

DEATH-BLOW TO THE SCRIP

THE SUPREME COURT UNANIMOUSLY AGAINST IT.

The Patterson Case—The Legislature.

COLUMBIA, S. C., February 4. I have just been informed upon the most unquestionable authority that the judges of the Supreme Court have to-day unanimously decided to refuse the application for a mandamus to compel the comptroller-general to levy a special tax of three mills to pay the interest and principal of the Blue Ridge scrip. This case was argued last month by Messrs. Campbell and Chamberlain for the scrip-holders, and by Attorney-General Melton and Messrs. Meminger, Pope and Haskell for the comptroller-general. The opinion of the court, which is to be promulgated in a few days, will, it is said, declare as one important reason for refusing the mandamus that the issue of the scrip was an emission of bills of credit, and was, therefore, unconstitutional and void. This decision will obviously be fatal also to the other Blue Ridge scrip case upon appeal from Judge Melton's order enjoining the reception of the scrip in payment of taxes, which was postponed until the April term of the Supreme Court, and it is probable that this appeal will never be brought up for argument.

In the Court of General Sessions this morning the motion by Chamberlain, nominally on the part of Robert Cooper, to quash the array of grand jurors was argued at length by Messrs. Chamberlain and C. Davis Melton for the motion, and by Attorney-General Melton and Mr. Leroy F. Youmans against it. It should be explained, as it is perfectly well understood here, that this case of Robert Cooper is simply a petty case of some small breach of the peace, which has been picked up by Mr. Chamberlain and the five or six eminent counsel associated with him for the purpose of making this motion, which is understood to be in the interest of Patterson, whose trial will inevitably be postponed until the May term if this motion succeeds, and possibly until next year, inasmuch as the law provides (see General Statutes, Chapter 3, Section 3.) that the grand jury shall be drawn but once a year, in January. After the argument the court adjourned till to-morrow morning, when Judge Carpenter announced that he would render his decision.

The Legislature.

In the Senate to-day Corbin introduced a bill to amend Section 45, Chapter — of the General Statutes reducing the penalty for manslaughter by trial justices. Duncan introduced a bill to amend Section 3, Chapter 3 of the General Statutes, so as to allow the grand jury of Spartenburg County to be drawn in July instead of January of this year. The bill to encourage manufactures and internal improvements was postponed until Friday.

The following bills were read the second time and ordered to be engrossed for a third reading:

The bill to renew the charter of the Charleston Docking and Dry Dock Company. The bill to renew the charter of Woford College, of Spartenburg. The bill to make the county auditor the clerk of the board of county commissioners. The bill to punish any person or persons who shall sell and convey any real or personal property, on which a lien of any kind may exist, without giving notice of the same to the purchaser or purchasers.

The bill to amend Section 33 of the act establishing and maintaining a system of free schools throughout the State.

The bill to fix the time for certain State and county officers to report.

The following received their final reading, passed and were ordered to be sent to the House:

The bill to refer to the voters of Barnwell County the location of the county seat of that county.

The joint resolution to allow the heirs of James Phillips to redeem certain forfeited lands in Darlington County.

The joint resolution to allow John J. Boach, of Kernaw County, to redeem certain forfeited lands.

The bill to prevent the obstruction of harbors and navigable streams in this State by the discharge therein of ballast.

The bill to incorporate the Charleston Coastwise Transportation Company.

The bill to authorize the county commissioners of Abbeville County to open and establish a public road from Wm. Hunter's to R. H. McCaslin's, in the said county.

The bill to prevent the State and county officers from holding more than one office.

The following committee reports were adopted:

The unfavorable report on the account of John Sweeney, of Orangeburg.

The favorable report on the account of Chas. Small, of Colleton County.

The following bills were referred to appropriate committees:

The bill to amend Section 33 of the act establishing and maintaining the free school system of the State.

The joint resolution to provide for the purchase, by the State, of a lot of land for the purpose of a State penitentiary.

The bill to revise and amend the charter of the Apprentices' Library Society of Charleston.

In the House the bill to abolish the office of recorder of the City of Charleston, and the bill to increase the judges' salaries were reported on unfavorably by the committee on the judiciary.

