

THE PRIVILEGE TAX

Reduced from Twenty-five to Fifteen Cents.

AN INTERESTING DEBATE.

Charges of Extravagance Against Clemson College Seemed to Have Influenced the Result.

Mr. P. H. Gadsden said this bill has come up yearly for the last five sessions. Farmers here and their representatives have killed such a bill. The farmers know their rights and if they do not want this tax they have not said so. Charleston has always stood by Clemson college, to any reasonable limit, since its establishment. This State is a manufacturing center. It seems to be forgotten that the buyers in North Carolina and Georgia and other States pay a large proportion of this tax. A few of our other sections of the State, but no doubt was made. Pass this bill and South Carolina will lose \$500,000 from the tax it collects from other States. If you please, turn the money into the State treasury and then decide where it shall be expended. The more farmers sold outside of the State the more the State makes.

Mr. Smith of Horry, said it is six years ago that a State experiment was had in fertilizers. It was not a success and at the same time it always a stand for the common schools. There is no class, but a State institution, Clemson college should be supported out of the general State funds. Mr. Stevenson said that the tax did not apply to fertilizers sold outside of this State. The argument of Mr. Gadsden was specious and the Georgia farmers did not pay the tax, because they were not entitled upon to do so. If you breed extravagance it will bring trouble to Clemson. The friends of Clemson had better beware of it. It will fare far worse than is now feared. If you do not do something now the hostilities of opposition will be opened. He urged that 15 cents a ton would give Clemson \$75,000.

Mr. Ashley accepted the 15-cent amendment. He urged that the larger portions of the Hatch and Morrill funds went to the support of the college proper. The expenditures went directly to the support of the college. As a friend of Clemson he pleaded to hold the appropriations below the \$100,000 mark. To save Clemson the best thing will be to place the institution on a cash basis. Mr. E. Brigg, of Lancaster, said his people were expecting him to protect their interests, and he wanted the tax reduced because too much money was being raised to defray the expenses of taxation. It was unfair to tax one class of people to support the college.

Mr. Cosgrove, of Charleston, knew that Charleston shipped large quantities of fertilizers outside of the State. Poor teachers, he urged, are very much like poor doctors, and while they may look a little extravagant the results at Clemson are well worth the money spent. Mr. W. H. Thomas warned the House that the moment Clemson's income is lessened it will come here for appropriations and when Clemson comes here every State college will suffer. Pass this measure and Winthrop, Clemson, and the South Carolina College, and the Colored College will all suffer. Leave the colleges alone for at least a few years. If the farmers are complaining let the complaint come from them.

Mr. Stevenson then moves to fix the royalty at 15 cents per ton and offered a substitute bill for the whole measure. This was adopted. The bill was then given its third reading, it simply amends the Act of 1899 by changing the inspection tax from 25 cents to 15 cents per ton. The fund continues to go to Clemson College.

BLOODY STREET TRAGEDY

Two Men Killed and Two Wounded in Mason, Ga.

Two negroes shot to death and two white desperately wounded, were the result of an attempt to arrest a negro murderer at Mason, Ga., Wednesday. J. H. Butler, colored, is the man who did the most of the shooting and who himself shot to death. His victims were Armstead Bryant, colored, shot through the heart, and instantly killed; B. Soltman, white, shot through the stomach and will probably die, and John Reed, white, shot in the neck in a precarious condition. Butler threatened to kill a negro woman and when Patrolman Pearce attempted to arrest him, began to shoot. The negro ran up Fourth street, one of the business streets in Mason, pistol in hand, shooting at everybody in sight. His first victim was Seltman, then Bryant, and last Reed fell beneath his deadly aim. In the meantime the sound of the shooting attracted a number of policemen and citizens. When Butler fell mortally wounded five policemen and fifteen citizens were shooting at him. When examined it was found that three heavy caliber bullets had completely passed through his body and there were other wounds. An ambulance was summoned and the wounded men were taken to the city hospital, while the bodies of the dead men were taken to an undertaking establishment where the coroner held an inquest. Butler came to Georgia from North Carolina eight years ago, and was employed on a South Georgia turpentine farm. It is said that about a year ago he killed two negroes at Pinehurst, Ga.

She Could Not Practice.

