and Manufacturing Company.

An act to provide for the consolidation of the statute laws of the State of South Carolina.

An act to alter and amend an act entitled "An act to alter and amend the charter of the King's Mountain Railroad Company," passed December 16, 1851.

An act to enable the banks of the State to renew business or to place them in liquidation.

A joint resolution to provide for the fitting up of certain portions of the State House.

A joint resolution relieving J. M. Wilder, late Sheriff of Sumter County, of a penalty of five per cent. per month upon executions not returned by him.

Joint resolution for the relief of Mrs. Mary A. C. Hobbs.

Joint resolution authorizing the State Treasurer to pay the chairman of Board of Commissioners of Elections appointed by Constitutional Convention \$329.

An act to protect laborers and persons working under contract on shares of crops.

An act to authorize the consolidation of the Charlotte and South Carolina Railroad Company and the Columbia and Augusta Railroad Company, and to amend the charter of the same.

An act to amend an act entitled "An act to regulate attachments."

An act to provide for the enumeration of the inhabitants of the State.

An act to amend the charter of the Sulphuric Acid and Superphosphate Company.

An act to incorporate the Longshoremen's Protective Union Association of Charleston.

Joint resolution to provide for the publication of the acts, reports, resolutions and journals of the General Assembly.

An act to incorporate the Mission Presbyterian Church of the City of Charleston, South Carolina.

An act to empower the Judges of the Circuit Court to grant relief in cases of erroneous judgments obtained during the existence of the provisional government of South Carolina.

An act to organize and govern the militia of the State of South Carolina.

Joint resolution authorizing the Governor to purchase two thousand stands of arms of the most approved pattern, with the usual complement of ammunition.

Joint resolution ratifying the Fifteenth amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America.

An act to incorporate the South Carolina Improvement and Trust Company.

An act to provide for the conversion of State securities.

An act to alter and amend the charter of the Town of Greenville, and for other purposes.

Joint resolution to authorize and direct the Comptroller-General of the State to provide and furnish offices for officers of the Executive Department.

An act to incorporate the various boards of trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church in South Carolina.

An act to renew and amend the charter of the Town of Chester.

An act to alter and amend an act entitled "An act to incorporate the Town of Marion, and for other purposes therein mentioned."

An act to facilitate the settlement of the affairs of the Bank of the State of South Carolina.

An act to authorize D. C. Wilson & Co. to build a dock and collect wharfage in the Town of Beaufort.

An act to determine the value of Confederate States notes or their equivalent.

An act to authorize the financial agent of the State, in the City of New York, to pledge State bonds as collateral security, and for other purposes.

An act to amend an act entitled "An

act to fix the salary and regulate the pay of certain officers."

An act to incorporate the Wateree and North Carolina Railroad Company.

An act to alter and amend an act entitled "An act to incorporate the Village of Kingstree."

An act to incorporate the Homestead Building, Planting and Loan Association of South Carolina.

An act to incorporate the Palmetto Fire and Marine Insurance Company.

An act to provide for the appointment of a Land Commissioner, and to define his powers and duties.

An act to provide for the place of holding court in Barnwell County.

An act to prevent and punish duelling.

An act to charter Broxton's Ferry, across the Great Salkehatchie River.

An act to incorporate the South Carolina Central Railroad Company.

An act to amend an act entitled "An act to define the jurisdiction and duties of County Commissioners."

An act to extend the time in which the Camden Bridge Company may rebuild their bridge.

An act to establish certain ferries.

An act to regulate the manner of granting a final dismissal to executors, administrators, trustees, guardians or committees.

An act to incorporate the Town of Pickens.

An act to vest in Isaac G. Long the charter of a water course through Kingston Lake and Maple Swamp, in Horry County.

An act to repeal the tenth section of an act entitled "An act to appoint a Board of Commissioners of the City of Charleston, with power and authority to declare in what cases the streets, lanes and alleys shall be widened, and to provide for carrying into execution the objects of said board; and for other purposes therein mentioned."

Joint resolution to appoint a committee of investigation for the Third Congressional District.

Joint resolution to authorize the Secretary to purchase thirty-eight copies of Richardson's Reports, &c.

Joint resolution to authorize the Governor of the State to fill the vacancies in the State Board of Equalization.

Joint resolution to authorize the Secretary of State to purchase for distribution certain State reports.

Joint resolution authorizing the County Commissioners of Oconee County to sell the interest of the State in the Keowee and Tuckasegee Turnpike Road.