The bill to make appropriation and raise supplies for the fiscal year, commencing November 1st, 1872, was debated for a long time, but finally read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed for a third reading. In the bill, as passed, the Penitentiary appropriation is cut down from \$80,000 to \$40,000.

RAILROADS AND IMMIGRATION.

The Great Seaboard Narrow-Gauge Line—Charleston to New York in Twenty-four Hours—A Commissioner of Immigration to be Appointed.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

COLUMBIA, S. C., February 3. Of all the railroad projects that have been brought forward at the present session of the Legislature, there is none that promises to have a more important bearing on the railroad system of the State and country, or possesses more direct and personal interest to the people of Charleston, than the one which proposes to incorporate in this State the Atlantic and Pacific Seaboard Railroad Company. This appears to be very different from the great majority of the ephemeral and impracticable railroad schemes that are annually presented to the General Assembly, and rushed through by the insertion of dozens of members' names as incorporators, and the lavish distribution of handsomely printed stock in the committee-rooms. The friends of this measure, so far as I have been able to ascertain, have made no offer of money or stock to any one in return for votes or influence, and propose that the measure shall pass on its merits or not pass at all. In the meantime the company has been fully organized, the necessary franchises obtained in North Carolina and Virginia, and the road constructed, and the work, it is promised, is to com-

NEW CHARLESTON.

THE WONDROUS CHANGES BROUGHT IN THE OLD CITY.

A Distinguished Pastor Revivifies Familiar Scenes—His Recollections of the Past and His New Impressions of the Place and the People.

We find in the last issue of the great Baptist organ, the New York Examiner and Chronicle, a very interesting letter from the Rev. J. R. Kendrick, of New York, formerly the pastor of the Citadel Square Baptist Church, who has lately been revisiting the old scenes of his clerical labors. We copy the letter entire. He says: Never shall I forget my earliest visits to Charleston. On one of these occasions I found myself, late in the afternoon, at the great depot, where the baggage and equipages were piled round and round to catch the refreshing breeze from the sea, while the broad promenade was filled with elegantly dressed pedestrians. It was the day of the Central Park, with its unrivaled glories was not dreamed of, no other city in the country could have presented its parallel. Then the private carriages of Charleston, in numbers, as I am informed, there is scarcely a half dozen of them in all the city. This single fact indicates the prodigious change that has come upon this people.

Undoubtedly old Charleston was one of the most interesting and attractive cities in the land. It was beautiful for situation, and in this respect, happily, it remains unchanged. Lying between the Cooper and the Ashley, it expands northward from the latter to the former, and its general configuration, its harbor, too, is strikingly similar to that of the great tropical, except in its lack of inclosure. The climate for eight or nine months in the year is delicious. The mild breath of the tropics tempers its winter air and gives it much of the gorgeousness of a hot coast. The view from the window at which I now write my eye falls upon a variety of rich evergreens, and upon orange trees laden with their golden fruit, though the coast is not so fertile as it once was. Charleston is just now in her most amiable winter mood, and is revealing to an interloper of truly oriental wealth and refinement. The view from the window at which I now write my eye falls upon a variety of rich evergreens, and upon orange trees laden with their golden fruit, though the coast is not so fertile as it once was.

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OUR SOUTH ATLANTIC NEIGHBORS.

Georgia.

—Athens is said to be remarkably prosperous. —A collision between two freight trains occurred on the State Road on Saturday. —Judge Robert A. M. M. M. died in that city on Sunday.

—The Arkwright cotton factory, in Savannah, will be ready to set its spindles in motion in a few days. —Macon has more sickness in her midst at this time than at any time within the recollection of her oldest citizen.

—It is likely the secreted steamer Nick King, of Savannah, will not be raised. Her hull is said to be cracked amidships. —A company has been formed in Atlanta, and has purchased the machinery for manufacturing barrels, kegs and buckets, and expects to go into full blast in about forty days.

—Parties in Savannah are endeavoring to buy up the stock in the sunken steamer Nick King. Thirty-five and a half per cent. is the highest figure offered. —An engine on the Macon and Western Railroad, on Friday, ran into a pile of crosses placed across the track by some disaffected workmen. No damage was done.

