

THE CAMDEN CHRONICLE.

God and Our Native Land.

CAMDEN, S. C., FRIDAY, JANUARY 22, 1897.

NO. 2.

WM. ELLERBE INAUGURATED.

The Reins of Government Now in His Hands.

GOV. OF THE WHOLE PEOPLE.

Wm. E. McSweeney Also Inaugurated as The Inaugural Address Was Heavily Applauded.

In the presence of a many people, men and women, and as fine a looking body as ever assembled in the hall of the House of Representatives of the State of South Carolina, William H. Ellerbe, of Marion, was Tuesday inaugurated Governor of the State of South Carolina, and in that presence he delivered his inaugural address, promising to be the Governor of the whole people, a duty regarded generally as a heavy and patriotic one, winning the unstinted applause of all within the reach of his voice. There was nothing elaborate about his inaugural address; it was simple, to the point, being the edition of the South Carolina students to the inaugural procession.

And the new Lieutenant Governor, the Hon. Miles B. McSweeney, of Hampton, was also inaugurated, making a few brief remarks and leaving with the proceeds of the multitude of people assembled.

At 12:15 p. m. Governor-elect Ellerbe stepped up to the Speaker's desk and Chief Justice Motter, standing on his left, proceeded to administer the prescribed oath of office. When he had finished Mr. Ellerbe kissed the small Bible used on this occasion, and said:

"You have called me to the highest of God within your gift."

In assuming the duties of this most important trust, I cannot express in fitting words my high appreciation of the confidence placed in me. This great honor, I already realize, carries with it great responsibilities. Without your support, upon which I confidently rely, I shall be unable to meet and overcome the many difficulties already apparent.

It has long been the custom for the incoming governor to outline, in his inaugural address, the policy of his administration. In obedience to this time-honored custom, I shall attempt briefly to set before you the course which I shall endeavor to pursue during my term of office.

Untrammelled by obligations or pledges inconsistent with the welfare of the people, I shall be guided by the duty to discharge my duties faithfully and impartially. The solemn oath of office, which I have just taken, binds me to no political party or faction, but it does bind me to preserve, to protect and to defend both the constitution of this State and the United States.

Under our form of government, faithfulness to our fundamental laws and zeal for the public welfare are all that is demanded of citizens assuming public trusts. To support the constitution, the foundation of our free government, is the duty of every free citizen. Upon this consideration I have the right to expect the support of all good citizens, and you may be sure to demand that I in the administration of the laws, give equal rights to all and special privileges to none.

To administer faithfully the laws to sustain by all worthy means the burden of taxation, to develop the resources of the State, to protect the industries of her citizens; to encourage immigration of the right sort, to foster our institutions of learning, both church and State, to enhance the efficiency of our public schools, to sustain our penal and reformatory institutions, shall be my earnest desire and unswerving purpose.

In matters of detail, however, I deem it best to make to the General Assembly by special message, such recommendations as may from time to time occur to me, and the exigencies of the case may demand. To the intelligence and patriotism of this body, we must look for the enactment of laws which may best protect the people's interests. I have faith in the wisdom of the General Assembly, and I am confident that it will accept my views. At all times I stand ready to cooperate with them, to counsel and to advise.

My motto at some length on the subject of taxation, and while paying for the Government, I have endeavored to emphasize his well known principle of equating assessments. At the attitude of the new Governor the dispensary law is looked for with interest, that part of his address is given in full.

