

DEMOCRATIC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The members of the Executive Committee of the Democratic party of Anderson County are requested to meet at the INTELLIGENCER office, at Anderson, S. C., on Friday morning the 11th day of January, at 11 o'clock a. m., for the purpose of attending to business of great importance to the party, and to consider the propriety of calling a County Convention at an early day. A full meeting is earnestly desired. The following gentlemen compose the committee:

- Chairman—James A. Hoyt.
First Vice Chairman—John B. Moore.
Second Vice Chairman—John B. Sifton.
Third Vice Chairman—Dr. M. C. Parker.

Secretary—E. B. Murray.
Sergeant at Arms—J. P. Glenn.
Stalwarts—Willis Watkins.
Bridges—T. H. Russell.
Pendleton—W. H. D. Gaillard.
Sandy Springs—W. W. Russell.
Cantwell—R. W. Reeves.
Hunter's Spring—J. Belton Watson.
Folk No. 1—Col. F. E. Harrison.
Folk No. 2—Maj. Geo. Merritt.
Rock Hill—J. A. McLeskey.
Savannah—Ruben Burriss.
Corney—Dr. A. C. Cook.
Marion—E. Ambrose.
Varenes—Col. J. W. Norris.
Hall—Jesse P. McGee.
Hona Path—D. S. McCullough.
Belton—Dr. W. O. Brown.
Williamson—Dr. John Wilson.
Rosenwald—Capt. B. T. Martin.
Broadway—L. E. Campbell.
Anderson—The Secretary.

As no record of the proceedings of the Committee has been kept, there may be some error in the omission of some Club, or in the name of some member, and hence any person knowing himself to be a member of the County Executive Committee is requested to attend.

JOHN R. MOORE, First Vice Chairman.
E. B. MURRAY, Secretary.

President and Mrs. Hayes celebrated their silver wedding in the White House at Washington on the 31st of December last. The President declined to receive any presents on that occasion, and in that respect made a decided improvement upon the example set him upon numerous occasions by his predecessor, the avicious Ulysses.

The committee on coinage, weights and measures, of which Hon. A. H. Stephens, of Georgia, is chairman, are considering the propriety of providing for a new coin to be known as the Gold coin, which will be composed of gold and some baser metal in such proportions as to make the Gold dollar about the size of the present silver half dollar—the Gold half dollar about the size of the silver quarter, and the Gold quarter a little larger than the silver ten cent piece. It will be a pretty coin, and of course every one will be as anxious to handle it as they now are for the little gold dollar.

It is announced from the National Capitol that for the future the Democratic party will vote solidly with the President, and against Conkling, in the Senate. They will vote to confirm all the President's appointments, unless it be in special cases. This action, if true, is of very doubtful propriety, as we believe the President is as bad a man as Conkling. The Senators had better have announced that they would vote with Hayes when he was right and with Conkling when he was right. It would have put both parties on their good behavior, and would probably have exerted a much better influence.

It is said that the Russian government will try Osman Pasha, the Turkish commander in Vienna during the siege, before a military commission, upon a charge of inhuman cruelty to prisoners. Sentiment in Europe is very much divided upon the propriety of this proceeding, and is formed very generally according to the sympathy of each person upon the merits of the war. There is no doubt that the Russian prisoners were subjected to terrible privations during the siege, and also that many of them were mercilessly murdered by the Turks, but it is also true that the Turks themselves suffered immensely from want and starvation during this period. Of course necessity will be the plea of Osman Pasha if he is arraigned for these cruelties, but the civilized world would be benefited by making an example of him if the charges are true, to teach all who would like to become human butchers that war will not excuse the unnecessary taking of human life, or the wanton destruction of private property. The evils of combat are great enough when properly restrained, and whoever seeks to augment those evils is an enemy of mankind, and deserves to die the felon's death.

The proposition to re-establish the income tax as the mode for raising national revenue comes from the South and West, where the present system of Internal Revenue taxation operates as a burden, by compelling these sections to pay more than their just proportion of the burden of supporting the general government. The taxes for the year 1875 are taken as the basis of comparison between the sections, and the operations of the present system may be gathered from the figures of that year. The whole revenue from internal taxes that year was in round numbers \$108,000,000. Of this amount the Northeastern States—Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut—paid only \$4,000,000, while according to population they should have paid \$9,250,000, and according to wealth about \$15,000,000. The Middle States—New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Delaware—paid \$24,000,000, while according to population they should have paid about the same sum, and according to wealth it would have been \$38,500,000. Now the Northwestern States and Territories—Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota, Kansas, Nebraska, Montana, Dakota, Wyoming, Arizona, Idaho, Utah and Colorado—paid \$38,500,000, while according

THE BLUE RIDGE RAILROAD.