In Delaware, where they get petty criminals at the whipping post, a woman has been denied the right to practice law in the state courts. A well known woman attorney of Philadelphia applied for the privilege of practicing in the courts of Delaware. The chancellor of the supreme court replied that while it was desired to show every courtesy to members of the bar of sister states, the constitution of Delaware did not permit a woman to exercise the functions of an attorney, since it was provided in that instrument that all officers of the courts must be males.

Lynched in Colorado.

News reached Denver, Col., on Friday of the capture of a notorious and Wagner the escaped convict, and the subsequent escape of Wagner. Reynolds is charged with killing Night Captain Rooney of the Colorado penitentiary, at Canon City, Wagner with holding Rooney. A special train with several guards and a bloodhound was dispatched to the scene from Canon City, while officers started overland with Reynolds. At Canon City five bells began to ring and the town is out on edge. Reynolds was taken from the officers when they reached Canon City. A telegram was sent to a telegraph pole just outside the penitentiary walls.

Killed by a Bicycle.

Henry A. Hazen, one of the chief forecasters of the weather bureau and well known as a scientist, died at Washington Wednesday night as the result of injuries received by a bicycle collision with a negro pedestrian. His skull was badly fractured and he continued unconscious up to the time of his death.

STATE DISPENSARY

The Profits of Cities, Towns, Counties and Schools.

STATEMENT OF PURCHASES.

The Financial Statement of the State's Big Liquor Business.

Large Payment to the School Fund.

The annual financial statement of the South Carolina State dispensary for the year 1899 was completed Wednesday and a copy sent to the governor. The report will show that during the year the amount of profits going to the cities, towns and cities totaled \$220,491.55. The net profits to the State, which go to the credit of the school fund, are \$193,689.49, making the total net profits \$414,181.04. The total gross profits for the year were \$455,524.79. The total receipts for the year were \$1,638,939.26, including the \$18,673.24 surplus brought over from last year; the total disbursements were \$1,495,818.20, leaving a balance of \$143,121.06 in the State treasury on December 31. The aggregate purchases made during the year were \$1,158,081.39.

At the first of the year the State superintendent of education informed the board of control that the school fund would need \$100,000 as soon as possible. About two weeks ago \$300,000 was paid over to the credit of the school fund and Wednesday another payment of \$70,000 was made. Here are the figures of the annual report:

Table with columns for ASSETS and LIABILITIES. ASSETS includes Cash in State treasury, Merchandise in hands of dispensers, Merchandise (Inventory of stock at State dispensary), Supplies (Inventory Dec. 31, 1899), Teams and wagons, Machinery and office fixtures, Contingent accounts, Real estate, Suspended accounts, Personal accounts due State for tax advanced on bonded spirits, etc. LIABILITIES includes School fund, Personal accounts due by State for supplies, whiskeys, wines, beer, alcohol, etc.

The statement of profit and loss account for the fiscal year ending Dec. 31, 1899, is as follows:

Table with columns for PURCHASES FOR YEAR and DISBURSEMENTS. PURCHASES FOR YEAR includes January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November, December. DISBURSEMENTS includes January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November, December.

Supplies, bottles, corks, labels, wax, etc., used during year, \$134,153.86. Depreciated value of teams and wagons, 80.00. Depreciated value of machinery and office fixtures, 417.85. Constabulary, 42,892.76. Breakage and leakage, 898.41. Freight and express charges, 69,888.22. Labor, 16,850.03. License, 2,436.59. Expense account—salaries, expenses of inspectors, per diem and mileage of members of legislative examining committee, office supplies, postage, telegrams, postage, stock feed, etc., printing, revenue stamps, telephone rent, etc., etc., 10,267.61. Per diem and mileage of members of State board of control, 4,152.00. Litigation, 503.65. Loss by robbery at Sikehatchie dispensary Dec. 30, 1899, 11.72. Loss by fire at Jacksonville dispensary Jan. 6, 1899, \$426.85. Less insurance on same, \$200.00, 226.85. Worthless wine at W. J. Mott's dispensary, Charleston, destroyed by county board of control, 50.10. Under credit in reduction of profits of goods at the Manning dispensary, Aug. 15, 1899, 100.00. Unpaid license by Dispensary at Lumberville, the profits of that dispensary not being sufficient to bear expenses, 50.00. Amount of liquors taken from the Blackburg dispensary on April 4, 1899, by soldiers, 30.50. Amount of whiskey taken from the Vaulville dispensary on April 11, 1899, by soldiers, 8.37. Worthless ale and porter at

AN APPRENTICE WOODER.