The views of a good many intelligent and good men, is that the law is great, and that the law is great, and that it deserves to be fully tried in its present form before there is any radical change made. The prob is overwhelming that there is less drunkenness now than formerly, and that the consumption of liquor has been largely decreased. This is acknowledged by every fair-minded man, and that the masses of the people are averse to returning to the old license system in any form is very evident to any man who has mingled with them. Having stated my opinion as to the policy the State should pursue, I feel it my duty to enter at some length on the workings and merits of the law, and point out the severe tests to which it has been subjected. It is not saying too much to assert that it has never been so severely tested during a period of intense political activity, when prejudice and party spirit were running high, as it is now. It is a political ground purely without consideration of its purpose or merit, and every possible objection has been made. The Federal courts by injunctions have crippled its enforcement seriously. After the Darlington trouble had been quieted the decision of the Supreme Court declaring the law unconstitutional at least to undo all the work that has been done. While it denounced the utter futility of prohibition it at the same time initiated the sale of liquor without license in every neighborhood and many who then began the unwarlike traffic have never ceased to follow it, and are still calling liquor as much as they dare. Of what use is it to argue that the State should not sell liquor to its citizens or reap a profit from the "blood money" as some term it, when they advocate licensing its sale and thus sharing in the profits made by the private dealer? One system is just as immoral as the other, if there is immorality in either. But the monopoly of the sale by the State enables it to control in a measure and minimize the evil, and the profits which are shared by all the people. On the other hand the licensing of its sale to private parties would create a monopoly just as certainly as the existing one—a private monopoly which has never been as successful as the State's. The State is the only one that can control the sale in every way possible and encourage the good, and reduce the evil to a minimum. In the other the profit goes largely to private individuals and there is no thought of reducing the consumption of liquor and promoting sobriety, while experience has shown beyond question that the private sale stimulates the sale in every way possible and encourages the evil. There are no "back stairs" or "side doors" to the dispensary, but there never was a barroom which did not sell liquor on the sly, or behind the scenes, and the law is not to be closed. The dispensary is open only in the daytime and when ordered to be closed as on other days and during Fair Week in Columbia they were closed, and but few drunken men could be found in the city, though the law is in full force. The State can afford to lose the profit on such occasions; but under no system of license has it ever been possible to shut the bars. Private drinking is not to be thus controlled and here lies the great merit of the law. The closing of the dispensary at night and the destruction of treating by forbidding the sealed packages being opened on the premises. These three features are the ones which make the dispensary law so different from the "back stairs" law, whether real or imaginary. Let us try then to perfect the system and punish dishonest dispensers rather than try the old plan which we know is a failure.

My experience in the Comptroller-General's office satisfies me that the business can be conducted in such a way as to prevent stealing, or detect and punish it if the dispenser or other officers connected with the dispensary attempt it. There is no reason why such checks and safeguards cannot be devised so thoroughly as in the collection and disbursement of taxes and other public money. The dispensary has become a part of the fixed policy of the State and as long as our present constitution remains intact it is the duty of the Governor to see that the laws governing it are enforced, and it is the duty of all law-abiding citizens to labor for the same end, or at least to submit to the provisions of the law. I believe the dispensary comes nearer to the solution of the liquor problem than any other scheme yet proposed by man. It may be necessary to modify the law, but constant changes are to be deprecated. The dispensary should be selected without regard to party affiliations, and when convicted of any crime should be handled like other criminals. The other dispensary, based on the old license system, would be a failure and all the money raised would be a loss to the State.

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base and treacherous on my part, and unwise and unpatriotic on your part, longer to fan the fires of partisan hatred. On questions of public policy we cannot all agree; but when issues are settled at the ballot box, we can and ought to submit to the will of the people honestly expressed.

I beseech you to rejoice, on this occasion to bury all national feelings and to join hands and hearts in your efforts to develop the resources of our beloved State, to build up our institutions, to promote her every interest. In assuming my official duties, I pledge you my best services, with all my strength of head and heart, I shall labor for the commonweal and, in my official capacity, shall treat both friend and foe with equal consideration. To myself of all sectional and partisan feelings and hail you all as Carolinians. I love my native State, I love her people.

I am proud of her grand and inspiring history, of the names of her illustrious sons, of the thousands of her honored dead who sleep upon every great battlefield of their country. I rejoice in the hopes our future inspires, in the patriotism of our young manhood, and in the self-sacrificing devotion of our young womanhood.

The Lieutenant Governor-elect, Mr. McSweeney, then took the position vacated by the new Governor, and the Chief Justice administered the oath to him. Mr. McSweeney, immediately after taking the oath, turned to the audience and said:

"I am proud of her grand and inspiring history, of the names of her illustrious sons, of the thousands of her honored dead who sleep upon every great battlefield of their country. I rejoice in the hopes our future inspires, in the patriotism of our young manhood, and in the self-sacrificing devotion of our young womanhood."

The following is a sketch of Governor Ellerbe's life:

William Haselden Ellerbe was born in Marion County, S. C., April 7, 1863. His father was William S. Ellerbe, a native of South Carolina. The first of the Ellerbe family to come to America were two brothers, natives of England, who came to the United States in about 1834, and located on the Great Pee Dee river, near Cheraw. William S. Ellerbe was one of the largest and most successful planters of Marion county. He was married to Sarah E., daughter of Maj. James Haselden, of Marion county, and to this union thirteen children were born, nine daughters and four sons, all of whom are living. William S. Ellerbe devoted himself exclusively to agricultural pursuits, declining all invitations to enter public life. He was a man universally respected and esteemed for his sterling worth and excellent traits of character. William H. Ellerbe was reared on his father's plantation, and was prepared for college by Mr. L. B. Prince, a well-known educator, who had charge of Pine Hill Academy. In 1880 he entered Wofford College, where he attended for a session. He then entered Vanderbilt University, at Nashville, Tenn., where he remained but a short time, when he failed, and he returned to his father's plantation. He at once went to farming, and is now a successful planter.

