

BAPTIST CONVENTION

HOLDS A MOST INTERESTING SESSION IN CHARLESTON.

A Large Gathering—A Generous Welcome and Bountiful Hospitality—Gratifying Progress in Denominational Work in the State During the Year.

The following proceeding of the Baptist State Convention, which was recently held in the city of Charleston, we call from the Greenville "Courier":

The session of the Convention began on Wednesday night with the preaching of the introductory sermon by Rev. G. A. Gannett. After the sermon delegates were enrolled and the organization completed by the election of Hon. J. H. Hudson, of Bennettsville, as president, vice Rev. W. S. Sanders, who declined re-election, Rev. G. T. Gresham was re-elected secretary, with Rev. C. P. Ervin, as assistant.

Monday morning's session was opened with addresses of welcome to the body by Dr. D. M. Ramsey, on behalf of the Baptists of the city, and Mayor J. A. Smyth, on behalf of the city. At the call of the president Dr. C. Manly made response to these addresses. Invitations to the body to visit the Charleston Museum, the office of the News and Courier and to go upon an excursion around the harbor were accepted.

The body now settled down to business, and the leading interest of the denomination, the State Mission Board presented through Dr. T. M. Bailey its annual report. The report of the treasurer showed that \$9,924.47 had been received and \$11,147.75 expended during the year, and that the Board's treasury was in debt of \$8,500.

Rev. J. Vass as superintendent, presented the fifth annual report of the Connie Maxwell Orphanage showing in other things that there were now one hundred children in that institution, and that about \$5,000 had been received, in cash and donations, for their maintenance. This report was referred to a special committee composed of one member from each association.

A pleasant talk followed in the interests of the American Baptist Publication Society by Dr. R. G. Seymour, its representative, in which he spoke of the Society's new buildings, the publishing work done by it, its Gospel work by Rev. A. J. Diaz, and its general missionary work in distribution of literature.

Dr. Kerfoot, of the Theological Seminary at Louisville, followed this address with a strong plea for contributions in aid of the Students' Fund of that institution and obtained as before said over \$1,000. In connection with this evening's service, Dr. Kerfoot presented to the convention a gavel, which he had secured from the wood of the Mount of Olives, while the handle is of cherry from the banks of Jordan. President Hudson appropriately received the gavel on the part of the convention.

The report of the board of Ministerial Education claimed attention on Saturday morning and over \$240 were contributed for that object. A committee was appointed to counter with the trustees of the Yorkville High School as to what is best to be done with reference to that property. The committee is to report through the Baptist Courier.

A deep interest mingled with much anxiety had been felt as to what the omnibus committee on the Connie Maxwell Orphanage would report. This report was made on Saturday morning and was unanimously adopted, and clinched by singing "Praise God, from whom all blessing flow." The report exonerated Superintendent J. L. Vass, and recommended his re-election to that position until July, 1897, when the new board of trustees will elect for themselves a superintendent. It so changes the rules of the Orphanage as to provide for the election of a board of trustees, five for two years, five for one year, and upon this method trustees were named for the institution. Other changes in the by-laws were also made.

In response to a request from the Anti-Saloon League, two delegates from this body were appointed to the convention to be held in Washington, D. C., on December 10. Congressman W. J. Talbert and Mr. W. H. Lyles, of Columbia, were appointed as the delegates called for.

C. S. Gardner, of Greenville. Dr. Riley, Rev. R. N. Pratt, Judge Hudson, and Prof. F. W. Bostwick, president at Richmond College, spoke last night, if any one wished to know why he was here, he would reply, because he was at Richmond College with Dr. Ramsey, because he wanted to hear Dr. Gardner preach, and because he wanted to become acquainted with the editors of the Baptist Courier, which was so prominent a factor in furthering the interests of the University and the College. Why Baptists should be educated was urged on the ground that they are the only people that do not have thrived on them, and as they are burdened loose they ought to learn how to go rightly. The increased power of the trained mind by reason of the enlarged field given by means of the press, was many words of the orator, and many more words of the 30,000 persons, whom the voice of the demonstrators reached, was dedicated, and the maintenance of our free institutions, as being dependent upon our being educated christially, was strongly urged.