Joint resolution authorizing the State Treasurer to apportion to the several counties, the appropriation of twenty-five thousand dollars authorized in General Orders No. 139, of December 3, 1867, headquarters Second Military District, for the support of free schools, the same to be paid over to the respective County Treasurers in order to pay teachers.

Joint resolution to dissolve the Board of Special Commissioners appointed for Oconee County under an ordinance entitled "An ordinance to divide Pickens District into two election and judicial districts," adopted the 24th day of January, A. D. 1868.

An act to provide assistance for the transient sick poor in the various cities and towns of the State.

An act to facilitate the drawing of jurors in this State.

An act to authorize R. S. and M. R. Bennett, of Beaufort County, to collect wharfage.

Joint resolution authorizing the State Treasurer to pay Dr. Alfred Raoul three hundred and fifteen dollars for services rendered as physician to Charleston Jail, and for medicines furnished prisoners.

An act to punish sheriffs and other officers for violating the homestead.

An act to establish a State Orphan Asylum.

An act to renew the charter of Pendleton Village, in the County of Anderson.

Joint resolution directing the State Treasurer to pay S. L. Leaphart one hundred and eighty-four dollars and ninety-three cents for extra services as Comptroller-General during the months of July and August.

Joint resolution authorizing the Governor to employ an armed force for the preservation of the peace.

An act to alter and amend an act entitled "An act to authorize the sale of the Columbia Canal."

An act to incorporate the Aiken Sanitary Association.

An act to regulate and provide for the pay of Commissioners and Managers of Elections.

An act to re-enact certain acts lending the name and credit of the State to the Greenville and Columbia Railroad Company, and to validate the action of said company thereunder.

An act to enforce the provisions of the Civil Rights bill of the United States Congress.

An act to authorize the building of a bridge to connect the islands of Wadmalaw and John's.

An act to incorporate the Wilson's Bridge Company.

An act to incorporate certain fire engine companies.

Joint resolution relieving E. W. Oliver, late Sheriff of Fairfield County, of a penalty of five per cent. per month upon executions not returned by him.

An act to incorporate the Citizen's Savings Bank of South Carolina.

An act to incorporate the Ashley Fire Engine Company, of Charleston, South Carolina.

An act to authorize a loan for the relief of the treasury.

An act to incorporate certain Fire Engine Companies of Charleston, South Carolina.

An act to incorporate the Calvary

Baptist Church of the City of Charleston.

An act to incorporate the Amateur Literary and Fraternal Association of Charleston.

An act to incorporate the Union Star Fire Engine Company as a part of the Fire Department of the City of Charleston.

An act to incorporate the Rocky River Baptist Church, in the County of Anderson.

An act to regulate the practice of medicine in this State.

An act to amend an act entitled "An act to lease the State Road running from the County of Greenville, in this State, across the Saluda Mountain, to the County of Henderson, in North Carolina."

An act to incorporate the Sumter Fire Engine Company as a part of the fire department of the Town of Sumter.

An act to incorporate the Vaseline Manufacturing Company, in the State of South Carolina.

An act to incorporate the Home Insurance Company of Charleston.

An act to renew the charter of the Charleston Ancient Artillery Society.

An act to renew the charter of the Ferry across the Savannah River, known as Stony Bluff Ferry.

An act to amend an act entitled "An act to establish quarantine at Georgetown, Charleston and Hilton Head."

An act to regulate the agencies of insurance companies not incorporated in the State of South Carolina.

An act to prescribe certain rules to be observed in the government of ferries and bridges privileged to charge tolls.

An act to amend an act entitled "An act to regulate the manner of keeping and disbursing funds by certain officers."

An act to incorporate the Carmel Church in Pickens County.

Joint resolution instructing the State Treasurer to pay B. H. Rice & Co. in United States currency.

An act to renew the charter of the Charleston Bible Society.

An act to establish the lien of magistrates' executions.

An act to establish a public ferry in York County.

An act to incorporate certain societies in the City of Charleston.

An act to provide a lien on buildings and lands to parties furnishing labor and material thereon.

An act to authorize Sylvanus Mayo to build a dock and collect wharfage in the Town of Beaufort.

An act to provide for the collection of wharfage at Hilton Head.

An act to renew the charter of a ferry across the Congaree River.

A joint resolution authorizing the Governor to cause suit to be instituted against the Laurens Railroad Company, to protect the interests of the State.

An act to establish a lazaretto or quarantine hospital in the harbor of Charleston.

An act to establish a ferry between Hilton Head Island and the main land in Beaufort County.