He Would Wed the Mature Lady Randolph Churchill.

SHE IS TWICE HIS AGE.

Prefers Not to Marry Him in the Face of the Opposition of His In-laws and Young West's Family—Now All Are Interested in the Boer War.

The infatuation of young Cornwallis West for Lady Randolph Churchill, one of the most extraordinary of recent episodes in English society. Although she is almost old enough to be his mother, her youthfulness and physical attractions are universally acknowledged. Lieutenant Cornwallis West is twenty-five years old and an officer in the Scots Guards. He is a good looking, well built young fellow, and has always been noted for an extraordinary amount of intelligence. In spite of all the protests of his family, he has persisted in his devotion to the mature Lady Randolph Churchill.

For social position is high. He is the oldest son of Colonel Cornwallis West, a great land owner, whose wealth is destined to inherit, unless his father follows the example of the late Cardinal.

Thus Vanderbilt, Lieutenant West's mother was the most famous beauty of her day in England and the handsomest woman of about the same age as Lady Randolph. His sister is the Princess Henry of Pleiss, who is as famous for her beauty now as her mother was in her youth.

For the past six months young West's attachment to Lady Randolph has been known in society. On several occasions their engagement was reported, but it was averted by the efforts of his mother's family. Lady Randolph herself is said to be in love with young West, but does not wish to enter into a hasty marriage with him. She would prefer not to marry him in face of the violent opposition of his own family. He has urged her to elope with him, but she has steadily refused to do this. In consequence, the youth has had fits of melancholy and grief.

These gave rise a few weeks ago to the report that he had quarreled and that Lady Randolph had cast off her young admirer. The report was soon afterwards clearly proved to be untrue, for one another's society. Lady Randolph accepted an invitation to a great party at Inverne Minister, the house of Lord Wolmerston, where the Prince of Wales was to be present. At the last moment she sent a telegram of excuse, and on the day she should have been at the party she was observed shopping in company with Lieutenant West. One night they witnessed a comedy called "The Elbow of the Violent" and together at the Hotel Cecil and were seen at all sorts of public places of amusement.

The proposed marriage was opposed with special violence by Mrs. Cornwallis, the young man's mother. She and Lady Randolph were at one time rival court beauties, and she was horrified at the idea that her old rival should captivate her son. Hardly less opposed to the marriage was Lady Randolph's older son, Lieutenant Winston Churchill. She is extremely proud of him, and her ambition is to see him hold as great a position in English politics as his father, whose success was largely due to his efforts. Young Churchill began his career as a soldier, but she was anxious to see him out of that dangerous profession, and as a great inducement to her she offered the sum of £10,000 to see him out of the army.

While her son left her, however, Lieutenant Cornwallis West was preparing to go. His regiment, the Scots Guards, was part of the army corps forwarded to the front of the war and was one of the first to sail. The departure of the Scots Guards was a great event in society. Everybody was of importance, from the Prince of Wales downwards, was interested. Lady Randolph assisted Lieutenant West to purchase his kit and supplied him with no end of luxuries, so that as long as he is not shot by the Boers he will have a pleasant time. Baron Alfred de Rothschild sent an unlimited supply of champagne and cigars to the officers.

Lady Randolph Churchill, nee Jerome, is the most brilliant American woman in English society. A number of Welsh tinworkers who were induced to immigrate to this country a few years ago and who now find themselves out of employment by reason of the tin mills being closed by the trust are returning to Wales. Reports state that the tin industry is booming in Wales, and that skilled workmen are in demand.

Suing Uncle Sam. A suit for \$100,000 against the United States government was begun in the United States circuit court at Charleston Thursday by Arthur Lynch, and others. It is alleged by the plaintiffs that the improvements made in the branch river in deepening its channel and otherwise resulted in flooding Mrs. Lynch is president of the Merchants and Miners bank of Charleston.

Local Option Bill. The Appell local option bill was reported unfavorably in the senate last night. The unfavorable report looked as if it would be adopted at once. Senator Appell was otherwise engaged when the report was made and didn't hear it, but just as the vote was about to be taken the senator asked that the bill go on the calendar, and this was done.