Rev. H. R. Moseley referred to his work in connection with the building of an alumni hall and the difficulty of enlisting the aid of students in that work. He explained this seeming difference as partly due to the fact that there was an unintentional recognition of the old students in the appointment of trustees and professors. He, therefore, introduced a resolution, which was after reference to a committee passed by the convention, which was to the effect that the charter of the institution as to allow the election of the trustees in groups of five, the whole number to be elected the first year, but five to hold office for five years, another five for four years, and so on. The election to be by ballot and two thirds of the entire number to be old students of the University.

On November 23, 1896, the Citadel Square Baptist Church was organized, and in commemoration of the fact that it had been decided to hold some special services during the session of the convention. The evening of Friday was partially devoted to initiatory exercises connected with this celebration. Rev. B. L. Whitman, D. D., president of the Columbian College, Washington, D. C., had been requested to make an address on the occasion, and it was his general sentiment that he would have been glad to have been present, but that it would have been difficult for him to do so better selected to have been made. Splendid in physique, imposing in appearance, fluent of speech, profound in thought, Dr. Whitman charmed his hearers as he spoke of "Our Possessions in the Bible." The three points made in treating the subject were that the Bible was the divine word of revelation for illuminating life and for the interpretation of nature; that it is the power for salvation, and that it is the divine sword for conquest and defense.

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The committee on hospitality had provided for a free excursion to the delegates and visitors. Saturday afternoon was devoted to the interesting feature of the convention's stay in Charleston, and about 2 o'clock a large party left Accommodation wharf on the steamboat Planter. The weather was fine, a bounteous lunch had been provided and the trip embraced a visit to historic old Fort Sumter, "the Jetties and a jaunt up Ashley river. To many of the delegates from the upper counties the whole excursion was a new and something unique and altogether a charming episode. And then, then, on the way back a number of them stepped in to see the big presses of the News and Courier at work on the Sunday edition of that paper, and some of them went thence to visit the historic First Baptist church, the oldest church in the State.

to remain among the white people of the South, to whose influence they owed much already and to whose help and friendly guidance his future good so largely depended. To the suggestion of the News and Courier the negroes migrate in a body to Africa, he would rather be a doctor in the "land of the living dead," than to dwell in the "land of the living dead." The negro, he said, did not want to leave and as they were here with us, he besought for them our continued interest and help to make them better fitted to live among us.

A collection, amounting to more than \$100, was taken to help in building a church at Summerville. The pulpit of the Citadel Square church was occupied on Sunday morning by Rev. R. J. Willingham, who from the text, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord," gave a practical, impressive and eloquent talk on "Religion in the Family."

Memorial services were held on Sunday afternoon in connection with the closing of the conventional year thirteen heralds of the cross passed from this lower sphere of work to their heavenly home. Remarks bearing on the report were made by Rev. I. W. Wingo and Dr. J. W. Perry.

On Sunday night the convention closed its session to meet next year with the Rock Hill church.

THE EVIL OF SMALL COUNTIES.

The State of Georgia Finds them Very Burdensome.

ATLANTA, Ga., Dec. 9.—Our Legislature is now in session, and it would like to find some way to lessen the burden imposed on the State treasury by the great number of small counties that draw more money from the State than they pay in taxes. In a long statistical statement published today the Journal shows that the burden of government in Georgia is borne entirely by forty-seven counties. The other ninety counties draw out for schools and pensions more than they pay in taxes. This is the situation with the present year's disbursement. When the school fund is increased to \$400,000 as proposed, the number of small counties which will be a burden to the larger ones will be increased to over one hundred.

The following counties now pay less than they draw out of the State treasury: Baker, Baldwin, Banks, Bartow, Brooks, Burke, Butts, Calhoun, Camden, Chatham, Chilton, Chocomahee, Cherokee, Chattooga, Clay, Clayton, Colquitt, Columbia, Crawford, Dawson, Decatur, Douglas, Echols, Elbert, Fannin, Fayette, Forsyth, Franklin, Gilmer, Glascock, Gordon, Greene, Gwinnett, Habersham, Hall, Hancock, Haralson, Harris, Hart, Heard, Henry, Jackson, Jasper, Jefferson, Johnson, Jones, Liberty, Lincoln, Lumpkin, Madison, Marion, McIntosh, Meriwether, Miller, Mitchell, Mitchell, Monroe, Murray, Newton, Oconee, Oglethorpe, Paulding, Pickens, Pike, Pulaski, Putnam, Quitman, Rabun, Randolph, Rockdale, Schley, Screven, Stewart, Talbot, Taliaferro, Taylor, Telfair, Towns, Twiggs, Wilkes, Wilcox, Walton, Warren, Washington, Wheeler, White, Wilkinson and Worth.

