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THE COOSAW CASE.

The State Cannot Consent to the Resumption of Mining by the Coosaw Company Unless the Lessees of the State Are Permitted to Mine Also.

[Special to the News and Courier.]

COLUMBIA, March 18.—The phosphate commission met to-day at 12 m.; present, all the members. Senator Smythe came up to represent the Coosaw Company. Mr. H. A. M. Smith and Mr. F. E. Brotherhood also came up to-day and had a hearing before the board.

The correspondent of the News and Courier made a proposition that he be permitted to present and take full stenographic notes of the proceedings, which would also be the property of the commission. Governor Tillman announced this proposition, stating that he personally had no objection. Senator Smythe also did not object. The objection was, however, made by members of the board that other newspaper correspondents might ask the same privilege, and that colored and incorrect statements might go out to the press.

Senator Smythe said that he had no objection to the presence before the commission of H. A. M. Smith and Mr. Brotherhood.

The commission has so far given out all of its proceedings to the press, and the rule was not broken to-day. Attorney General Pope either reads the minutes of the meeting to the reporters or makes an abstract of the same.

The special business of the commission to-day was to consider the reply of Mr. Robert Adger to the last letter from the commission and also to hear Senator Smythe. The following is the letter of Mr. Adger:

OFFICE OF THE COOSAW MINING CO., Charleston, S. C., March 17, 1891.

Hon. B. R. Tillman, Governor and Chairman Board of Phosphate Commissioners, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir—Your favor of the 16th instant, stating that the board were not willing to arrange with the Coosaw Mining Company to resume operations under your supervision unless other companies were allowed to mine in the territory claimed by us, is received this morning.

I regret that we cannot consent to the conditions imposed by the board.

The proposition of the Coosaw Company was made in good faith as a business offer, but to be entered into without prejudice to the rights of any party.

The issue in the case is whether the Coosaw Company has the continuing right to exclusively occupy the territory in Coosaw River. This right we are seeking to enforce in the courts. To consent, pending the litigation, to waive this right, and allow that to be done which we are asking to forbid, will, as I am advised, practically put us out of court.

Another practical reason also governs our action.

You must bear in mind that the million and a quarter of dollars royalty which we have paid the State represents that many tons of phosphate rock removed from Coosaw River, more than the entire amount taken from all the rest of the State's territory. This has, of course, seriously diminished the original deposit.

With careful management and pursuing the system we have always followed we hope that there is enough left to supply us our average production for a limited time to come. But if other companies are allowed to mine in it under general rights licenses the result in a short time will be to ruin the remaining deposit.

The damage to us would be irreparable, and we are sincere in saying that if such licenses are permitted to mine until the end of the litigation, expedite as we may, we would not care to expend the amount necessary to conduct the suit to obtain a decree securing us the exclusive right we claim.

As a proof of our sincerity in this opinion we offered the board, before any action was taken by them in this matter, the use of a complete mining plant with which to make such a survey and examination of our territory, under their uncontrolled supervision, as they might desire.

We are sincerely desirous of making some arrangement with the board. It appears to us from your letter that this could be effected, but for the licenses referred to therein. We fail to see why their interest should be the cause of preventing a satisfactory adjustment, by which, pending the litigation, loss, both to the State and the Coosaw Company, could be avoided.

I am yours very truly,

ROBERT ADGER,
Chief Manager of the Coosaw Mining Company.

Mr. Smythe was then heard, and afterwards Mr. H. A. M. Smith and Mr. Brotherhood appeared before the commission. At nearly 3 o'clock the commission took a recess until later in the afternoon, the impression left on the press being that the negotiations had been broken off.

The rock on which the negotiations were wrecked appears to be that the Legislature instructs the commission to perform a specific duty, i. e., to open up the Coosaw territory to miners generally. Licenses have been granted to several companies to mine in Coosaw territory under the act, and the State cannot now revoke such licenses without impairing its obligations with its licensees.

