

BY TELEGRAPH.

THE STATE CAPITAL.

LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS—CHANGING THE COUNTY SEAT OF BARNWELL TO BLACKVILLE—DEATH OF JAMES A. BLAKE, ESQ.—PROCEEDINGS IN THE MANDAMUS AND BANK CASES.

[SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE DAILY NEWS.] COLUMBIA, January 20.—In the Senate, Rose introduced a bill to amend the charter of the Kings Mountain Railroad Company.

Also introduced a bill to amend the charter of the Town of Greenville. The bill to change the county seat of Barnwell County to Blackville was passed and sent to the House.

The bill to enable the Savannah and Charleston Railroad Company to complete their road was postponed and made the special order for one P. M., to-morrow.

In the House, the bill to provide for the payment of the accounts of the commissioners and managers of elections was passed and sent to the Senate.

The bill creating a new judicial circuit was postponed until the 29th instant. The Governor sent in a message approving the act to establish a State Orphan Asylum.

Ex-Comptroller-General James A. Blake died last night. In the Supreme Court General Connor filed the return of the Acting Board of Aldermen of the City of Charleston, in reply to writ mandamus. The Chief Justice refused the writ, and ordered the clerk to telegraph for Justice Willard, but afterwards countermanded the order, and the return was ordered for consideration to-morrow.

Messrs. Corbin and Chamberlain, counsel for the claimants, gave notice that they will move to-morrow before the Supreme Court for a rule upon the Acting Board of Aldermen, to show cause why they should not be attached for contempt, for failing to obey the writ of mandamus issued by the Supreme Court.

The arguments in the case of the Bank of the State were closed to-day. Mr. Campbell argued for the Bank, and Messrs. Corbin and Chamberlain for the State.

WASHINGTON.

CUBA TO BE PURCHASED BY THE UNITED STATES.—THE PROPOSITION OF THE VIRGINIA COMMITTEE TO CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON, January 20.—The President's Private Secretary, Mr. Worden, telegraphs to several papers which employ him, that negotiations are pending between our government and Spain for the transfer of the Island of Cuba to the United States, the only material difference to overcome being apparently the price to be paid to the Spanish Government.

Information accessible to the agents of the Associated Press does not enable them to verify this dispatch. The Virginia Committee have presented to the Senate Judiciary Committee a memorial submitting amendments to the House bill now under consideration, providing for an election in Virginia. They propose to modify the constitution to such an extent as they believe would be accepted by the people of Virginia.

In connection with which, they say that the real feeling of the people of the State is expressed when they declare the belief that the freedmen of the South, in their present uneducated condition, are not prepared for an intelligent use of the elective franchise, &c.; yet, in view of the public opinion expressed in the recent election, they believe that the majority of the people are willing to incorporate universal suffrage in their fundamental law as offering an altar of peace, and hoping for a restoration of the Union with harmony on the basis of universal suffrage and universal amnesty, and considering that the policy of the government requires from Virginia a constitutional recognition of the civil and political equality of all men before the law. They have in the amendments proposed inserted all the provisions looking to that result, heretofore deemed proper by Congress, and have left untouched any provisions of the constitution relative to the subject.

Grant goes to Baltimore to-morrow to attend the meeting of the trustees of the Peabody Fund. The President has nominated Robert C. Buchanan and Alvin C. Gillen for Brigadier-General, in place of Rousseau and Hooker.

Three hundred men, recruited chiefly in the West, have been landed safely in Cuba during the last week. The vessel is nearly ready for another trip.

CONGRESSIONAL.

WASHINGTON RAILROADS—PAYING BONDS IN GOLD.—THE NINTH CENSUS.

WASHINGTON, January 20.—The Senate was engaged all day in the consideration of Sherman's Railroad bill for roads centering in Washington.

In the House, Schenck introduced a bill providing for the payment of bonds in coin, unless otherwise specified; but such bonds not to be paid before maturity until United States notes be made convertible into coin. Section 2 legalizes gold contracts. Referred to the Committee of Ways and Means.

The bill forbidding all franks except those written by a privileged person was passed. Farnsworth introduced a bill removing the political disabilities of a large number of persons, which was passed by a two-thirds vote.

A committee of seven was ordered to be appointed on the ninth census. The Denver Railroad bill was resumed, but the House adjourned without action.