The following twenty-eight small counties get more from the State school fund than they pay into the State treasury for all purposes: Baker, Baldwin, Barke, Calhoun, Camden, Columbia, Crawford, Fannin, Gilmer, Glascock, Greene, Henry, Johnson, Jones, Liberty, Lumpkin, Madison, McIntosh, Meriwether, Oglethorpe, Paulding, Rabun, Screven, Talbot, Taliaferro, Towns, Union and Wilkinson.

The six counties of Fulton, Chatham, Bibb, Richmond, Muscogee and Floyd pay \$896,000 in tax this year, or more than a third of the levy. Fulton alone pays a quarter of a million or one eighth of the levy. The small counties are riding on the backs of the larger ones. They are a curse to the State. We have them and there is no way to get rid of them.

Shot Down in Cold Blood.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Dec. 9.—Last Tuesday afternoon, about midway between Camden and Bearden, on the line of the Cotton Belt Railroad, occurred one of the bloodiest and most horrible massacres of negroes that has ever blackened the records of that locality. A gang of section men, composed principally of negroes, with a white foreman, were engaged in their labor of improving the roadbed, when a gang of unknown persons made their appearance upon the scene and without warning began to immediately fire into the crowd of helplessly and unarmingly negroes, which resulted in the death of five of them. The foreman claims that he did not recognize any of the assassins. Many believe that he knows who they are, but on account of the probability of personal danger to himself, he is afraid to lead out any information that would lead to their arrest. The section men were last murdered on a section where they had been working for some time and is filled with lawless characters. The Sheriff of Ouachita county is exerting himself in every way possible to apprehend the guilty ones, and the Cotton Belt Company has offered a reward of \$250 for the capture of the murderers. If they are captured the law will mete out swift justice to them.

Taxpayers Must Pay Up.

GREENVILLE, S. C., Dec. 10.—Comptroller General Norton was in the city today, and made the first official announcement that there would be no extension in the time for payment of taxes. He said: "The time for the payment of taxes for the year expires December 31st—that is for payment without penalty. The Legislature does not meet early enough to extend the time, and the Governor and Comptroller General will not extend, and therefore there will be no extension. Hereafter, on account of the frequent extensions, no objections were offered to county treasurers receiving taxes after the 31st of December for a few days. This year the treasurers will be advised to deliver their duplicates on the 1st of January to County Auditors, who will immediately make up the penalty book. In other words, the law will be rigidly enforced and treasurers required to collect without regard to former customs. This will doubtless create a stir, as the taxpayers seem to be relying on the custom of a few days grace, as shown by the small receipts up to date. The penalty will doubtless attach in many cases."

SOUTH CAROLINA MASONS.

THE SECOND DAY'S SESSION OF THE GRAND LODGE.

Col. J. T. Barron, of Columbia. Elected Grand Master of South Carolina—A Delightful Excursion Around the Harbor—The Night Session.

CHARLESTON, S. C., Dec. 10.—The Grand Lodge was called on at 10 o'clock yesterday morning. The Grand Master ruled that where a brother was a Knight of Pythias and requested to be buried with Masonic honors he was entitled so to be buried, the Masons taking charge of the body after the other ceremonies were over, and not mingling with the other bodies.

W. Bro. Dabney, of Macedonia Lodge, requested the loan of jewels and property of a defunct lodge. The Grand Master ruled that the Grand Lodge would lend the property, but would not be responsible therefor. R. W. Bro. Sheppard moved that the request be granted, Macedonia Lodge being responsible for any loss or damage. Adopted.

W. Bro. W. L. Glaze submitted the following resolution: Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to confer with the business organizations of Charleston and endeavor to induce them to select as a date for the annual communication of this Grand Lodge the week of the annual communication of this Grand Lodge. Adopted.

On motion it was resolved that a committee be appointed to purchase a suitable level or monument to be presented at our next annual communication to our honored, respected and beloved retiring Grand Master, Claude E. Sawyer, etc. This was adopted and the committee appointed as follows: C. P. Quattlebaum, Joseph Cook, O. Sheppard.