The genesis of the difficulty antedates the phosphate commission. It is probably wasting time to criticise the phosphate commission, which is a

creation of an act of the Legislature defining both its powers and duties.

Mr. H. A. M. Smith, after the session, would not or could not be interviewed—most probably would not. Senator Smythe said that the line of what he had to say was included in the above letter. Mr. Brotherhood said that he would probably have a roasted duck for supper, which he said he would dichotomize, so to speak, with this correspondent. The struthio camelus, however, does not usually sup on canards.

AN OFFICIAL REPORT.

Attorney General Pope, secretary of the phosphate commission, dictated the following to the representative of the News and Courier as the substance of the proceedings before the morning and afternoon session of the phosphate commission:

"The public has been apprised of the fact that Mr. Adger, chief manager of the Coosaw Company, had declined by telegram the proposition made to him by the board of phosphate commissioners of this State. In a letter received by the commission to-day and read before the commission the line of thought of the telegram is largely upon the proposition that the Hon. A. T. Smythe be heard before the commission was decided to, and Mr. Smythe appeared to-day and presented his views, the board hearing him with great attention. Mr. H. A. M. Smith also came before the board, after which an adjournment was had until the afternoon. At this latter session the following resolution was passed:

"Resolved, That Governor Tillman, as chairman of the board, be requested to write a reply to the communication of Mr. Adger this day received."

"The board also requested the Attorney General of the State and his associate counsel, Mr. George S. Mower, to take such steps as to the case now pending in the United States Court as will protect the interests of the State of South Carolina. The board then adjourned."

Governor Tillman said to-night that he would not write the reply of the commission to the Coosaw Company until to-morrow. In the light of the occurrences of to-day, however, it does not require much ratiocination to infer that it will be a letter of rejection of the overtures of the Coosaw Company. In fact, it was understood, from Senator Smythe before he left here this afternoon that the proposition had been non-concerned in. It was learned also that Mr. H. A. M. Smith, who, he said, represents one of the licensees, appeared before the commissioners this afternoon, and that Mr. Smythe did not so appear.

Mr. Brotherhood, of the Carolina Company, which has license to dig in Coosaw territory, was asked what he proposed to do. He said that he proposed to obey the law, and for the present would not go on upon the waters of Coosaw.

From stray remarks made to-night it is learned that the attorneys for the State do not and will not admit the jurisdiction of the United States in the premises; so there is another brand-new howldy. Attorney General Pope cannot be interviewed on the question as to how he will act, as per instruction of the phosphate commission. The curious can now go ahead and guess whether the commission will take the bull by the horns or the fish by the tail.

Mr. H. A. M. Smith will leave Columbia for Charleston. His business before the commission, which was begun at the morning session, was concluded in the afternoon at the Executive Mansion, where the second meeting was held. After hearing Mr. Smith the board went into private session and took the action stated above by Attorney General Pope.

As the case now stands the State will either file a demurrer to the jurisdiction of the Federal Court, or answer the bill already in on its merits, neither of which may be done until May. Of course, this is providing that no unusual or summary process of settlement be employed by the phosphate commission.

GOVERNOR TILLMAN MAKES THE REPLY TO THE LETTER OF MR. ADGER.

COLUMBIA, March 19.—By resolution of the board of phosphate commissioners Governor Tillman was authorized to reply to the letter of Mr. Robert Adger, whose letter on behalf of the Coosaw Company was published to-day in the News and Courier. Governor Tillman wrote this ultra ultimatum tonight, of which the following is a copy:

COLUMBIA, S. C., March 19, 1891.

To Mr. Robert Adger, Chief Manager of the Coosaw Mining Company, Charleston, S. C.:

Dear Sir—Your letter of March 17 came duly to hand and was submitted to the board of phosphate commissioners yesterday. We also held a conference with Mr. Smythe, your representative, in which the questions at issue were fully and freely discussed.