EUROPE.

THE CONFERENCE PROTOCOL—LOSS OF LIFE BY EARTHQUAKE—NEW SPANISH CORTES.

LONDON, January 20.—The journals of this city praise Napoleon's speech. The conference protocol declares that to encourage insurrection within, or privateering or military expeditions against the territories of a friendly State is a violation of international law.

The loss of life by the recent earthquake around the Bay of Bengal was very great. The new Spanish Cortes will meet February 11.

SPARKS FROM THE WIRES.

A Catholic convent and school were burned yesterday at Titusville, Pa. Three of the negro militiamen engaged in the outrage on young ladies at Marion, Ark., have been court-martialed and shot.

A Republican meeting was held in Richmond last night to oppose the measures of the Virginia Committee in Washington. A resolution was introduced into the Georgia Legislature yesterday to expel a colored county clerk from office. The resolution was referred to the Judiciary Committee.

William Holmes, for many years associate editor of the Missouri Republican, is dead.

GERMAN FRIENDLY SOCIETY.

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTIENNIARY.

Dinner, Speeches, Toasts, &c.

At the anniversary meeting of the German Friendly Society of this city, held yesterday in the Pavilion Hotel, the following officers were elected: to serve for the ensuing year:

- J. SMALL, President. H. B. OLNEY, Senior Warden. A. MELCHER, Junior Warden. W. B. BOYNTON, J. M. PETERSEN, J. STEWARTS. JOHN A. BLUM, Secretary. J. F. SCHRIEBER, Treasurer. Committee on Charity: Dr. H. Honour, Chairman; H. Olin, J. H. Beck, Dr. P. Pelzer, Dr. J. B. Patrick, H. W. Muckenfuss, A. H. Dunlap. Committee on Relief: J. H. Gerds, Chairman; John Klau, F. E. Wickert, Lord, D. A. Amme. Committee on Accounts: J. F. Pelzer, Henry Steigman; Alexander Calder, J. F. Pelzer, Henry Steigman; J. S. Burger. Committee on Supplies: Alexander Melchers, Chairman; J. L. Honour, J. H. Schulte, J. D. Leseman, O. Aebel. Committee on Inspection: J. D. Muckenfuss, Chairman; J. S. Schirmer, O. E. Beckman, L. B. Lovary. Committee on Letters: J. F. Ficken, Chairman; J. F. Pelzer, Secretary.

After the regular business of the day had been transacted the society adjourned to the dining room, where a dinner was served by Mr. Butterfield, of which it may be said that it was the most satisfactory public dinner that has been given in Charleston for a long time.

There was an abundance of everything, and it was well prepared, and when that is said about a dinner, there is nothing stronger that remains to be said. Tables were spread on three sides of the large dining-room of the hotel, and they were well filled, there being upwards of one hundred persons present. Captain Jacob Small, President of the society, presided at one end of the table, and Alderman Olney, one of the Vice-Presidents, at the other; the President being supported on his right by Professor Meyer, and on his left by Dr. Bachman. Knives, forks and glasses jingled merrily for awhile, until the heartiest eaters leaned back in their chairs, withdrawing from the contest with good things successful, yet defeated. Then the tables were cleared of all save the drinkables, and silence being restored, President Small read the first regular toast:

The day we celebrate—inaugurated by charity and good fellowship, may be perpetuated. This was responded to by the Vice-President at the foot of the table, and then the band, which was stationed in the centre of the hall, played "La Marseillaise."

The President then read the second regular toast: The founders of our Society—May we ever cherish the noble feeling established by them, and may we never be recant in carrying out their designs. This toast was responded to by A. H. Dunlap, Esq., in substance as follows:

One hundred and three years ago the German Friendly Society was organized by some of the fathers of this city, who had made their homes in this city of the new world. Their bond of union was brotherly love and charity. Simple in their tastes, earnest in their mission of labor, exact and honest in their respective vocations, they were united in the best types of German civilization. They were thoughtful, practical, reformat. Their confidence was of slow growth, but it was of a sturdy and enduring nature. To the duties of life they were true; to the pleasures of life they were just by their moderation. They put their hands to their work, and they were not content with the status of a country and more has rolled by. The Colonial government the pioneers formed has been transformed into a republic, and some of them lived to take a pride in a Stephen and DeKalb, who were the place here martyr in the struggle for new life. After the waving shoots that adorned their graves had become sturdy, venerable monarchs, then came the agony which veiled the land in sackcloth and ashes.

