

The Camden Journal.

VOLUME 28.

CAMDEN, SOUTH-CAROLINA, APRIL 8, 1869.

NUMBER 34.

MISCELLANY.

THE CLOSE OF THE SESSION

We did not suppose that the General Assembly of South Carolina, elected by universal suffrage and under the restrictions of the Fourteenth Constitutional would be in a hurry to adjourn. The body was chiefly made up of barbers, tailors, carpenters and plantation hands, whose services in the field and at the anvil were worth, perhaps, ten dollars a month "and found." In the Legislature they drew six dollars a day and mileage, besides perquisites; so that it is not surprising that they amused themselves for seventeen weary weeks in doing their best to turn topsy-turvy all that the former session had left of respectable and venerable in the State. Happily, however, they have adjourned at last; leaving the tax-payers one hundred and seven new Acts and twenty-one new Joint Resolutions.

We ought, maybe, to thank the General Assembly for not remaining in session all the year round, and it is doubtless captious criticism to suggest that it was hardly worth while for the State to pay at the rate of \$1100 each for bills to incorporate colored fire companies, to incorporate the colored Amateur Literary and Fraternal Association, the colored Longshoremen's Protective Union Association, and the like. It is true that the old Legislatures of South Carolina, in which her people were represented by upright and intelligent white men, usually sat but three or four weeks at a cost of some \$40,000. There is something, however, to be paid for the privilege of being represented by white adventurers and ignorant negroes, and as the wards of the nation held the purse and strings, we ought to thank our stars that they did not bleed us to the tune of a cool half million. Grumbling may be very unreasonable and show a very poor appreciation of the blessings of the situation; but it must be said that the white people of the State do object most emphatically to a legislative session in which so much is done for the Radical tag-rag and bob-tail and so little for the white people of the State.

The list of Acts and Joint Resolutions is a curiosity in its way, giving unmistakable evidence of the cupidity and timidity of the combination party. There is an Act to make an appropriation for the pay and mileage of members; an Act to provide for the conversion of State securities, an Act authorizing the pawning of State bonds, an Act to authorize a loan for the relief of the Treasury, and the huge Appropriation bill of which we have already spoken. This is the financial work of the session. Five Acts to give the members and officers their pay, and to secure the State officials from short of *Veve Clicquot* and *Pate de Foie Gras*, and the General Assembly can meet again and vote an other supply! And the chronic fright of the "Honorable Senators and Representatives," caused by the romances of Tubert and Hoge, and the proclaiming and swearing of that excellent individual, R. K. Scott, Governor, found its expression in the Act to organize the militia, and the Joint Resolutions authorizing the Governor to purchase two thousand rifles of the most improved pattern, with the necessary ammunition, and to employ an armed force for the preservation of the peace. Only think of it! Two thousand rifles and an armed force to keep the peace in South Carolina! Why, if one tithe of what Scott and his minions say were true, one hundred thousand white men to bear and see them could not keep the peace in the State. The legislators sipped full of horrors.

Lank Leslie stood aghast in speechless trance. To arms, cried Rosemon, and couched his quivering lance.

So they provided for the immediate annihilation of every man in buckram, and relieved their overwrought feelings by removing the county seat of Barnwell to Blackville and ratified the Fifteenth amendment.

When we take from the long roll the Acts we have named, the Acts of incorporation—which could have been included

in one general law—and the acts and resolutions which were directed to remunerating somebody for something he had done or promised to do, there is left but a beggarly array of measures to represent the public work of the session. Omitting the railroad bills, there are about a dozen Acts and Resolutions of a public character, in return for all this labor and profuse expenditure of money. Whipper, the negro lawyer, was elected to codify the laws of the State, in company with Mr. Corbin, the United States District Attorney and Senator from Charleston. Elliott, a negro, was confirmed as Assistant Adjutant and Inspector-General of the Militia. A variety of fat places were contrived and a number of salaries increased. The white people of the State have absolutely nothing, but quite as much as they looked for.

In one particular, at least, the Legislature has bargained without its host. The members knew absolutely nothing of what they were doing. They hacked and hewed, slashed and slew. Old laws were repealed and new ones enacted, proviso was leaped upon proviso, resolution upon resolution, until there is hardly a man in the State who knows what the law is, where it begins, and where it comes to an end. Already the Homestead Law, and the Ordinance cancelling negro bonds, have been pronounced unconstitutional. The bill to declare and make valid the Charleston election is now before the courts as being unconstitutional from beginning to end. There is scarcely an act passed which may not be successfully attacked because of some flaw or irregularity. How many bills and resolutions flatly violate Section 20, Article 2, of the State Constitution, which declares that "Every act or resolution having the force of law shall relate to but one subject, and that shall be expressed in the title." The whole judicial system is in a muddle, and when the lawyers get fairly to work the courts will have their hands full, perhaps for years to come. This is no exaggeration; for if, as O'Connell said, a coach and four could be driven through an act of Parliament, a whole railroad train might be driven through the Acts of the present Legislature of South Carolina.