There are in this case two main objects to which the phosphate commission must direct its attention in order the State's rights and interests.

The issue is not whether the Coosaw Company shall have a continuing right to exclusively occupy the territory in Coosaw River, as you say, but first, whether the State has now, or shall ever have, power to raise the royalty on phosphate rock.

Second, whether the monopoly which would thus practically be given to the Coosaw Company shall be continued?

If the Coosaw Company has "a contract" with the State of South Carolina to perpetually mine our richest

deposit at \$1 a ton, it is idle to think of increasing the royalty as against miners outside of that river.

And if the monopoly hitherto possessed by the Coosaw Company, by means of which it has practically absorbed the Sea Island Chemical Company and the Oak Point Mines Company, shall be allowed to continue, it is only a question of time when the other three companies will be forced to suspend operations or be likewise absorbed.

The main question is as to the right to increase the royalty, for our observation of the mining around Beaufort has led us to believe that exclusive rights are not detrimental to the State's interests and that it would be best for the State and the miners were all the mining done by one company.

I would call your attention to the fact that your offer to allow us the use of one of your dredges with which to test and make examination of the territory hitherto occupied by you could not be accepted, because the offer involved the payment by the State of the mining expenses and promised so little practical knowledge that we did not feel authorized to make such expenditure.

Whether there is much or little rock in the Coosaw River is not at present a matter for our consideration. Whether there is a variation in grade which requires peculiar skill, possessed by your superintendent alone, to mine profitably is not the issue.

The ruinous lawsuit which your company has inaugurated, and the tenacity with which it fights for the territory, will rather influence men's opinions as to its value. It was our earnest desire and hope to have saved the company from such loss and the State a decrease of revenue. But the question by your act has to be decided by the Courts, and neither the dignity nor welfare of the State could be maintained, as we see it, had we agreed to the proposal you made.

Realizing how heavy must be the loss to your company in the deterioration of the plant and disorganization of labor, we would further suggest that, pending the lawsuit, you take a license to mine outside of the disputed territory along with the other companies which have been driven out of Coosaw by the injunction of the United States Court, as it is possible you may thus make running expenses. This is not a disinterested suggestion, but it is made in good faith. Yours respectfully,

B. R. TILLMAN,
Governor and Chairman Board of Phosphate Commissioners.

IRONY AND INCONSISTENCY.

[Special to the State.]

CHARLESTON, S. C., March 26.—The Governor's answer to the Coosaw Company created considerable comment here to-day. The irony of it was enjoyed and applauded, but the inconsistency of its various portions was severely criticised. The Coosaw Company maintains a stiff upper lip, to all appearances.

BEEN VOTING SINCE MADISON'S TIME

And Stopped Drinking Whiskey When He Was Eighty.

PITTSBURG, March 15.—Western Pennsylvania has some very old citizens. Jacob Steel, of Masontown, Fayette county, is 102 years old. He voted for James Madison, and has voted for every Democratic Presidential candidate since. Mr. Steel lives with his daughter, Mrs. Sally Bise, a well-preserved lady of 75. His age is authenticated by his first marriage certificate and by the records of an old-time justice of the peace which are still extant. His first marriage occurred in 1812, when Mr. Steel was 24 years of age. He never used tobacco, but was a great whiskey drinker until his 80th year, when he stopped because the quality of the liquor sold then in Fayette County had so deteriorated that he could not drink it. He numbers among his descendants ten children, thirty-eight grandchildren, seventy great-grandchildren, and some of the fifth generation. Mr. Steel expects to vote for the Democratic candidate for President in 1892.