The hour of glory in new birth, the agony is still-born. Throughout all the German attributes of self-reliance, integrity, honesty have been visible in our midst. Be true to the memory of the founders, and never say die. The third regular toast was read as follows: Germany—Sweet land of our fathers and dear home of our affection; though separated by the wide ocean, our hearts still cling to thee, and we will ever remember thee with pleasure. This was responded to by Professor Herman D. Meier, whose every tone and gesture bespoke the true orator, animated by his theme and giving graceful expression to his own warm feelings. Professor Meier said:

Permit me, gentlemen, to say that nothing but the hope of your kind indulgence encourage me to appropriate to myself, as the most recent Carolinian in your midst, as a guest, the honor of being allowed to speak before this ancient and venerable society. I am one of those mentioned in the introduction to your rules, who are seeking in a new country that repose which their own has denoted them. Yet my warmest feelings are attached to her. But verily, gentlemen, it is to the stranger just landing, an indistinguishable German, and not to the one who has broken the custom and habits thrive even and the more glowing beams of a Southern sun, rearing, coupled with American life, a tall and stately tree, which, with its branches and under whose friendly and hospitable protection the stranger grows, as a natural sequence, to be a stranger. The crown of this encircling tree is the venerable German, who in the records of a history more than centennial; their names are science in education, sociability in reunions, hospitality and protection to the new comer from the soil of the Fatherland, and in times of gloom—each and every one of these virtues separately a golden apple of immortality in a vessel of silver. Let me proclaim, then, with Uhland, our dead but an immortal German bard: "Und from man nach der Schicksalzeit, once situated in den Wipfel; Geesnet er allezeit Von der Wurzel bis zum Gipfel!"

And now, gentlemen, seeing, as I do here, Germans and Americans in friendly union, allow me to repeat, what I said in my "Greetings to South Carolina": "No power can kill the ever powerful live oak. Always on Carolina's soil inherent." For I view in this venerable society a doubly cherished live oak of a hundred years' growth; let us drink to this twin-crowned tree, according to ancient German birth day custom: "May it live, thrive, bloom and bear fruit yet with the assurance of good for five hundred years to come." This band sang and played the "Fatherland," many of those present joining in.

The fourth regular toast was then offered: Charles on the horizon seen but, and the mellow rays of the sun of peace bless her with happiness and prosperity. This was responded to by John H. Honour, Esq., one of the Aldermen of the city, who spoke in glowing terms of the prosperity and fame of Charleston in the past, and of the bright prospect now before her, in spite of the darkness and gloom of the present.

The band played "Dixie." The fifth and last regular toast was then offered by the President as follows: W man.—The last gift of God to man. A ministerial agent sent to soothe the journey on life's narrow road; in line, the sole object of our unceasing veneration. This was responded to by Dr. J. B. Patrick, who spoke in eloquent terms of the devotion and tenderness of the sex, and their emboding influence upon man.

The band played "Am I not fondly thine own?"

The President offered the first volunteer toast:

The Health of all present. Members and invited guests. May also be absent on his anniversary in 1870, and may our venerable pastor and brother member, with an unaged health, occupy his accustomed seat to-day with his presence and joy in our social mirth.

This was responded to briefly by Rev. Dr. Bachman, who alluded to the fact that he had been a member of the society for fifty-four years, and had always taken an interest in its affairs. He said he had a note in his hand from Rev. Dr. Hicks, who was in the country for a few days, and regretted his inability to comply with the kind invitation of the society to be present on this occasion.

Dr. Bachman closed with the following toast: German Industry, German Fidelity, and the Purity and Zeal of the Lary Reformers—An example and a guide to their posterity.

John Ficken, Esq., at the request of the President, offered the health of the press—saying that he had hoped that the toast would have been offered at an earlier hour when there were several representatives of the press present, and it might have been appropriately responded to. He hoped, however, that those still present might be induced to respond, and he called upon the representative of the Charleston Courier. Being thus cornered, J. A. Moroso, Esq., one of the editors of the Courier, made a few remarks and offered a sentiment.