After all it is a comfort that the General Assembly has adjourned, and that the peculiarly favored and peculiarly flavored senators and representatives will not remain in Columbia to vex us during the warm summer weather. Of course, they will meet again in the fall; but we feel that by that time there may be influences at work which will make their less violent, less injurious and less costly, than during the last two sessions. —*Charleston News.*

From Le Constitutionnel, March 12.

LIBERTY IN FRANCE.

The public meetings held yesterday evening in the Salles Molere and Robert, the latter called Salle de la Revolution et du Progres, in the Boulevard Rochechouart, were of a very tumultuous character, and both were dissolved by the representative of authority. In the former, M. Sebillé presided, with MM. Amouroux and Pault as his assessors. M. Heligon spoke against the conscription and its influence on labor and produce. He kept continually wandering from his subject, notwithstanding the repeated warnings of the Commissary of Police. He argued that soldiers were not free; that in the barracks efforts were made to excite them to hatred against the citizens.

"At the time of the invasion of Paris," said he, "the Governor, who was called, I believe, M. Joseph, had for a moment the idea of arming the people, but he was afraid of the Revolution. Napoleon I. declared that he had rather have to deal with the Cosacks on the Don than with the Cosacks of the Faubourg St. Martin."

On this the Commissary of Police gave another warning. The President maintained that the speaker was in order, and, repeating his words, invited him to continue. The warning produced an indecipherable tumult. The Commissary then rose to read the law,

but not being able to make himself heard, pronounced the dissolution. The clamor still continued; the President protested against the dissolution, and demanded that the law should be read; then the Commissary, taking advantage of a momentary cessation of the shouts, summoned the assembly to disperse. M. Amouroux, one of the assessors, began to harangue the audience; then menaces and invectives were addressed to the Commissary, who withdrew, however, without suffering any personal outrage. The hall was evacuated shortly after, and no disturbance took place outside the doors. The President of the meeting in the Rue Rochechouart was M. Ferray, with MM. Daudet and Bachellery for assessors. M. Peyrouton, speaking of the French Revolution, and referring particularly to the night of the 4th of August, said: "That night was a promise of equality which has not yet been realized; but the day will come, and a proof may be found in the effervescence now prevalent in Paris."

A little after, he cited these words of R. Beppierre:

"Kings and princes are incorrigible; there is but one way of getting rid of them, and that is death."

A warning ensued. The President then, addressing himself to the meeting, said that he could only join in the language of the speaker; so M. Peyrouton repeated his phrase with an air of defiance. Another warning was then rejected by the President, whose words seemed intended to provoke a hostile demonstration on the part of the assembly. He finished his speech, however, and was succeeded by M. Bachellery:

"I mean to speak," said he, "of the Consulate and the Empire. A foreigner had been pushed forward by the Revolution, and he was Napoleon. When a man pronounces that name he evokes the memory of a whole tissue of crimes, assassinations, and infamies!"

This produced a third warning. M. Ferray maintained that the speaker was quite in order, and obtained a salvo of applause. M. Bachellery protested, and said:

"If my hearers see in my words an analogy between Napoleon I. and Napoleon III., so much the worse."

On these words the Commissary of Police dissolved the meeting and made the usual requisition. The President declared the dissolution illegal, and in the midst of the vociferations of the bystanders, of insults vented against the representative of authority, and menaces of personal assault, announced that for this once the meeting would retire and have recourse to legal methods (a written protest); but that for the future, in presence of such a dissolution, the assembly would remain in permanence. The Commissary of Police, whom many threatened to throw into the cellar, could only effect his retreat by the aid of M. Petit, one of the organizers of the meeting. The *proscrits* of the infractions of the law of June 6, committed at these two meetings, have been transmitted to the judicial authorities.

HYDROPHOBIA IN KENTUCKY.

We have to record one of the most unusual and startling fatalities that ever occurred in our city, in the death of John D. Sargent, a citizen of Frankfort, from hydrophobia.