The April number of *Denore's Family Magazine* contains a splendid article on Physical Culture, by Prof. E. B. Warnam, A. M., giving a course of exercises, profusely illustrated, which will help everybody—man, woman or child—to acquire a graceful supple form, and without going to a gymnasium, or even spending a cent for apparatus. And this is not the only attraction of this excellent magazine: "The Land of Our Next Neighbor, The Care of Palms in the Drawing-Room, How Art Students Live in New York, Grotesque Ways of Decorating Easter Eggs, Kite-Flying (for the boys), all handsomely illustrated, several capital stories, a fine article on Thinness—Its Causes and Cure, by Susanna W. Dodds, M. D., are a few of its other features, and there are nearly three hundred illustrations, including a full-page water-color Easter card. As an all-around "family" magazine, this one cannot be beat: there is something in every number for father, mother, and every one of the children: and it is only \$2 per year. Published by W. Jennings Denore, 15 East 14th Street, New York.

When Macbeth ironically asked, "Canst thou minister to a mind diseased?" he little knew that mankind would one day be blessed with Ayer's Sarsaparilla. In purifying the blood, this powerful tonic gives tone and strength to every function and faculty of the system.

NEEDED IMPROVEMENTS.

The Report of the City Fathers of Newberry on Water Works and Electric Lights.

At a meeting of the citizens of the town, held January 22nd, 1891, it was referred to the Mayor and Aldermen to ascertain and report to a future meeting, to be called by the chairman, the feasibility of having both water works and electric lights in the town of Newberry.

According to the Mayor and Aldermen have procured such information as they could with reference to the matter referred to them.

Mr. Wm. C. Whitner, a competent civil engineer, and part owner of the water works and electric plant of the city of Anderson, visited our town, made some surveys, and inspected the sources of water supply, and at the request of Council wrote the following communication:

"In reply to your request to give you some idea of the cost of a system of water works and electric lights for your city, I beg leave to submit the following:

"A system of water works giving your city complete protection from fire and furnish an abundant supply of water for domestic purposes would cost about \$48,000. Such a system would extend all over the city, and give protection through about 60 double nozzle hydrants. The ordinary pressure from the stand-pipe in the business portion of the town would be about 55 pounds, which would throw a stream 75 feet high. The pumps would be in duplicate, and of such capacity as to furnish not less than four (4) hydrant streams.

"A system of electric lights, furnishing both arc and incandescent lights for streets and domestic lights, would cost about \$15,000. Such a system would consist of duplicate machinery, and would be so arranged that the street lights could be operated independently of domestic lights and vice versa.

"If both plants were combined so as to be operated together, they could be built for \$60,000, and this would be the most economical arrangement for operation. With both plants combined you ought to be able to get your streets lit by electricity for about the same sum you are now paying, besides giving your citizens an opportunity to light their business houses and residences with this convenient and superior light. One of the greatest advantages arising from combining the plants, is, that your engineer is always at his post during the night with a full supply of steam, and can on a moments notice, put his pumps to work, in the event there should be a large conflagration exhausting the supply of water in the stand-pipe and thus decreasing the effective pressure. This arrangement is very desirable, and is apt to have considerable weight with insurance companies in reducing their rates."

Mr. J. L. Fitzgerald, a civil engineer of Schenectady, N. Y., writes as follows:

"The probable cost of a cheap system of water works for your city will be about \$10,000. This includes everything. Should you wish a better fire protection than the above estimate will effect the expenditure of \$10,000 more will give one of the best in the country. The electric light plant will cost from \$8,000 to \$10,000, depending upon the number of lights and the system adopted."

The above estimates are based upon the idea that the town would own and operate the plant. To do this the town would have to issue bonds by act of the Legislature covering the amount of \$90,000, or whatever sum might be agreed upon, thus entailing a tax for the yearly payment of the interest thereon, less such sums as might be realized in the way of income from private consumers after paying running expenses. What this income would be would depend entirely upon the success with which the plant could be run, the amount of patronage from private consumers, &c. It might be made so successful as greatly to decrease the tax necessary to pay the interest on the bonds, but it is a question as to how far municipalities are prepared to operate such works successfully.