On motion of Bro. Sawyer all officers of the Grand Lodge who have not been installed were authorized to be installed in any lodge which they may respectively select.

Bro. Sawyer moved that the foreign correspondence report of the Grand Secretary be dispensed with for the coming year. Adopted.

The Grand Lodge was then closed in ample form.

LEAPED TO HIS DEATH.

Clerk of Court for Lancaster County Takes His Own Life.

LANCASTER, Dec. 9.—Clerk of the Court W. Perry committed suicide this morning about 10 o'clock by jumping into Bear creek from the Ohio River and Charleston railroad trestle, three fourths of a mile south-west of town. The whole community was in a state of alarm when the news came that Bill Perry had drowned himself.

Mr. Perry was a great sufferer from dyspepsia and since his defeat last summer in the primaries for re-election has been very much depressed. He ate his breakfast as usual this morning and about 9 o'clock came into his office and asked his deputy, Mr. Jones, if he was busy. Mr. Jones replied that he had some work ahead. Mr. Perry then left the office and went to the creek on the track of the railroad, and when reaching the trestle turned and came back in the direction of town, but soon returned to the creek.

A school boy saw him walking hurriedly on the trestle with his hat off. On reaching the middle of the structure over the channel of the creek, he climbed about in the track of the railroad, and when reaching the top and jumped off into the swollen waters below. The boy who saw him gave the alarm and a man on the public road ran down the creek to render help. He succeeded in getting below Mr. Perry, who by this time had on the public road run down the creek. When he saw Perry he was holding his head above water with one hand grasping a bush and had his hat in the other, and he called to him to hold on, and he would help. Mr. Perry turned his head, looked at him for a moment, turned loose the bush and sank for the last time. Parties with boats and hooks have been dragging for the body all day but up to this time (8:30 p. m.) the search has been unsuccessful. His hat was found 200 yards below where he was seen to sink. The creek is very full and the water swift. The search will be kept up all night.

Mr. Perry was 45 years of age. He was a cadet at the King's Mountain Military Institute just after the war. Several years ago he held the office of county auditor and was elected clerk of the court four years ago. He made a model clerk. He was generally kind and a fault was held in high esteem by all who knew him. He leaves a wife but no children. Mr. W. L. Porter, the newly elected, will take charge in a day or two.—State.

South Carolina's Delegation.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 9.—Representative Strait arrived here today, and was welcomed to the city by the local and congressional associates. He has not yet received a formal notice of contest from his rival, John F. Jones, although he has been informed by friends of Jones that a contest will be made. It is understood that contests are expected from every South Carolina district, and the pleas in mitigation for this district are the unconstitutionality of the registration law of South Carolina and for any other bill that may be presented by the Republicans, now or at any other time.

"No," said Mr. Allen, "I will not vote for this bill in its present shape. You can, however, put it in such shape that I can vote for it, and that other senators can vote for it who are not members of your party."

"Does the senator see," said Mr. Hale, Rep. of Maine, now breaking into the colloquy, "that it is an entirely different thing to ask the Republican party, which is a minority here—as it clearly is—to take up and consider and perfect a general bill, when the conditions are expected to be entirely changed in congress? The Republican party expects to have an absolute majority in the senate then."

"Where will you get your majority from?" Mr. Allen queried.

"I say," repeated Mr. Hale, "that the Republican party expects to have a Republican majority in the senate next congress."

A SHARP DEBATE.

SILVER SENATORS OUTWIT REPUBLICANS ON THE DINGLEY BILL.

The Populist Senators of Nebraska Moves to Take up the Deferred Tariff Bill for Action and Brings on a Discussion.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—The Dingley bill was brought under discussion after the calendar had been disposed of, by a request from Mr. Allen for unanimous consent to have the bill taken up for consideration.

Objection was made by Mr. Aldrich, Rep. of Rhode Island in the phrase, "Let it go over." Mr. Allen moved that the bill be taken up, notwithstanding the objection. "Let the bill be read," said Mr. Platt, "so that the Senate may know what it is voting upon."

The bill was thereupon read in full, with the free silver substitute reported for it last session from the finance committee.

After the reading Mr. Aldrich withdrew his objection to take up the bill and the objection was renewed by Mr. Palmer, Dem., of Illinois.

Mr. Allen desired to make a brief statement, but objection was made and the Senate proceeded to vote by yeas and nays on the motion to take up the bill. The motion was adopted by a vote of 35 to 24.