Do you subscribe to this paper, or are you reading some one else? If you are beating your reading out of some one else turn over a new leaf, and get your own paper.

ALEXANDER JESTER'S CAREER.

Facts That Would Delight a Poe or a Gaboriau.

THE TRIAL OF ALEXANDER JESTER.

The trial of Alexander Jester in Paris, Mo., for the murder of Gilbert W. Gates has brought some remarkable evidence. The great age of Jester—his eighty; the time that he has elapsed since the disappearance of Gates, twenty-eight years ago; the fact that Jester was denounced and arrested on the information of his own sister; the remarkable story of this woman's search for her brother, in order to obtain revenge for his having years before, thwarted her in a love affair; the position of Jester when arrested, a well-to-do resident of Shawnee, Oklahoma, where he bore an assumed name and enjoyed the confidence and respect of the entire community; the great work of the prosecution in obtaining and preparing evidence, all these make the case one of unparalleled interest and importance.

Gilbert W. Gates left his home in Do Kalb county, Ill., in August, 1870, for Kansas. He was then eighteen years old. He drove a pair of bay horses to a wagon, was accompanied by a shepherd dog, had several suits of clothes and underclothes, a breech-loading rifle, an open faced silver watch and a peculiar gold chain. He reached Kansas safely, and remained there until about the holiday time, when he started for home with the outfit. At Fort Scott, Kan., he fell in with Alexander Jester, who was bound for Indiana, and who drove a team of gray horses, and had a buffalo calf in his wagon. The night of January 24, 1871, the two outfits camped near Middle Grove, twelve miles from Paris, Mo. The next day Jester was seen driving one team and leading the other. The body of a man, who was at the time supposed to be intoxicated, was lying in one of the wagons, and later in the day witnesses who were with the route of the wagons saw a trail of blood back to the camping ground, where the dead shepherd dog was found, he having been shot.

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Profitable Employment for Hogs. Select any grape vine or fruit tree that bears cultivation. Construct a proper number of holes beneath the vine or tree with a sharp stick, driving it down a suitable depth and then withdraw. Fill the holes with ground of any kind and turn in the hogs. They will of course pulverize the ground thoroughly to the depth the grain has been deposited. After the hogs get through, complete the job by leveling with a hoe. The plan can be employed to great advantage when the vines and trees are so situated as to be inconvenient to plow them.

People Panic Stricken. The steamer Milwaukee has just arrived with news of 33 deaths at Honolulu from the plague, one a white woman of good class. The city is panic man of good class. An armed mob prevents the landing of steamers at Hilo. Cooper, of the board of health of Honolulu, had 100 blocks burned. Dr. Carmichael has been ordered to Manila. Thirty-four hundred Japanese at Honolulu are in quarantine.

FREE BLOOD CURE. An Offer Providing Faith to Sufferers. Eating Sores, Tumors, Ulcers, are all curable by B. B. B. (Botanic Blood Balm), which is made especially to cure all terrible Blood Diseases. Persistent Sores, Blood and Skin Blemishes, Scrofula, that resist other treatments, are quickly cured by B. B. B. (Botanic Blood Balm). Skin Eruptions, Pimples, Red, Itching Eczema, Scabies, Blisters, Boils, Carbuncles, Blisters, Catarrh, Rheumatism, etc., are all due to bad blood, and hence easily cured by B. B. B. Blood Poison producing Eating Sores, Eruptions, Swollen Glands, Sore Throat, etc., cured by B. B. B. (Botanic Blood Balm), in one to five minutes. B. B. B. does not contain any vegetable or mineral poison. One bottle will test it in an case. For sale by druggists everywhere. Large bottles \$1, six for five \$5. Write for free sample bottle, which will be sent, prepaid to Times readers, describe symptoms and personal free medical advice will be given. Address Blood Balm Co., Atlanta, Ga.

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ROYAL BAKING POWDER. ABSOLUTELY PURE. Makes the food more delicious and wholesome. ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., NEW YORK.