Another, and possible a better plan by which we may have both electric lights and water works, is to give to some company a franchise for a number of years, granting them the exclusive privilege for such number of years of operating such works, and contracting on the part of the town to pay so much each year for water and lights. Such an arrangement exists at Anderson, Spartanburg, and in other towns and cities of the State, and would cost our town anywhere from \$3,500 to \$4,500 per year, decreasing possibly for a number of years as the income of the company is increased by individual consumers. An act of the Legislature would be necessary to raise the income for this purpose as we now go to our charter limit in the matter of taxation.

In this connection it will be well, probably, to read a proposition made by Mr. Paul Hemphill to the town of Chester as illustrative of the idea above advanced.

MR. HEMPHILL'S PROPOSITION.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA,
COUNTY OF CHESTER.

To the Mayor and Wardens of the Town of Chester, in County of Chester and State aforesaid:

GENTLEMEN: I, Paul Hemphill, of the town and County of Chester, and State aforesaid, whose name is hereto attached, acting for myself and my assigns, herewith respectfully ask you to grant me, my heirs and assigns the following privileges, in return for

which I hereby make certain propositions as specified below:

1st. I ask the privilege to use the present and future streets, alleys and thoroughfares, of the town of Chester, S. C., for the purpose of laying water and gas pipes, hydrants, laterals, checks and valves, and the erection of lamp posts for gas and poles or posts for carrying electric wires and lamps for light and wires for connections and power.

2nd. In consideration of the great expense we will be obliged to incur and the improbability of such works paying anything above expenses for some years to come, and the benefit and saving it will be to the citizens by reducing the rates of insurance, and also in consideration of the further sum of twenty-five dollars which I will pay to the town of Chester, S. C., on demand, I ask that this privilege be made exclusive for thirty (30) years and that the property and works which I or my assigns may erect in connection with the conduct of the said works, be released from all town taxation for the period of five years from their completion. Furthermore, that when the gas mains are laid or the electric light wires are placed, and either or both plants are running, the town will agree to use either the one or the other or both, as the case may be, to light the streets, alleys or thoroughfares in place, as far as possible, of the present gasoline lamps, provided the light furnished by me or my assigns is good.

3d. Whenever excavations are made for the laying of pipes, laterals, hydrants or posts or poles on any of the streets; alleys or thoroughfares of the town, the said streets, alleys or thoroughfares shall be left in as good condition as before the excavations were made.

4th. On the granting of these privileges, a charter under our State laws will be applied for, and a joint stock company will be organized to be known as the Chester Water, Light and Power Company, for the purpose of supplying the inhabitants of the town of Chester with water, lights and power. The water to be used for general and fire purposes, the lights to be either gas or electric or both, to be used either for public or private purposes, and the power either to be gas or electric, to be used for any purpose to which such power may be applied.

5th. In the formation of the joint stock company the citizens of the town of Chester shall have for 30 days after the books of subscription are opened the right to subscribe to the stock of the company before outside subscriptions shall be received.

6th. Should work not be commenced on construction within twelve months from the granting of the charter then this privilege shall be null and void, otherwise to remain in full force and effect.

7th. Should the town at any time during the exclusive privilege granted, desire to own the plant or plants that may be erected by me or my assigns, they may acquire the same by paying for it, at a valuation to be fixed by arbitration of three experts, one of whom is to be chosen by the Town Council, one by me or my assigns, and the third by the other two.

8th. That I, my heirs and assigns, shall have two years within which to complete for use the water works and one or the other plants for use; and that I, my heirs and assigns, shall have three years from the granting of the privilege with which to complete the plant for the other light work and power, and that in case said plant is not completed within the three years, that the privilege as to that light and power shall lapse for non use; and that I, my heirs and assigns, shall furnish water and lights at rates commensurate with the rates charged for said water and lights by other companies with like privileges by other towns of like size in this State.

PAUL HEMPHILL.