The dream of the statesmen of South Carolina for years past has been a direct connection between our sea coast and the Great West by a great national highway for freights and passengers, which would immensely improve our commercial business, besides opening up to us more advantageous markets in which to buy the articles we consume and to sell the productions we raise for market. In this direction quantities of thought, labor and money has been expended, and our whole State was at one time so much enthused upon the subject that our Legislature and the city of Charleston united in the appropriation of public money for the completion of this great desideratum of all classes of our citizens, and, after careful consideration of all the advantages and disadvantages of the various lines of crossing the mountains, selected the route known as the Blue Ridge Railroad, from this place by way of Babun Gap to Knoxville, Tennessee, as the most desirable possible location, after which with the amount of millions of dollars was expended upon the line, and the road actually put into operation as far as Wauhatchie. But for the late war, with its disasters and the evils which followed in its wake, the Road would have been completed long before this, and the South would have been the neighbor of the West in point of time and trade as well as in geographical position. The harpies of Republicanism, however, swept away with their foul hands all that was left of this Road, and thereby disheartened its friends, and, for a time, dissipated all hope of its construction. But now that we once more have the government in our possession, we hope the interest of our people will again return to this important public work, and that our Legislature will take some action to revive the building of the Road. It is one which will benefit all portions of the State, and make Charleston one of the most flourishing and important ports south of New York.

Every one who wishes to contribute to the commerce of South Carolina should advocate the building of the Blue Ridge Railroad, and we believe the Legislature of the State should lend it a helping hand. It may be objected that the State has already lost heavily in this road, but instead of this being an argument against further expense, it is a reason why the State should see it completed. We have spent too much money on it not to get any return, and it would be decidedly a better investment to complete it than to lose what has been expended judiciously upon the road. We know the State is poor, but we can do something to keep this road alive. If nothing more, the State could well afford to put the convict labor to work upon it, and in the course of a year or two we will be in a condition to appropriate annually small sums to extending the length of the line, so that in a few years we would have the whole line built without imposing any serious burden. If we take hold of it as a State enterprise there would be a fair prospect of securing help from outside, and the road could be built beyond a doubt. We hope when the Legislature reassembles that Charleston and the up-country will shake hands over their common interest, and mature a plan for reviving this grand enterprise. What do our Charleston contemporaries, the News and Courier and Journal of Commerce, think of this question? and how are our other exchanges disposed towards it?

Senator Patterson has recovered to a considerable extent from his recent attack of nervous prostration, but will be unable to attend the Senate during the remainder of the session, on account of his feeble health. It is said that he will be absent from his seat without getting a pair with a Democratic Senator, which will leave the Republicans only a majority of one in the Senate without counting the vote of Senator Davis, who is an independent, and generally votes with the Democrats. In addition to this calamity which threatens the Republicans in the Senate, it is said that Senator Patterson is seriously contemplating the question of resigning his Senatorship and removing his citizenship from South Carolina back to Pennsylvania, with a view of running for Congress from that State in 1880. Ex-Senator Simon Cameron has invited Senator Patterson to visit him, and promises if he will settle in his district to use all his influence to secure the Republican nomination for him. Cameron's influence has always been equivalent to a nomination and a nomination has heretofore been equivalent to an election, and hence Patterson thinks the chance of becoming a Congressman from Pennsylvania is better than his chance to secure further honors in this State, and hence he is likely to bid us adieu, and thereby enable the Democrats to elect another Senator which would make parties even in the Senate. The Republicans are very uneasy about these reports, and it is claimed that there is some foundation for them. We do not wish Pennsylvania any harm, but it would be a great relief to us if she would reclaim the carpet-bag Patterson.

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to population their proportion would only have been \$30,333,333, and according to wealth only \$37,500,000. The Southern Middle States—Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, Kentucky and Missouri—paid \$26,000,000, while in proportion to population it ought to have been only \$17,750,000, and to wealth only \$11,500,000. The other Southern States—South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas and Texas—paid about \$24,000,000, while in proportion to population it should have been only \$15,000,000, and to wealth only \$9,000,000. The Pacific States and Territories—Washington, Oregon, Nevada, California and New Mexico, paid \$3,000,000, while in proportion to population it would have been \$2,000,000, and in proportion to wealth \$2,500,000. Thus it will be seen that there is no equality in the present arrangement, and its change would be of very general advantage to all except the Northeastern and Middle States. If the income exempt from taxation be fixed at two or three thousand dollars, the tax would fall heaviest upon the States which now pay the least. They are, however, the best able to pay the government taxes, and would only pay upon what they receive. It would be decidedly more equitable than the manner now employed to raise a national revenue.