Loud and repeated calls were then made for THE DAILY NEWS, and none of the editors being present, Lieutenant Burger responded for the paper, thanking the society for the compliment and hoping that it might always be merited. Lieutenant Burger concluded with the following toast: Charity—the angel of hope—the harbinger of comfort to the widow—a savior to the broken-hearted, and a friend to those that mourn.

In response to South Carolina, offered by Colonel Gailiard, Dr. J. B. Patrick gave the following: Her Sons—Native and adopted, will redem and restore her to that proud position she once occupied—one of the brightest stars in the galaxy of our American Union.

A number of other toasts were offered and speeches made, but they were not intended for publication, but only to add to the pleasure and entertainment of the occasion. Professor Eckel took his place at the piano, Mr. Petersen accompanied him with a fine voice, and wined and sang occupied the jovial party until a late hour.

FROM THE STATE CAPITAL.

The Martin and Randolph Murders—Hilness of a Well-known Citizen—A Ramp in the House—Leslie opens his Mouth—A Lively Description of Barnwell—Accounts Acted On.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.] COLUMBIA, S. C., January 19.—[Attorney-General D. H. Chamberlain, Esq., returned from Abbeville this evening. The trial of the parties charged as principals and accessories in the Martin and Randolph murders has been postponed to the May term of the court for that circuit.

The hall of the House of Representatives has been both tastefully and handsomely decorated. The national and State flags—the latter bearing the palmetto and the crescent—are interwoven and suspended over the speaker's desk, surmounted by a golden eagle. The flags are about six feet by four, and the eagle about four feet. A very beautiful effect is produced, and the Democrats are particularly gratified at the intermingling of the two banners.

Hon. James Augustus Black, for several years Comptroller-General of the State, is lying seriously ill at his boarding-house in this city, and his physicians pronounce his recovery very doubtful. He was recently elected by the Democratic party in Abbeville to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Valentine, a member of the House of Representatives. Mr. Black arrived here last Saturday with his credentials, prepared to take his seat. He was universally popular in this city, and his illness is deeply regretted by all classes.

During the absence of Speaker Moses to-day at the Senate, for the purpose of ratifying "An act to establish a State Orphan Asylum," the member who was temporarily called to the chair became so tangled up with motions, points of order, the calling of the previous question, &c., that it was found necessary to dispatch a messenger in all haste, requesting the Speaker to return, or the House would become uncontrollable. The members seemed determined to test to the fullest parliamentary knowledge of the now presiding officer, and with such success as to cast entirely in the shade the most uproarious meeting of the House since the introduction of the "Old Tammany." On the reappearance of the Speaker, his emphatic voice and use of the gavel soon restored the usual quiet, with only here and there a broad grin here and there upon the faces of some of the wags, who had played off their joke at the expense of their estranged Speaker pro tempore.

Senator Leslie delivered another speech to-day, which brought down the Senate. His subject was a bill to change the county seat of Barnwell County from Barnwell to Blackville, S. C. His earnestness of manner in speaking, his gestures, his habit of passing his fingers through his hair, as he spoke, his cry of "interim," because the Indian had altogether too much for the usual parity of the senators. His speech was, however, listened to with great pleasure. His chief point was that all county seats in this age should be generally interested in the great commercial centres, along the railroad and telegraph lines, and that the day was gone by when county seats were to be selected simply because some wayward stream ran through them, or because the Indian had turned in that direction his quill-saddled moccasins. Barnwell Court-house, he contended, was established more than fifty years ago, when there were no railroads, and the moment the railroad was run through it, it was established for the purpose of business, and it was not to be broken up, he said, as dried up, with not life enough to build a chicken-coop. Four-fifths of all the active capital of the county was invested in the land, and hundreds of persons who live four or five miles nearer to Barnwell than Blackville, always went to the latter place to trade. There was now no court-house, no jail, no county seat, no school-house, no place where the tax collector could be found, and the county seat was a mere name, he said, and it was not to be broken up, he said, as dried up, with not life enough to build a chicken-coop. Four-fifths of all the active capital of the county was invested in the land, and hundreds of persons who live four or five miles nearer to Barnwell than Blackville, always went to the latter place to trade. 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