At the request of Council two civil engineers have examined the sources of water supply for the town, and both agree that either branch of Scott's Creek, striking them at a point above the town so as to avoid contamination, will furnish an abundance of water, and a committee of Council who visited the city of Anderson while investigating this question reports that the water supply for that city comes from a creek like in size and location to Scott's Creek, and that the water works in Anderson seems to be very successful and quite satisfactory to the citizens. The only other source of water supply is from artesian wells, or a system of driven wells, but as to the cost of these we have been unable to get any definite information for the reason that we have no such wells in our section of the country. If our water supply could be had from such wells it might prove much more acceptable than water from the creek, or from any other surface source. The difficulty is as to the uncertainty of procuring it, and the probable largely increased cost.

As before said, a committee of Council visited the city of Anderson. This committee was highly pleased with the water works. The city is lighted by the incandescent system of lighting which, while far superior to the old systems of lighting by lamps, did not come up to the expectations of the committee, and the committee was impressed with the fact that arc lights, especially on the more public thoroughfares, would have been far better. A combination, if possible, of the two systems would be better—the arc lights to be used mainly for street lighting, and the incandescent light for buildings.

The Council has received a vast number of communications from parties interested in water works and electric lights, but none of them contain information more definite than is contained in this report. Respectfully submitted by

THE COUNCIL.

GEN. WADE HAMPTON.

Candid and Interesting Talk With a Colored Journalist.

[New York Sun.]

PETERSBURG, Va., March 16.—As the Coast Line limited express slowly crawled out of the Baltimore and Potomac depot at Washington the other morning, I became conscious of two interesting facts, Gen. William Mahone of Virginia, and Gen. Wade Hampton of South Carolina were passengers with me. Further, I found to my surprise that Gen. Wade Hampton and myself occupied the same section in the Pullman sleeping car. Gen. Mahone and his family occupied the section opposite to us. He got off at Alexandria. He does not spend much time at his Petersburg home now, but he lives at the national capitol and makes frequent excursions to Alexandria. Every one with whom I have conversed appears to believe that the political grip of the famous Readjuster has been loosened, and color is given to this opinion by the fact that he is no longer active in affairs in the Fourth Congress district, where there is war of the knife between him and Col. James D. Brady, the Collector of Internal Revenue and member of the National Republican Committee, and Congressman John Langston, whom the black and colored voters swear by.

Gen. Mahone does not appear to have grown old fast during the past eight years. His long hair and expansive beard are slightly streaked with gray, but his step is quick and light, and he seems on mighty good terms with himself. His overcoat was heavily fringed with black fur; he wore a cream colored slouch hat, and his gaiters were low cut, setting off his very small foot and exceedingly high instep.

After we passed Alexandria I took my seat by the side of Gen. Wade Hampton and asked him if he would talk on general politics, as he had just terminated his long Senatorial career. He was not at all averse. He is a very venerable and dignified looking man. His snow white hair, burnside whiskers, and black slouch hat gave him a patriarchal appearance. He wore a suit of gray.

"I am in favor of free coinage of silver," he said. "It should be of the full standard measure, however. I don't think the silver question will be one of the leading questions in the campaign next year. I think the next Congress will dispose of the matter. There is such a general demand for legislation favorable to silver that it cannot be disregarded. No; I do not think it will play much of a part in the next campaign."

"What about the Farmers' Alliance?" "Well, it will not amount to much in the politics of the future, because its schemes are impracticable and because it is manipulated by demagogues. I have always been in favor of the farmers having more organizations among themselves for their own benefit. I am a farmer myself and naturally sympathize with the farmers. I want to see them prosper, and am in favor of any organization among them that will effect this result. I do not think that anything in this line can be accomplished by the Farmers' Alliance. On the contrary, I think that it will work great damage to the interest of the farmers. The legislative relief they seek is class legislation of the simplest kind, and that sort of legislation is always objectionable on general principles and at variance with our methods of government."