He has been a member of the Reform party in his county and State in 1886; he attended the Farmers' convention held in Columbia in 1890, without solicitation on his part, he was nominated and elected Comptroller-General, which office he held for four years. He was the youngest man ever elected to a State office in South Carolina. He was candidate for Governor in 1894, but was defeated. But the open, manly fight he made, and the way he took his defeat, won for him the respect and admiration of those who opposed him, and today he is one of the strongest men in the State. While a true reformer, he is conservative in his views, and enjoys the respect and confidence of both factions of the Democratic party. William H. Ellerbe was married in 1887, at the age of 24, to Miss Henrietta Rogers, daughter of Mr. Henry V. Rogers, of Marlboro county, and to their union four sons and one daughter have been born.

Several other bills and resolutions came up during the day, but were either passed without discussion or referred to the various committees.

Thursday.—The Committee on Railroads reported favorably Mr. Ragdale's bill making railroad companies liable to landowners for damages done for obstructing streams.

Mr. Henderson's bill to regulate the holding of courts in the Second Judicial Circuit was favorably reported by the Judiciary Committee, as was Mr. Suddath's bill looking to the abolition of the office of referees in certain counties so as to make it include Saluda.

Quite a number of new bills were introduced, among them the following: By Mr. Stevenson, two bills to regulate the jurisdiction of Magistrates in criminal and civil cases; a bill to declare the law as to special school districts.

By Mr. Baetz, a bill relating to the appointment of county and other officers. This bill intends to make the appointment of county officials subject to the recommendation of the delegates and not to the endorsement of the Board of Supervisors. It also provides for the regulation of the election of Mayors, etc., which permits Aldermen at large to be elected.

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETS.

Both Houses Called to Order at Noon-Last Tuesday.

GARY RE-ELECTED SPEAKER.

Gen. Hemphill Clerk of the Senate and Gen. Gray of the House—Details of the Proceedings.

Both houses of the State Legislature assembled in Columbia at noon last Tuesday. Little else was done than to organize. The Governor's message was received, but went over until Wednesday to be read.

Spartanburg got the best seats in the drawing for seats.

Means, of Fairfield, wanted the delegation idea of seating stopped, but it failed.

Seventeen members of the House were absent. Below is the work of the Senate and House in detail:

THE SENATE.
Treasurer Lieutenant Governor Timmerman called the Senate to order by the rap of his gavel, and the Senate without hesitation or delay then settled down to routine business.

The roll was ordered, and very few absentees were noted. The oath of office to relieve the said railroad of the new members in a solemn and impressive manner.

Lieutenant Governor Timmerman despatched business as fast as common courtesy would allow him to do. He extended a cordial greeting to all the new members of the Senate. Col. D. K. Norris, of Anderson, was elected president pro tem; Gen. R. R. Hemphill was elected clerk; J. W. Floyd, sergeant-at-arms, and W. S. Stewart, reading clerk; Ray, J. W. Willoughby was elected chaplain.

Senator Baetz then introduced a concurrent resolution to allow the introduction of a bill for the purpose of amending the charter of the South Carolina and Augusta Railroad for the year limitation contained in the 10th section. Senator Ragdale called a halt on the resolution, saying this was special legislation, and that he was unable to alter it to special privilege to any individual or corporation. The vote was 22 to 1 in favor of the resolution.

A committee of three was appointed to wait on the Governor and inform him that the Senate was ready for business. The House was also informed that they had organized and was ready for business.

Several bills of minor importance were introduced as well as different committees being appointed.

Wednesday.—The Senate was called to order by Lieutenant Governor Timmerman. Prayer was offered by the chaplain, Rev. Mr. Willoughby. The Senator from Spartanburg was then sworn in, and the journal was read and adopted with only a few amendments. The Governor's message was received and read, the members paying very little attention to it.

Among the most important bills introduced were the following: By Mr. Mayfield—A bill to regulate the election of Mayors and Justices of the Peace in towns and cities in South Carolina.

By Senator Ragdale—A bill to regulate the running of trains in South Carolina.

A bill to make railroads liable on certain conditions for damages done.

then proceeded to canvass the vote for Governor and Lieutenant Governor.