An act to repeal an act entitled "An act to prevent persons holding certain offices of emolument from leaving the State."

An act to amend an act entitled "An act to regulate the manner of drawing jurors."

An act to amend an act entitled "An act to define the jurisdiction and regulate the practice of Probate Courts."

An act to define the duties of State Reporter, and to provide for the publication of the Supreme Court reports.

An act to make appropriations and raise supplies for the year commencing in October, 1868.

An act to provide for an election to fill certain vacancies in county offices.

An act to repeal section eight of an act to alter the act entitled "An act to amend the criminal law."

An act to incorporate the Dorn Mining and Manufacturing Company of South Carolina, for mining and for other purposes.

THE ARCH AGITATOR.—Among the many who went out of office with Andrew Johnson, and retired to private life, there is one whose disappearance from the public stage will not excite a regret in the breast of any human being but himself. He has reigned long and wickedly from the beginning to the close. He shone like Lucifer throughout his career, endowed with the same great genius for mischief; with arch-subtlety, and mind without a soul, like Lucifer, he has fallen never to rise again. Far back in the past we find him stirring shrewdly the embers of sectional strife. 'Twas his to invent the diabolical doctrine of the "irrepressible conflict," and his was the master hand that guided it in all its stages, and down through a sea of blood to its final and fixed inauguration as a principle of the Government. He gloated over the dreadful strife with soulless satisfaction, and at no period of the carnage among his countrymen did he discover the first evidence of feeling or regret.

Pile up the dead in hecatombs to the skies! was his ever ready answer to appeals for peace. Down with the Constitution, and open be the prison doors to all who refuse to worship at the same bloody shrine.

Such, in brief, is William H. Seward, the craftiest, meanest, most soulless and treacherous of his race. He has cursed his country through a whole generation; and it will curse and execrate him till "the last syllable of recorded time."—*Savannah Republican.*

—President Grant's father is recovering from the injuries caused by his late fall. We hope that the son will recover from those caused by his late rise.

Washington News and Gossip.

WASHINGTON, March 23.

In the House a memorial from citizens of Kentucky was presented, protesting against the removal of political disabilities, and praying the enforcement of the Fourteenth article.

The bill removing the charge of desertion from certain North Carolina mounted infantry was passed.

Butler announced his intention to introduce a bill to remove disabilities from every man now loyal to the Union, regardless of past offenses, and did not think they could have reconstruction on any other basis.

In the Senate, the bill authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to anticipate payment on the State debt for six months was passed.

Sprague introduced a bill to provide for lending the public money.

The Judiciary bill was passed. It provides nine Associate Judges of the Supreme Bench, receives them of circuit duty, and provides resident circuit judges.

The President nominated J. C. Bancroft Davis, of New York, as Assistant Secretary of State.

Governor Bullock and other Georgia Radicals are here.

Martial law has ceased in Arkansas.

Butler will report a Mississippi bill tomorrow.

In the House to-day, Brooks, urging Butler to report a general amnesty bill, announced that he would vote for no more removals of a partisan character.

WASHINGTON, March 24.

In the House, Paine introduced a bill punishing civil and military officers, having the power to enforce the Fourteenth amendment and failing to do so, with fine and imprisonment.

Butler introduced his Mississippi bill. Beck moved that to amend by giving the President power to appoint a provisional governor. Farnsworth gave notice that he would move to postpone it until the next session. Beck spoke in opposition to the bill, and the House, on motion of the Democrats, adjourned, the motion being carried by a small majority. This is regarded as an unfavorable indication for the final success of the bill.

The Committee on Foreign Relations reported a bill in regard to the treaty with Mexico of July 4, 1868, for the adjustment of claims.

The new Tenure-of-office bill was passed to the following effect: The President may suspend any officer during the recess and appoint another to perform his duties, reporting the suspension to the Senate within thirty days after the next meeting of Congress, and nominating a successor. If the Senate refuses to confirm the nomination, and also by a vote disapproves of the suspension, the suspended officer will resume his office at the end of the session. The President need give no reason for the suspension.

The President has nominated Giles A. Smith as Second Assistant Postmaster-General, Moses H. Grinnell, Collector of the Customs at New York, and William Price, as Postmaster at Grenada, Miss.

Henry D. Moore has been confirmed as Collector at the Port of Philadelphia.

Democrats have been re-elected to the Indiana Legislature wherever they resigned to defeat the Fifteenth amendment.

An extra session is called for April 8th.

Only eighty miles remain to complete the Pacific Railroad.