The bill having been taken up, Mr. Aldrich moved that the bill be recommitted to the finance committee with instruction to report it back without amendment.

Mr. Harris declared his opposition to the instructions and after some discussion Mr. Aldrich withdrew that part of his motion.

Mr. Chandler, Rep. of New Hampshire reminded Mr. Allen that the people had decided in the recent election that they would not have the free coinage of silver alone, and that if the free silver substitute were voted down the Senate could go on and act on the Dingley bill proper. He asked whether Mr. Allen would give his vote for the bill without the free silver amendment.

Would he help to remove the obstruction to the passage of the bill? Mr. Allen declared having said that he would help to remove any obstruction to the passage of the Dingley bill. He had said that so far as he was concerned no obstruction should be placed in its way. He did not regard the question of free silver as having been settled at the last election. It was a very important question and had had 6,000,000 votes in its favor. He did not believe that the country could give a free vote on a tariff matter, and he would not be brought to the country by increasing the burdens of taxation on articles which the people consumed. He was so thoroughly convinced of that fact that he wanted to see his Republican friends get into the saddle as soon as possible. But he did not believe that they wanted to revise the tariff.

"Then why not co-operate with us," Mr. Aldrich asked, "and get free silver off this bill?"

"I will co-operate with the senator and his party," Mr. Allen rejoined, "in my own way. It is not necessary for me to bow my head and wear a Republican yoke and follow the dictation of the Republican party, and I will not do it. I will say, however, that no obstruction in the nature of a tariff matter, so far as I am concerned, will be put in the way of taking up and considering a tariff measure at an early day."

"We can pass this bill in 15 minutes," said Mr. Aldrich, "if the senator and his friends will allow us to do it."

"Will you present to the Senate and the country," Mr. Allen asked, "a tariff bill that you will consent to be bound by for the next four years—at this session of congress?"

This question elicited laughter among the Republican senators and shouts of "No."

"My question," Mr. Allen resumed, "arouses almost universal laughter on that side of the chamber. You said to the country this fall, that you would, at the first moment, take up the tariff question and settle it, and now you laugh when your attention is called to it. What is there in the tariff question that would require you to spend six or seven months in an extraordinary session to consider it? Why not introduce the McKinley bill, the panacea for all evils, and have it reported here within the next 10 days and passed within the next 60 days? Do you want to threaten the country with an extraordinary session of congress? Do you want to sit here 90 days practically idle, and let the country suffer when you have it within your power to put a tariff bill on its passage and have it discussed intelligently?"

"Let me ask the senator," Mr. Aldrich broke in, "whether he will vote for this bill as it came from the house of representatives or for the McKinley bill, or for any other bill that may be presented by the Republicans, now or at any other time?"

"No," said Mr. Allen, "I will not vote for this bill in its present shape. You can, however, put it in such shape that I can vote for it, and that other senators can vote for it who are not members of your party."

HOBOES HOLD UP A TOWN IN TRUE WESTERN STYLE.

Robbers Hold Up a Town in True Western Style.

NEW YORK, Dec. 10.—All New Rochelle, so to speak, stood at its guns last night. Monday night a gang of tramps held up the town in true Western style, and as a result there was not a man in the town yesterday who didn't admit that he was afraid there would be a repetition of the raid last night.

New Rochelle has long been a favorite stopping place for tramps bound for New England. The town force of blue-coats is only six strong, so it is easy prey for the hoboes.

An average of twenty tramps are rounded up every week even by this meagre force, and once during the height of the tramp traveling season this autumn sixty were put in the lockup in two days. Things have been rather quiet of late and the peaceful suburbanites and commuters do not expect anything like a concerted raid.

Those tramps were nothing if not bold. They reached town at dusk and began their work at once, not in quiet by streets, but in Main street, the heart of the business quarter.

"Gimme an overcoat, am I blame quick about it?" yelled a frowsy, tattered individual, bursting into the clothing store of Samuel Cohen at No. 327 Main street. "If you don't I'll smash the whole place up!"

Cohen yelled; his wife screamed. Uphstairs lived a policeman, and the shop keeper lost no time in leaving his wife to face the tramps while he went for the police. The tramp didn't wait for a cent but disappeared down the street, while two other hoboes who had not kept guard outside made off too.