The Republicans in the House of Representatives, under the lead of Best Butler, are contemplating the appointment of a committee to investigate the last Presidential election, and, strange to say, the Democrats, in a great many instances, are opposed to having the investigation. Their policy has been miserably weak and cringing, and will probably result in favor of the Republicans, for, although they have been robbed of the Presidency, they are upholding the fraudulent President, and trying to conceal the larceny while the Republicans are moving to expose it. If the Republicans can secure an investigation under their lead, and they are bold enough to expose the rascalities of the Presidential candidate, it will retire a number of their leaders from public life, but their party will get credit before the people for purifying itself, while the Democrats will be charged with a connivance at the fraud and an effort to conceal the fact that they have been robbed. The Democrats in Congress ought to investigate all the facts connected with the last Presidential election, and mercifully expose the whole of its iniquity.

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A third source of loss to the Department is the dishonest re-use of postage stamps that have not been effectively cancelled. It is estimated by competent persons that the amount of stamps annually from this source alone, millions of stamps being so imperfectly cancelled, that a little soap and water will remove the ink from them. A great many novel devices have been resorted to, or have rather been experimented with, to guard against this fraud, but to no successful issue. Judge Key has the matter now under advisement, and he will shortly publish an order changing the appearance of the one, two and three-cent stamps, with a view to the protection, in a measure at least, of the revenues of the Department. Foreign postage stamps are also subject to this last named source; but their postage stamps are far inferior to ours in strength of material, as well as in hardness and beauty of finish. If we should adopt the light, flimsy stamp of Denmark or of Prussia, it is safe to say that not one in ten would be cancelled, and the waste would be very unpropitious with business men and the public generally, and the number that would tear or become defaced in process of affixing to the envelope would be as large perhaps as the number that are now renovated after they have been once used.

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amount of postage formerly charged for all written communications; 2nd. The present mode of compensating postmasters at offices of the 4th class. Postmasters at offices of this class (paying less than \$1000 a year) are paid by commissions on their sales of postage stamps, while postmasters at larger offices are paid fixed salaries, and the proceeds from sales of stamps at those offices belong exclusively to the Department. The result is that postmasters of offices of the 4th class, who are usually retail country store-keepers, instead of limiting their sale of stamps to persons within the delivery of their respective offices, do not infrequently carry on an extensive traffic in stamps with wholesale merchants in the larger cities, thereby increasing, to an undue extent, their own compensation, and greatly diminishing the revenues of the Department. To remedy this defect, Postmaster General Key recommends the enactment of a law which will require the compensation of postmasters at offices of the 4th class to be based upon the stamps cancelled at their respective offices, instead of, as at present, giving them a percentage of the proceeds of their sales of stamps.

A third source of loss to the Department is the dishonest re-use of postage stamps that have not been effectively cancelled. It is estimated by competent persons that the amount of stamps annually from this source alone, millions of stamps being so imperfectly cancelled, that a little soap and water will remove the ink from them. A great many novel devices have been resorted to, or have rather been experimented with, to guard against this fraud, but to no successful issue. Judge Key has the matter now under advisement, and he will shortly publish an order changing the appearance of the one, two and three-cent stamps, with a view to the protection, in a measure at least, of the revenues of the Department. Foreign postage stamps are also subject to this last named source; but their postage stamps are far inferior to ours in strength of material, as well as in hardness and beauty of finish. If we should adopt the light, flimsy stamp of Denmark or of Prussia, it is safe to say that not one in ten would be cancelled, and the waste would be very unpropitious with business men and the public generally, and the number that would tear or become defaced in process of affixing to the envelope would be as large perhaps as the number that are now renovated after they have been once used.

The Department of Internal Revenue, under the Secretary of the State, has been robbed of the Presidency, and is upholding the fraudulent President, and trying to conceal the larceny while the Republicans are moving to expose it. If the Republicans can secure an investigation under their lead, and they are bold enough to expose the rascalities of the Presidential candidate, it will retire a number of their leaders from public life, but their party will get credit before the people for purifying itself, while the Democrats will be charged with a connivance at the fraud and an effort to conceal the fact that they have been robbed. The Democrats in Congress ought to investigate all the facts connected with the last Presidential election, and mercifully expose the whole of its iniquity.

The Republicans under the lead of Senator Cameron of Wisconsin are endeavoring to get possession of the evidence against Patterson to hold it over him as a threat to make him vote to declare Gen. Butler's seat vacant. We hope our Legislature will send this document to the Senate in the form of a request for Patterson's removal. If it should take this shape the Senate would pretty certainly be obliged to expel Patterson for the sake of its reputation before the country, and then we would have two Democratic Senators from South Carolina instead of one.