Some two months ago a small dog followed him from the street into his store, and seemed to recognize him virtually as his master. It was quite small, hardly over six inches in height. It was afflicted with some skin disease, and at times appeared to be laboring under a species of fit, staggering backwards, and yelping as if with pain. It was not supposed to be mad, though several symptoms are now remembered that may justly be attributed to rabies. Mr. Sargent one day fed it with a small piece of meat, which it had no sooner swallowed than it caught his hand at the base of the thumb, piercing his flesh with its small, keen teeth. He shook it off, paying no other attention to the wound, which rapidly healed. The dog died a few days after in our composing-room.

On Saturday evening last Mr. Sar-

gent felt pain in his hand in the vicinity of the old wound. The pain gradually extended to the fingers, and crept up the arm into the body. The arm and hand became numb, incapacitating him from his usual use of those members. The numbness and nervousness increasing, he summoned a physician, who, after a very careful examination, could not at first decide upon the nature of his disease, but suspected some disease of the brain. The intervention of nervous spasms, accompanied with the most harrowing symptoms, gave to his disease a most frightful cast. By accident, on the presentation of water to allay his thirst the true character of his malady was developed in the agonizing spasm that immediately racked and tortured his physical frame. He could not endure the sight even of water, or its mention. His spasms were brief in duration, but of the most fearful character, causing his eyes to dilate, and his whole appearance to assume a character so frightful that baffles all description. The slightest impact upon his body caused convulsions, his nervous organism being wrought up to its highest tension. The strength of several persons was necessary to hold him in position during his spasms. He did not seek to inflict harm on any one, but was entirely conscious up to the hour of his death, giving instructions concerning his business, and delivering parting messages to his family and friends.

During Sunday he was visited by many citizens and the physicians, who offered all the aid possible for his relief. He swallowed only a few pills by great effort on Sunday morning, the contraction of his throat causing him to refuse anything else. Thus, amid sufferings beyond description or comparison, exceeding anything ever witnessed in the entire history of the medical men that ministered at his bedside, and appalling to every appreciative sense, he lingered till almost 9 o'clock on Sunday night, when death relieved him from further pain.

Mr. Sargent leaves his family, consisting of a wife and five children, in indigent circumstances. In his last hours he appealed to those around him to aid them in their helpless condition, his chief fear being that they would come to want. Benevolent citizens are now circulating a subscription list to buy them a small home and minister to their necessity. —*Frankfort Commonwealth, March 26.*

WANING CONFIDENCE.

It is well understood that, in spite of attempts and half attempts and sham attempts at compromise and conciliation; a distrust of Grant is increasing among the radical leaders at Washington. The leaders see that he can at present be controlled by them to a great extent, but they realize that he is unstable and unsettled in his views and purposes, and they can't know who will have possession of him to-morrow, or whether the rather thin streak of obstinacy that they have discovered in him may not at some time start him off suddenly and unexpectedly upon a little career of his own. Even Carl Schurz, the new Senator from Missouri, is disposed to doubt him. The Missouri Senator, in a recent speech, called on those members of Congress who had impeached one President not flinch before the face of his successor. Strong suspicion of Grant's purposes, notwithstanding his palpable lack of nerve, are entertained, and even indignant of the plan or plans pursued by him in reference to the appointments, loudly or deeply uttered on all sides. His own political friends say that his whole theory of appointments is false and his practice mischievous. They hold, the *Louisville Courier Journal* asserts, both the theory and practice to be unworthy of respect. They see that low and contemptible influences are at work in all directions. A very prominent radical or Republican member of the House remarked emphatically, on Tuesday, in the hall of that body, with the intention of being heard by all around him, "If I am not worthy of consultation when the postmaster of my

own town is to be appointed, I am not to represent my district; I must notify my constituents to select another Representative." This remark, it is said, called forth corresponding replies from the radical members around. —*Phoenix.*

WANT OF DECISION.—A great deal of labor is lost to the world for the want of a little courage. Every day sends to the graves obscure men, who have only remained in obscurity because timidity has prevented them from making a first effort, and who, if they had only been induced to begin, would in all probability, have gone great lengths in the career of fame. The fact is, that in doing anything in the world worth doing, we must not stand on the bank shivering, thinking of the cold and danger, but jump in and scramble through as well as we can. It will not do to be perpetually calculating risks and adjusting nice chances. It did all very well before the flood, when a man would consult his friends upon an intended publication for one hundred and fifty years, and live to see its success for six or seven centuries afterward; but at present, man waits and doubts, and consults his brothers and uncles and particular friends, until one day he finds he is sixty five years of age, and that he has no more time to follow their advice. There is so little time for oversqueamishness at present that the opportunity slips away. The very period of life at which a man chooses to venture, if ever, is so confined that it is no bad rule to preach up the necessity, in such instances, of a little violence done to the feeling, and effort made in defiance of strict and sober calculations.