WASHINGTON, March 25.

In an absolutely authenticated interview between Grant and the Mississippi delegation, urging Grant's assistance in passing the pending bill, Grant doubted whether the bill will restore peace to Mississippi. He favors the appointments by the military Governor, with a resumption of the Constitution; and a special vote on the objectionable features, some of which he says probably would, and perhaps should be defeated.

Mr. Johnson's physician left for Greenville to-day, in response to a despatch announcing Mr. Johnson's dangerous sickness.

The Governor of New Jersey, in his message, argues against the ratification of the fifteenth amendment. Rhode Island has postponed action. Indiana returns opponents in the special elections.

Secretary Boutwell wants legislation for the redistribution of the national currency.

In the Senate, to-day, Hamilton, of Maryland, was seated.

In the Senate, Price introduced a bill restoring a Republican Government to Georgia, when the motion to consider it was nailed—40 to 15. A bill providing for the redistribution and issue of an additional 50,000,000 of national currency was considered, without action. Amendments to the National Junction Railroad, connecting the Northern and Southern roads around Washington, were adopted, and it goes to the President. Adjourned.

In the House, a joint resolution restoring the jurisdiction of the Court of Claims to cases of citizens of the loyal States for vessels impressed during the war, passed—80 to 87. Upson replaces Poland on the Reconstruction Committee. A bill restoring a Republican Government to Georgia, was introduced and referred to the Reconstruction Committee; it reassembles the original Legislature and imposes the test oath as a qualification; and declares the expulsion of the colored members void. The Mississippi matter was resumed, but laid aside for the tenure of office bill which, after a strong debate, was referred to the Judiciary—95 to 79—only two Democrats voting nay. Adjourned.

The President has nominated Edward L. Plumb, Consul-General at Havana; Julia P. Woltolk, postmistress at Jackson, Tennessee; and quite a number of Northern nominations.

A State Agricultural Society.

As long as each one of our planters and farmers has no other test than his personal experience by which to determine how much of the old agricultural system of the State should be retained and how much thrown aside, there can be no certainty of so using free labor as to make it at once profitable to the land owner and advantageous to the laborer whom he employs.

A careful perusal of standard agricultural journals will do much to supply the want; but no magazine can talk to its readers as one planter in South Carolina would talk to another, and no mere reading will teach the farmer as much as he could learn in a few hours from men who are working under conditions similar to his own, who have the same annoyances and troubles to contend with, who cultivate the same staples, and who work with the same kind of labor.

The farmer or planter should be able to meet the principal farmers and planters in his district several times in the course of a year. He should meet them, not by accident, not for a chat at the crossroads, but to discuss what is doing and what has been done, so that the brittle twigs of personal knowledge may be bound up into the strong bundle of general observation and experience. These truths are too evident to require any detailed demonstration, and that they are now recognized is shown by the interest which is being taken in the formation of farmers' clubs and agricultural societies.

In nearly every one of the upper districts old societies are being revived or new ones formed, and we notice that in Abbeville an agricultural society has been permanently organized. We hope that the movement will continue until there is such a society in operation in each district, in the low-country as well as in the up-country; and we may add that we cannot too highly commend the evident determination to keep these industrial and strictly practical societies altogether separate from any political association.

Cotton, corn and rice have no political likes or dislikes, and the Radical hoe is as useful in its way as the Democratic plough.

When the district agricultural societies are established we shall have made the first step towards improving our farming and planting system. But we must not stop there. We should also have a State society, which would, we believe, prove to be still more powerful for good than the local societies, because at its annual meeting an expression would be given to practical experience of the whole State during an entire year. We have no knowledge yet of the magnitude of our resources, or of the vast wealth of our State. New articles of produce are brought to our attention every day. Changes in the treatment of the soil and in the working of crops are constantly advised. Suggestions are made that we should abandon some particular crop and take another which will pay better and be more sure. No one of these propositions can be decided or its value known, within a reasonable time, except through the medium of the Agricultural Society of the State. Such a society would encourage our farmers to improve the quality of their produce and the character of their stock, and, making them familiar with the most improved kinds of agricultural implements, would teach them how labor might be economized and time and money saved.

We are not prepared to advise that an attempt should be made to form the State society until the district societies are permanently organized. To this our first efforts should be directed, and we trust that the State press, so alive to all sensible and practical questions, will continue the good work they have begun, and not abandon it while there is any district without its local society. When the district societies are formed it will not be difficult for any reasonable number of them to issue a call for the meeting of a State convention