Ex-President Grant has visited Mount Vesuvius, and the New York Herald thinks the Mountain should have shown its consideration for the "distinguished" visitor by getting up an eruption for the occasion. Its volcanic majesty, however, was of a different opinion, and received the General without any display whatsoever. It is supposed, though, that Grant, the greatest smoker of America, held pleasant communion with Vesuvius, which is the greatest smoker of Europe.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5, 1878. An impression seems to exist that Postmaster General Key and First Assistant Postmaster General Tyler are (owing probably to their anomalous relations—the appointing power being practically a divided between them) somewhat jealous of each other; but, I am disposed to think, from observation and inquiry, that such is not the case. The employees of the Department are of the opinion that the most friendly feeling exists between the Postmaster General and the First Assistant, who was so recently a Cabinet Minister. The officials of the Postoffice Department, Republicans as they are, warmly approve Judge Key's administration; and, on the other hand, the Postmaster General, in his recent annual report, spoke of the ability, honesty, fidelity and excellence, characterizing the management of postal affairs by Mr. Tyler and those associated with him. The First Assistant Postmaster General, who was years ago a clerk in the Department, and has since been chairman of the Postal Committee in Congress, and later Postmaster General—had rare opportunities to become acquainted with all the minute details as well as the comprehensive relations of the gigantic system, and it is doubtful if any man in the country understands the machinery as well as Mr. Tyler.

It is a little remarkable that two men of such positive character as Judge Key and Mr. Tyler, and so antithetical in politics, education and personal traits, should both "pursue the even tenor of their way," in the matter of appointments, without conflict with each other, or confusion in the Postal service. But the huge gudgeons of the Postal machine have been lubricated with the olive oil of conciliation and reform, while these two gentlemen work together as harmoniously as would Damon and Pythias. Judge Key, in deference perhaps to a supposed Republican sentiment in the North, delegates certain powers to Mr. Tyler in the matter of appointments; that section; but he takes upon his own shoulders the heavy and complicated work of the Department, and with matters of petty detail, or vast comprehension, sees equally at home.

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broadcast, followed again by oats, and so on, for a period of four years, would not only be found remunerative crops, but would also increase the fertility of the soil. Very marked improvement has attended the turning of unstarved stubble for three or four consecutive seasons. Heavier, more tenacious soils are favorable to wheat, and by summer fallow may produce successfully that great cereal grain in a successful manner. It is in respect to the facility of red clover seed along with the wheat. It is a fact that cannot be controverted that clover is both a preserver and fertilizer. This is its reputation on two continents—Europe testifies to it, America testifies to it. In respect to the facility in adapting itself to soil and climate, and its forage and renovating qualities it has no equal among the grasses. The writer has seen it on the flat sandy soil of the eastern shore of Virginia. It flourishes in the coldest latitudes, and is found in the hottest zones. That it does well in the South Carolina climate is an established fact. Its great merits should have long since commended themselves more generally to the farming community; and instead of small patches broad fields should be put down in this invaluable grass. We believe the time is not very distant when the old red hills will be covered and green with this plant, not covered especially for the hay that they may yield, but for purposes of pasturage and renovation. Sown in connection with wheat, oats or barley, or alone, it frequently produces a large amount of hay the cutting of which is not so difficult as that of the old red hills, and is very abundant; and the aftermath, if allowed to ripen, will furnish seed for other sowing, and provender for cattle in the winter. Being a biennial the field should at the proper time be turned, and afterwards sown down with a small grain with a light sprinkling of clover seed.

Another two years will prepare the land for a magnificent corn or cotton crop. But if preferred the aftermath of the second year may be permitted to fall on the land and serve the two-fold purpose of re-seeding and fertilizing.

Aets and Joint Resolutions Approved by the Governor. JOINT RESOLUTION to require the Secretary of State to ascertain and report at the next session what lands have been purchased for the State under the Land Commission, and in what counties, and what disposition has been made of said lands.

Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of South Carolina, now met in General Assembly, and by the authority of the same, That the Board of Jury Commissioners for the County of Orangeburg shall prepare a new jury list for the said county as soon as practicable after the passage of this Act; and that grand and petit jurors shall be drawn from the list so prepared, to serve at the next ensuing session of the Court of Sessions and Common Pleas for said county; and that the grand and petit jurors so drawn shall be held and taken to be lawful jurors for the courts aforesaid in like manner as if the said list had been prepared during the month of January last.

Sec. 2. That whenever the jury list of any county shall be destroyed by fire or other casualty, or whenever it shall be held by any court of competent jurisdiction that the jury list of any county has been unlawfully prepared so as to render void the drawing of jurors therefrom, it shall be the duty of the Board of Jury Commissioners of the county to prepare a new jury list for the said county forthwith, in the manner now prescribed by law, from which a special list of grand and petit jurors shall be drawn for the Courts of General Sessions and Common Pleas for such county until the annual jury list shall have been prepared for such county during the month of January next ensuing.

Sec. 3. That all acts and parts of acts inconsistent with this act be, and the same are hereby, repealed. Approved December 20, 1877.