Friday.—The session of the Senate today was short, and the following is the work accomplished: By Suddath—A resolution permitting the introduction of a bill to incorporate the town of Saluda.

By Dennis—A resolution that all questions pertaining to the formation of new counties be submitted to the Judiciary Committee.

McDaniel, from the Committee on Agriculture, submitted a favorable report on a bill to repeal an Act to amend an Act entitled "An Act to regulate fishing at certain times in Aiken, Barnwell, Darlington, Colleton and Orangeburg counties," approved 24, 1894.

Henderson, from the Committee on Education, submitted a report, without recommendation, on a bill to amend section 36 of "An Act to declare the free school law of the State," approved the 6th of March, A. D. 1896, so as to require school trustees of each school district to be elected by the qualified electors of the district.

Mayfield, from the Committee on Judiciary, submitted a favorable report, with amendments, on a joint resolution to extend the time for the collection of the commutation road tax in the counties of the State to the 1st of March, 1897.

Sanders, from the Committee on Officers and Offices, submitted a favorable report on the bill to amend Section 27 of an Act entitled "An Act to amend an Act to provide a system of county government for the several counties of this State so far as it relates to the working and maintaining the roads and highways in this State," approved 22d March 1896.

By Norris, a bill to amend Section 120 of the Revised Statutes of 1893, Vol. I, being Section 8 of an Act entitled "An Act to accept the devise and bequest of Thomas G. Clemson, and to establish an agricultural college in connection therewith," approved November 1893.

By Baetz, a bill to regulate the checking and transportation of bicycles and other baggage.

The following bills passed their third readings: A bill to amend an Act entitled, "An Act to regulate the election of the Mayors and Justices of the Peace in the towns and cities of this State."

A bill to amend an Act to provide for the organization of the Supreme Court and to define its powers and jurisdiction, and to provide for the appointment of its officers and define their duties, approved Jan. 18, 1896.

Senate then adjourned until Monday. Monday.—Today's session of the Senate was marked by the induction into office of the new Lieutenant Governor, Timmerman, presiding officer, the Hon. M. B. McSweeney. Apart from this, the day was featureless. No new bills were introduced and the session was a short one.

The reading of the journal having been completed with a special message from the Governor was received recommending that the work of Gen. Hugh L. Farley in preparing the Confederate rolls be allowed an efficient appropriation for its completion. This was referred to the Finance Committee.

Importance received were the following: Favorably on a bill to empower the railroad commission to require railroads to erect union depots at junction points.

A bill relating to the checking of baggage, introduced by Baetz, was favorably reported.

The bills of most importance reported favorably are: A bill to empower cities and towns and townships to issue municipal bonds for the purpose of refunding bonds outstanding and unpaid at the time of the adoption of the Constitution of 1895, was favorably reported.

eral average which will result in every student paying exactly the same amount of road transportation.

Mr. White presented the memorial of the South Carolina Medical Association asking for the passage of a law requiring a record of marriages, births and deaths.

By Winkler: To ex-Confederate soldiers or sailors from taking out hawkers or peddlers' licenses.

Wednesday.—Speaker Gary appointed his committees and the House agreed on Jan. 20th as the date for the election of a Senator to succeed Senator Irby. A message was received from the Governor voting the bill passed at the last Legislature, prohibiting the publication of county treasurers' reports.

January 20th was decided for as the date for election of a superintendent of education, three directors of the non-judicial, a judge of the Fifth Judicial Circuit (Judge Gary) and a judge of the Seventh Circuit (Judge Witherspoon).

By Mr. McCullough, a bill relative to negotiable instruments, making the law uniform with that of other States.

By Mr. McCullough, a bill to require county officers to keep open their offices from 9 to 1 and from 3 to 6 o'clock.

By Mr. Anderson, a bill to repeal the act prohibiting emigrant agents from doing business in the State without a license.

Dr. Mr. Simkins, a bill to amend section 26 of the Criminal Code relating to grand jurors.

By Mr. Baetz, a bill to declare and establish the jurisdiction of the Recorder and Magistrates of Charleston.

Mr. Baetz, from the special committee on rules, reported, making some minor changes, and the report was adopted.

Mr. Patton introduced a resolution that the Speaker appoint a committee of seven to prepare and report a bill to divide the State into convenient Congressional districts, and asked for the immediate consideration of the resolution. Mr. Magill objected, and being backed up by ten members, the resolution went over for consideration.

Friday.—The House met at 11 o'clock. Kinard, of Abbeville, introduced a resolution to appoint a committee of seven, one from each Congressional District, to whom shall be referred all matters relating to new counties, such as contests, etc., but several objections were made, and it went over to some future day for consideration.