Smash, crash, bang! It was a store ripping through the window of the home of Mr. Wells in Home Park. A second later in piled a grimy tramp, who knocked over table and chairs, yelling for money. The family was sitting in the next room. He didn't frighten them for a cent, and when they must have concerted rush for the window he got out quicker than he came in.

Robbery was holding high carnival down on Main street all this time. William Weinstein had a case of rubbers stolen from under his nose. Two silk waist were taken from the proprietor of a dry goods store, and a grocer was streaming into the police station and telling of sudden onslaughts by hoboes, who made off with whatever they could lay their hands on. Other people were complaining that the hoboes had been holding up passers-by and demanding money. Altogether the town was demoralized.

"Catch him! He's run off with a coat!" yelled a small, running into the clothing store of another Cohen at No. 243 Main street. "I'd have told before but he said he'd kill me!"

Sure enough, there was a tramp making off with one of Cohen's \$20 overcoats. He couldn't be caught. Then the other Cohen up the street had another visit from tramps. They demanded hats all around on pain of demolishing the place, but they were frightened off.

At 11 p. m. a strapping big fellow walked into Meyer S. Nathan's hotel No. 145 Huguenot street, woke Mr. Nathan, who was dozing in a chair, and roared "Gimme a drink; I'll hock my shoes for it!"

Nathan was thoroughly terrorized and handed out a glass of beer. Then the fellow began to clean out the place. Nathan got back his courage, and with the aid of his waiter threw out the intruder, who put up a stiff fight. The next minute a stone came crashing through his 125 plate glass window.

"Help!" yelled Nathan, and the tramp was arrested and locked up after half the force bound him hand and foot.

He was James Gordon, twenty eight years old leader of the gang. He said that he was from Albany, and that he had been drinking alcohol. The police got Fritz Miller, Mount Vernon; James Bybee, of Cincinnati, and John Kenney, of No. 3 Lighthouse street, New York City.

Gordon was identified as the man who had broken into Mrs. Welles's house, and yesterday Justice Lambden fined him \$50 and sent him to jail for six months. The others got fifty-nine days apiece in the Westchester County jail at White Plains.

All day long the tradespeople talked of their adventures. They polished up their old guns and pistols, prepared to stand any sort of a raid.—New York World.

OUR CONGRESSMEN.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 9.—The members of the South Carolina delegation responded to their names during the session of the Senate yesterday, except Senator Irby and Representatives Strait and Murray. Dr. Strait is confined to his home by sickness, and Senator Irby and Murray are expected here daily. One of the incidents of the day in the House was the swearing in of Dr. Stokes. It is unusual for one man to be sworn in twice during the same Congress, but it will be repeated at the last session of the House decided that there was no election in Dr. Stokes's district, so a new election was ordered and the result was in favor of Dr. Stokes. Representative Lattimer called the attention of the House to the fact that Dr. Stokes had been duly elected, so he was requested to come forward and take oath. Accompanied by J. L. Latimer, the doctor held up his hand and Speaker Reed administered the oath after which he was a full-fledged Congressman again.

A CHERAW AIR SHIP.

REMARKABLE INVENTION OF A SOUTH CAROLINA GENIUS.

A Flying Machine With the Power to go With or Against Air Currents, Upward or Downward, as Directed.

CHERAW, S. C., Dec. 9.—The publicity given by the New York World's account of the mysterious air ship, exciting so much attention on the Pacific coast causes your correspondent to report the work of a Cheraw man in this direction. As yet he has mentioned the fact of his discovery to but few, and his article will be as great a surprise to citizens of this place as it will elsewhere. The inventor or discoverer or perfecter of this strange mode of navigation of the air has given considerable time to the study and has shown his drawings to the writer, and from his limited knowledge of such things he is constrained to say that the thing is a success, particularly since he has read the description of the capabilities of the California ship.

Everything claimed by Attorney General Hart for the western ship—the speed, the propelling power, the moving against currents of air as well as with them, and the power to dart from side to side, and forward, downward or upward, are all possessed by the Cheraw ship.

The inventor asserts that he would not hesitate to take his family up in his ship and that it can be controlled by a child, so simple are the devices for increasing or lessening the speed.

A comparison with the claims made by the rival shows that the Cheraw capacity of the Cheraw ship is greater and capable of much larger freight and passenger carriage. It is hoped that he will carry out his idea and soon have a ship constructed to demonstrate all that he claims for it.