—Delegates from eighty-four counties, to the number of about two hundred and fifty, will attend the State Agricultural Convention, which assembles in Augusta on the 11th. —The late fire in the city of Savannah, which destroyed the courthouse and jail, together with the public records, cost \$12,000 to \$15,000. Nobody knows the loss of the spirit came that night. On Friday night the down way freight train on the Western and Atlantic Railroad collided with an unloaded up freight, about one mile and a half this side of Atlanta. The train was derailed, and the engine and engine drivers were injured. A number of cars were damaged, and all the trains on the road were delayed for several hours.

North Carolina. —John S. Bryan, Esq., has been appointed agent of the North Carolina Railroad, at Salisbury. —Governor Caldwell has issued a call to Hon. A. S. Merrimon as United States senator, for the term beginning March 4, 1873.

—At the meeting of the company shops, last Friday, of the board of directors of the North Carolina Railroad, Treasurer Colonel G. M. Crum, and the secretary, Mr. C. M. Crum, for re-election, and J. A. McCauley, Esq., was appointed to fill their places. —Florida.

—St. Augustine rejoices in the possession of a wonderful fish and the carcass of a sea-ov. —Government work on the batteries being erected at Key West is not discontinued even on Sundays. —The lines of the Western Union Telegraph Company has been extended to Milton via Pensacola.

—The clergy have extended a call to the Rev. John Reuther, curate of Christ Church, Nassau, to be rector of St. Paul's Church at Key West. —The arrival of the steamer Havana some fifty or sixty Cubans landed at Key West before last. Immigrants are also arriving from Nassau.

—The Florida Journal is endeavoring to get up a State Fair. Judge Dupont has been requested to prepare and publish an address on the subject. —A new town called Beecher has been laid out on a bend of the St. Johns River near Little Lake George, and about one hundred miles from Jacksonville. It already boasts one hotel and three mineral springs.

—Mrs. Richmond, a wealthy resident of Boston, died on the 18th of January, at the age of one hundred and seven years. Up to two years ago she retained possession of her faculties. —The asylum for aged colored people at St. Augustine, for the foundation of which the late Buckingham Smith left a large estate, has been commenced under the supervision of Dr. Bronson.

—Rumors are current of bribery in the late canvass for Congress. A resolution calling for an investigation has passed the lower house. Colquhoun, of Florida, says he will prove that the senator elect, Mr. Conover, was bribed by the late Governor. Conover is a Louisiana man. —Colonel L. A. Hardee says: "I can show you a bed of pure copper in Florida that you can see on the surface for at least one mile. I have a large tract of land in the State of Florida that I have been endeavoring to supply all the mines, manufactures and shipyards of the world for a century. I have seen and handled some of the copper, and if you desire proof of this, I will take you to it. It is located in the State of Florida, (Jacksonville)." —It is reported that more than one hundred and fifty young men here last Sunday and Monday adjoining for the Western States, especially Texas, since the November election. This hebra is assuming huge proportions. The Montgomery (Ala.)vertiser, speaking of this exodus of people from Florida and Georgia, says: "The Texas fever rages with unobscured intensity. The Western, Mobile and Montgomery Railroads are daily crowded with men, women and children on their way to Texas. The daily average is about two hundred."

—The Tallahassee Sentinel (Fla.) has this to say: "The recently elected senator from Florida: 'S. B. Conover was born in Middlesex County, New Jersey, September 23, 1840, and is consequently, in his thirty-third year. Having profited in the advantages of a liberal and practical education, he was graduated as a doctor of medicine in 1863. Very shortly afterwards he received an appointment as assistant surgeon in the army of the United States. After a fragment of service in the line of his profession as a medical officer, he was ordered to Florida in 1866, and stationed at Lake City. Shortly afterwards he resigned his position in the army and commenced the study of law. Politically, he has always been a Republican. The first vote he ever cast was for Abraham Lincoln, and he has preserved his loyalty to the early Republican principles ever since. He is a member of the convention which framed the present constitution of the State. For his services to the Republican party he was rewarded by Governor Rees on his appointment of State treasurer, the duties of which office he has satisfactorily filled."

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—The Tallahassee Sentinel (Fl