"What influence would such legislation as the Farmers' Alliance demand have upon our system of government?" "If it were possible to conceive of any such legislation as the Sub-Treasury, the bonded warehouse, and other schemes, it would inevitably lead us into endless confusion and ultimately bankruptcy. There could not possibly be any other result from it. But it does not seem probable to me that any such legislation is at all possible."

"General, how do you account for the fact that the South, which has always been opposed to class legislation and paternalism in government, has gone mad over the Farmers' Alliance schemes?" "I cannot explain the matter," Senator Hampton replied. "The farmers have had a hard time of it during the past few years. They have not made any money. They are burdened with debt. They want relief, and unfortunately, imagine that they can secure it from the general Government."

"What influence will the Farmers' Alliance exercise upon the Presidential election next year?" "Very little, if any. National elections are only affected by national issues. The issues raised by the Alliance are local and class rather than national. I do not think the Presidential question of next year will be materially affected by any action the Farmers' Alliance may take. The fight will be between the two old parties, as usual."

"Has your experience in the Senate been a pleasant one?" "Well, yes; very pleasant. I do not believe there is a Republican in the Senate who does not regret that I have been displaced, especially among the older ones. My relations with both sides of the Senate have been most cordial. I think my record has been unique in at least one respect. Of the 500 measures reported by me, as Chairman of the Committee on Military Affairs, not one of them was acted upon adversely by the Senate."

"What are my future plans, politically?" "I have none. I have done with public affairs. I must now look after

my personal affairs, which have been long neglected."

"But the leading newspapers in your State nominated you for Governor the moment I was nominated to succeed you in the Senate."

"I know that. But I am not a candidate. I have never been a candidate for anything. I never asked a man to vote for me. I have not sought public honors."

"But you have the confidence of the people of South Carolina. If they insist upon your accepting the gubernatorial nomination, what then?" "This looks like Constance's Neck," replied Gen. Hampton, "and that house there, near the Potomac, looks just like the one where I had an interesting experience during the war."

"What was the incident, General?" "Well, the same old story; a spy. I had a man who wanted to cross the Potomac, but I didn't know how to get him over. Well, just then, a man came in and reported that a spy had crossed the Potomac in the early morning. We made diligent search for him, with but little success, and we were about to give it up when we found him locked up in a box under a bed in the house we have just passed. We forced him to disclose the hiding place of the boat in which he had crossed the river, and we used it to send over our man who wished to reach the other side."

"What became of the spy?" "I asked. 'I sent him to Richmond.' I don't know what became of him, but I expect he was—that is a pretty view of the river."

"Presidential candidates? Well, if New York goes to the Convention with a solid delegation it will get the nomination; if not the nomination will go to the West."

"What Western man have you in your mind's eye?" "Oh, none in particular. The most obscure man in a break away from the favorites usually captures the honor."

"What do you think of Gov. Campbell of Ohio, Gov. Gray of Indiana, ex-Congressman William R. Morrison, and Gen. John M. Palmer of Illinois?"

"They are all good men; but I have nothing to say as to their candidacy, further than if New York does not present a solid front in the convention the nomination will go to a Western man."

"What about the Speakership of the next House?"

"I think it would be a mistake to elect a Southern man as Speaker. I think some good Northern or Western man should be selected. I think the Democratic party made a great mistake in the Fifteenth Congress by electing a Southern man as Speaker of the House and by giving the principal chairmanship of committees to Southern men. Again, I think the Democratic party made a mistake in the campaign of 1888 by flooding the North with Southern speakers. It is a bad policy. The voters resent it. If Northern speakers should be sent into the South we should resent it. We know now about our own affairs than outsiders do. I think the Northern voters resented the fact of our sending them Southern speakers to instruct them in 1888."

"Then you are not in favor of electing a Southern man Speaker of the House of the Fifty-second Congress?" "Emphatically no."

"What is your opinion of the future relations of the races in the South?"