Sidney Smith.

THE ARCH AGITATOR.—Among those 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 hecatombs up to the skies! was his ever ready answer to appeals for peace. Down with the Constitution, and open 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.*

SHERIDAN.—We have frequently said that of all the Federal Generals of the civil war General Sheridan had the greatest reputation on the smallest capital. His achievements were nothing extraordinary—hardly sufficient to have saved him from being overslaughed; and it is a great injustice to other officers that he should be promoted over their heads. There was no brilliancy in anything he did save the confutations he lighted up in the Valley. He did not gain a single victory that was worthy of remark for being achieved under disadvantage, where in rapidity and fact triumphed over superior force, means, and position. Not one.

Richmond Dispatch.

THE INFAMOUS STANTON.—Dr. Mudd says:

"After I was convicted and sent away to the Dry Tortugas a confession was got up by Secretary Stanton purporting to have been made by me to Captain Dutton on board the steamer, and was afterwards appended to the official report of my trial. This was one of the most infamous dodges practiced against me, and was evidently intended as a justification for the illegality of my conviction. I never made such a confession, and never could have made it, even if I had tried it."

VARIETY.

WAR VESSELS ORDERED SOUTH.—Two iron-clad vessels, now at Portsmouth Navy Yard, have been ordered by the Secretary of the Navy to be dispatched to the West India station. There are no vessels of their class in those waters, and possible complications with Spanish-Cuban matters require this branch of service to be strengthened in that quarter.

EX-PRESIDENT DAVIS.—The New Orleans *Crescent*, of Saturday, says that a private letter, received in that city, from Mr. Jas. Frederick Pattison, in England, mentions incidentally that the writer had a visit on the 4th of March from Mr. Davis, who expresses his intention to return soon to the United States.

"Buy a trunk, Pat?" said a dealer.—"And what for should I buy a trunk?" rejoined Pat. "To put your clothes in," was the reply. "And go naked! The devil a bit in it!"

A yankee paper in describing a shipwreck, says that the mate of the vessel, who was the only survivor of the crew, found himself cast upon an uninhabited island—*Without a single dollar in his pocket!*

A lady, who had refused to give after hearing a charity sermon, had her pocket picked as she was leaving the church. On making the discovery, she said: "God could not find the way to my pocket but the Devil did."

A house-maid who was sent to call a gentleman to dinner, found him engaged in using a tooth-brush.

"Well, is he coming?" said the lady of the house as the servant returned.

"Yes, ma'am, directly," was the reply "he's just sharpening his teeth."

DON'T SWEAR.—Profanity is one of the offensive and disgusting habits to which humanity is given; to say nothing of its offensiveness (which every one of course understands,) profane swearing is a vile, vulgar, low-bred habit, from the indulgence of which a proper self-respect should restrain a man, even if he has no regard for the dictates of religion. It is a habit, too which increases with rapidity, when once given way to.

Virtues, like essences, lose their fragrance when exposed. They are sensitive plants, that will not bear too familiar approaches.

Who was the first person ever known to swear? Eve, for when Adam asked her if he might kiss her, she answered, I don't care A-dam if you do.

"Mamma," exclaimed a beautiful girl who had suffered affliction to obscure the little intellect she possessed, "what is that long green thing lying on the dish before?" "A cucumber, my beloved Georgiana," replied the mamma, with a bland smile of approbation on her darling's commendable curiosity. "A cucumber! Gracious goodness, my good mamma, how very extraordinary! I always imagined, until this moment, that they grew in slices!"

Poetry and consumptions are the most flattering of diseases.

A lady speaking of the gathering of lawyers to dedicate a new court house, said she supposed they had gone "to view the ground where they must shortly lie."

A man who had a scolding wife, being willing to excuse her failing, when called upon to give some account of her habits and character, said she was pretty well in general, only subject at times to breaking out at the mouth!

NARROW ESCAPE.—The Rev. C. Thomason, Methodist Pastor at this place, had a narrow escape from drowning on Friday evening last, in crossing Bear Creek on the Camden road.—Though saving himself he had the misfortune to lose the horse he was driving, which belonged to one of our citizens.

Lancaster Ledger.

Business before pleasure—kissing your wife before going out to spend the evening with a female friend.

If you want to get more than one hundred cents for a dollar invest in a bottle of perfumery.