Despotism in Idaho. The New York World has been printing a series of letters from the Coeur d'Alene mining district in Idaho, which, although obviously retained and conservative in tone, tell a story of official despotism worthy of France in the middle of the Dreyfus agitation. This is the story told without color and without enthusiasm: The Coeur d'Alene is one of the richest mining regions in the world. Its mines, discovered by struggling prospectors, have, after the usual course, passed into the hands of millionaire corporations, of which the Standard Oil crowd form a dominant part. Profits are huge, and out of the rugged hills men who never go into the gloomy confines of the canyons at Burke or Gardner draw enormous profits. The miners have for years been organized into the Western Federation of Miners. The men who work above ground—in concentrators, mills and the like—affiliate with the Knights of Labor. Union rates of wages were for underground men, \$3.50 and for surface men, \$3 a day. Perhaps the rate seems high to workers in other sections, but conditions of work in the Coeur d'Alene are difficult and dangerous, and the cost of living high. One mine only in the district has long resisted the union influence and refused to pay the union scale. The Bunker Hill and Sullivan mine, owned by the Standard Oil Company, stood for years as a menace to all other corporations that paid union wages. The story of the difficulties which grew out of this situation is a long one and need not be retold here. They culminated in an outbreak of miners, who blew up with dynamite the concentrator of the Bunker Hill mine. In the turmoil two men were shot and killed. The correspondent whom the World sent to the scene reports that in this opinion the outrage on the company's property was perpetrated by union mines principally, but not by the union as an organization. Be that as it may—and the facts are much disputed—there can be nothing but reprobation for the act, which was lawless and murderous. But the state of Idaho aided and abetted by the federal authorities and has since that outbreak adopted measures of representation so much more lawless, so much more subversive of the principles of American constitutional liberty, than anything the miners in their most lawless moments did, that the crime of eight months ago is forgotten in contemplation of the crime which is in progress today. On appeal of the owners of the mine, the state declared martial law. Federal troops—negro soldiers, as it happened—were rushed into the district, and arrested men by the wholesale. In the little town of Burke two companies of dismounted cavalry swept up and down the single street that ran between the side and caught all the inhabitants as in a drag-net. Some three hundred men were thus caught, among them the commercial travelers who had just arrived in town, and all were put in box cars and thus imprisoned for periods ranging from two to three weeks. In time, as the number of prisoners increased, a stockade like that at Andersonville was built for their incarceration. Mark you, not one of these men was indicted, not one arrested by the regularly constituted county authorities. All were taken in charge by federal soldiers, and some of them stayed in the stockade, or bull pen, as it was called, for seven months, without trial, and were discharged without vindication. Today in Soshone county, Idaho, no man can seek for employment without a permit issued by a state deputy whose authority is backed by federal bayonets. If his later actions offend the deputy who gave him permission to look for a job, he will be turned out, however satisfactory his work be to his employers. The authorities say that martial law will be maintained for a year at least. This is the situation in a sovereign state of this American union—not in Russia. It is the outcome of the militarism which has seized upon the ruling classes in the country. It is as the Massachusetts Democratic platform well said, a fitting freedom to the effort to shoot freedom into the Philippines.

South Carolina Weather. The following data, covering a period of 29 years, were compiled from the weather bureau records at Charleston covering the month of February. Temperature—Mean or normal temperature, 53 degrees. The warmest month was that of 1884, with an average of 61 degrees. The coldest month was that of 1895, with an average of 41 degrees. The highest temperature was 80 degrees, on February 18, 1891. The lowest temperature was 7 degrees, on February 14, 1899. Average date on which first "killing" frost occurred in autumn, November 29. Average date on which last "killing" frost occurred in spring, March 20.

Precipitation (rain or melted snow)—A average for the month, 3.45 inches. Average number of days with .01 of an inch or more, 10. The greatest monthly precipitation was 10.45 inches, in 1874. The least monthly precipitation was 0.51 inches, in 1893. The greatest amount of precipitation recorded in any 24 consecutive hours was 2.79 inches, on February 16 and 17, 1884. The greatest amount of snowfall recorded in any 24 consecutive hours (record extending to winter of 1884-85 only) was 3.2 inches, on February 13, 1890.

Clouds and Weather—Average number of clear days, 10; partly cloudy days, 10; overcast days, 9.

Wind—The prevailing winds have been from the southeast, 21 per centum. The highest velocity of the wind was 36 miles, from the southeast, on February