For reasons satisfactory to your correspondent and the inventor his name is for the present withheld from the public, but will be furnished later, upon the completion of the work he has undertaken. When a man sees a thing with his own eyes he knows it and the writer has critically examined the Cheraw ship and if there is a weak point about it he failed to discover it, nor does he believe that such exists.

The Cheraw genius has confidence in it, those who have seen it likewise and a little more time and encouragement are all that are needed to surprise the world. That the air will be navigated ere long all admit.

Attorney General Hart says: "I am of the opinion that his air ship will be a success, and its success is far more probable at this time than Morse's telegraph was at the time Morse first offered the same to the public." So the writer believes about the one here.

Why did South Carolina lead in this? Why not Cheraw lead South Carolina? It can do it—it will do it if the matter is pushed. The inventor here is not on the wane, he has not given the subject a thought from a pecuniary standpoint; he is possessed of an inventive mind and has spent much time gratifying it, and is well able to do it. The world with all its ready to assist him, and the world that is a reality and not an idle dream of one vainly speculating on an impossibility.—News and Courier.

Hoke Smith's Hug.

ATLANTA, Dec. 11.—Ex-Secretary Hoke Smith appeared in Magistrate Fouts's court today as counsel for Mrs. M. L. Henson, who was charged by Dr. F. T. Powell with robbing him of his pocket book. The doctor states that Mrs. Henson had visited his office to get a prescription. As she was leaving, he asked her if she would not kiss him. He declared that he did kiss him at the same time containing \$45. The defendant denied the statement and declared that she ran out of the office when the doctor became amorous. Mr. Smith invited the doctor, who weighs 225 pounds, to hug him and show the justice how the woman picked his pockets. The doctor accepted the invitation, threw his arms around the ex-secretary and hugged him each other tightly, but the doctor could not reach Mr. Smith's hip pocket, for he is too stout. Nor could Mr. Smith reach the doctor's gun pocket and the magistrate decided that it was impossible for Mrs. Henson to have robbed the physician even if she had hugged him, and dismissed her.

Suicide Does Not Vitalize.

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Dec. 11.—In the superior court Judge Austin has rendered a decision in favor of the plaintiff in the case of Bertha Bugbarger against the Supreme Lodge Knights of Pythias of the World. This case was made a test case at the settlement of the estate of one hundred similar cases nearly everywhere in all parts of the United States, from Maine to Mexico, and on the Pacific slope. The amount involved is estimated to be upward of \$100,000 in sums of from \$100 to \$500 each. In the present case suit was brought to recover \$1,000 insurance on the life of the plaintiff's husband, who committed suicide in November 1893, while laboring under an attack of insanity. Payment of the claim was refused on the ground that by the terms of the by-laws adopted by the board of control of the Endowment Rank of the Knights of Pythias it was provided that if a member committed suicide, whether he was sane or insane, or the act be voluntary or involuntary, he shall forfeit all his right under his certificate of membership.

A Guesseous Find.

SAVANNAH, Dec. 10.—A special from Albany to the Morning News, says: A ferry flat containing the corpses of three negro men and two others nearly decayed from cold, was discovered by the river, about 10 miles above Albany. John W. Burke, a lumber man, and 15 negroes were conveying a ferry boat heavily laden "with thin-gles across the river near Warlick about 8 o'clock last night. The rear guide rope of the flat was drawn too tight, causing the flat to dip water and break the guide ropes. Mr. Burke and six of the negroes clung to the ferry and reached the shore. The flat and eight negroes drifted down the river. Three of the negroes jumped overboard. Only two of them reached shore, while the third went under. The two surviving negroes state that the negroes found dead on the flat this morning froze to death after surviving until sunrise this morning.

Upward or Downward, as Directed.

CHERAW, S. C., Dec. 9.—The publicity given by the New York World's account of the mysterious air ship, exciting so much attention on the Pacific coast causes your correspondent to report the work of a Cheraw man in this direction. As yet he has mentioned the fact of his discovery to but few, and his article will be as great a surprise to citizens of this place as it will elsewhere. The inventor or discoverer or perfecter of this strange mode of navigation of the air has given considerable time to the study and has shown his drawings to the writer, and from his limited knowledge of such things he is constrained to say that the thing is a success, particularly since he has read the description of the capabilities of the California ship.

Everything claimed by