"Most hopeful. I agree with the recent opinion of Senator Carlisle that there will be less and less of friction between the races; that they will come more and more to understand the mutuality of their interests, and that they will more and more co-operate together for the common good. In my own State the colored people have great respect for me, and in any division of votes, caused by the position of the Farmers' Alliance, I am sure that the best elements among the colored people would co-operate with the best elements among the white people."

"That being the case, would you not feel it a public duty to accept the gubernatorial nomination if offered to you?" "I must straighten out my personal affairs," replied the General; and he really looked as if he wished not to be called upon to make other sacrifices prejudicial to his personal interests.

"No; I have no regrets in leaving public life. I have tried to do my duty. My relations with colleagues in the Senate have been most pleasant. My public life all the way through has been regulated by a strict regard for the exactness of the duty imposed upon me, and I cannot but feel that I have always labored for the public good, according to my light."

As the cars sped away southward I could not but think pleasantly of the fine old type of Southern gentleman.

T. THOMAS FORTUNE.

The Wrecked Locomotive.

[Columbia Record 24th.]

Locomotive "No. 252," a coal burner, which was wrecked on the C. & G. Road about fourteen miles above Columbia by running into a washout some days ago, was brought to the city this morning and will be placed in the Richmond and Danville shops here at once for repairs. When Master Mechanic Green's force got to work on the 252 it won't be long before she will be in first class running trim and be making her regular trip over the road again. The locomotive is not so badly damaged as was at first supposed.

For the cure of colds, coughs, and all derangements of the respiratory organs, no other medicine is so reliable as Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. It relieves asthmatic and consumptive conditions, and advanced stages of disease, saving innumerable lives.

GEORGIA CENTRAL GONE.

The Richmond and West Point Terminal Octopus Swoops It In.

[From the New York Sun.]

A rumor exists in Atlanta for the last few days to the effect that a large movement was on foot as to the disposition of the Central Railroad of Georgia. It is said that the Terminal Company will lease the Central for 99 years. Pat Calhoun will go to Savannah this week and will discuss the matter with the officers and directors of the Central Railroad there and with Gen. Alexander. On the rumor that the road would be leased for 99 years, the stock which has heretofore been selling from 110 to 112, has advanced to 118 and 119. There is no doubt that the subject of the lease is now under discussion, and the terms proposed guarantee 7 per cent. net on the stock of the Central payable semi-annually. It is understood that the lease will be made under the name of the Georgia Pacific Road instead of the Terminal Company. This will make a continuous line from Savannah to the Mississippi River at Greenville where the road will connect with the Gould system and with their roads running direct to the Pacific Ocean. It is not improbable that solid trains will run from Savannah to the Pacific coast within six months. It is understood that Mr. Gould is very much in favor of the lease, and says it will be a great move toward the development of Savannah as a great port. This will also save a short line from Savannah to Washington via Augusta.

THE DEAL MADE.

SAVANNAH, March 18.—The lease of the Central Railroad of Georgia to the Richmond and West Point Terminal Company in the name of the Georgia Pacific Railway was practically decided upon at a meeting of the Central Railroad directors here to-day. The Terminal's proposition was discussed and referred to a committee, which agreed upon the terms of the lease to-night. The lessees will take the road and assume its indebtedness, and will guarantee the stockholders 7 per cent on the capital stock, which is \$7,500,000. John E. Inman, Hugh Inman, Samuel Inman, John C. Calhoun, Pat Calhoun, Charles H. Phinizy and Mr. Swan, of New York, were at the meeting to-day. President Inman left here to-night for Augusta. He will be in New York next week, where the lease will be consummated. It is said to-night that everything will be transferred in about two weeks. The lease of the Central will give the Georgia Pacific a through line from Savannah to the Mississippi River.

AN INTERESTING RAILROAD RUMOR.

[Special to News and Courier.]

COLUMBIA, March 18.—A trustworthy visitor from the Piedmont is authority for the statement that there is something specially noteworthy now in progress with the Richmond and Danville and the Georgia Central rail