The concurrent resolution to extend the charter of the South Carolina and Augusta Railroad was adopted unanimously.

A report of the grand jury of Spartanburg county was read, calling attention to the manner in which the convict camp of Messrs. Russell & Fretwell is being conducted in an unlawful manner, etc. The report was received as information.

Mr. Patton's resolution providing for the appointment of a special commission of seven to prepare and present to the House a bill dividing the State into suitable and convenient Congressional Districts came up, but after considerable discussion, pro and con, it was postponed by Magill to indefinitely postpone the resolution, and on the roll call the motion was adopted by a vote of 64 to 46.

federate rolls, which is being printed by Mr. Hugh Wilson, of Abbeville. He recommends that at least \$500 be appropriated to complete those valuable records.

Among the new bills of interest are the following: Rogers—To amend the county government law so far as it relates to the working of the roads and highways so as to make the commutation tax \$1 instead of \$2 as at present.

Leffort—To amend the county government law insofar as it relates to membership of boards of county commissioners. The object of the bill is to reduce the number of those acting as members to three.

Leffort—To amend the act relating to the location and names of voting precincts in the State.

Leffort—To amend the county government law in so far as it relates to roads and highways.

Harvey—To require the killing of dogs that have been bitten by others suffering from hydrophobia.

Grosham (by request)—To include geese in the stock law's provisions.

Heden—To amend the law relating to disturbing religious meetings.

Johnson—To require a record of cotton to keep a record of the number of bales ginned by them, number of all bales ginned in the proper order, and mark them with the name of the party owning the cotton.

Hainsford—Relating to insurance companies doing business in this State.

Mr. Caughman, for the committee, presented an unfavorable report upon the bill to require officers to give bonds in surety companies' records in this State. The report went over for consideration.

CONCEALED WEAPONS.
A Novel Method to Prevent Them Being Carried.

"J. P. W." writing from Anderson, to the Editor, on the subject of "concealed weapons," says: "As the General Assembly of South Carolina is now in session it is to be hoped that they will pass some more stringent and far-reaching act than has yet been passed against carrying concealed weapons in this State. Some what has grown out of the illegal bearing of them just upon the very convening of the Legislature. The Orangeburg and Sumter lynchings have their origin in negroes carrying out to their celebration of emancipation. Now I presume that this is the case all over the State. I know that here in my county it is, particularly in my immediate section. Every negro, almost, is supplied with a pistol, some to be seen, and others not, and there are scores of good men all over the State who do not, and when they are shot down and killed by a trifling negro or desperado with a little \$100 pistol, concealed or otherwise, I think it is time for our law-makers to rise in their power and dignity and pass some such law as this. That all persons residing in South Carolina, except officers of the law, for the privilege of carrying deadly weapons, such as pistols, dirks, bowie knives, knives or anything connected about the person, with which life may be taken (other than the ordinary pocket knife) shall be required to pay over to the Clerk of Court in each county which he proposes to carry such deadly weapons, the sum of \$100 for such privilege, and thereupon it shall be the duty of Clerk of Court to issue a license and have published at least in three issues of the several county papers the name or names of the person or persons having such license, and if all persons convicted of carrying such pistols or other deadly weapons not having complied with this law shall, upon such conviction be confined in the State penitentiary not less than twelve months or more than five years, in the discretion of the Court."

MEDICAL MEMORIAL.
Medical Association Wants Births, Deaths and Marriages Registered.

Below is the "Medical Memorial" as sent to the General Assembly last week, and which was referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

To the Honorable General Assembly of the State of South Carolina: The South Carolina Medical Association, at its annual meeting held in Spartanburg, on the 26th day of April, 1896, appointed the undersigned committee to memorialize your honorable body, and pray that in the interest of medical science and public hygiene that you would enact a law which would secure a more accurate and complete registration of marriages, births and deaths in the State of South Carolina. Assembled here to consider measures to promote the welfare and happiness of the people, without a reliable system for registering marriages, births and deaths your legislation in many respects more successful. These statistics constitute a sort of barometer weighing upon the people, and they give to your honorable body a more accurate and complete knowledge of the population, the possibilities of saving human life and the cause of disease, and the cause of mortality. They will show you how the people of South Carolina live, how they die, and how they are born, and they will show you the cause of death, and they will show you the cause of disease, and they will show you the cause of mortality. They will show you the cause of death, and they will show you the cause of disease, and they will show you the cause of mortality.