

The Herald and News

HAMPTON AND WALLACE. Attention called to the Lack of Care of State Records.

To the Editor of The State: Some days ago in the columns of The State I had something to say regarding the early records of South Carolina, more particularly those of pre Revolutionary times. Now I wish to call attention to a more recent period.

In its treatment of its history, South Carolina is like a man who constantly neglects his wife, yet flies into a raging passion at any disparaging remarks outsiders may make about her. All the journals of the legislature, under the proprietors, the king, and as an American State up to 1842, are in manuscript, of which, with a few exceptions, there is but one copy. Those who have strained their eyes for weeks and months in drawing out these faded lines can testify how dim they are becoming. The library of Congress contains printed copies, I am told directly from there, of the journals of our South Carolina legislature from 1831 to 1841 inclusive except for 1832 and 1833. We have none of these in the State house, except in manuscript.

Some volumes of our records have little romances of their own. No 28 of the council journal is the one containing the tea troubles in 1773 and 1774. To the first page of this is pasted a large sheet of unruled paper with a history of this history, in the handwriting of John Drayton, the author of the work on the American Revolution. He says that in 1820, while preparing his memoirs, he had occasion to inquire of Mr. Thomas Winstanly respecting the king's officers in South Carolina in 1773. Mr. Winstanly told him that there was at his house the journal of the council for that year, which Mr. Drayton might have. It had been "for many years thrown about Gen. Jacob Reed's office," from there Mr. Winstanly carried it home, and in the beginning of 1820 gave it to Mr. Drayton. November 4, 1820, Mr. Drayton wrote this account, apparently in delivering the book to the State. He says he does not believe any historian but himself has used it. If Bancroft and Willroth ever saw our records, they do not show it in their histories. But how can people travel thousands of miles to blast their eyes out over these torn, rusty pages?

This journal is an original of which there was no duplicate made in 1861, when the Revolutionary and colonial records were copied. If "The State" were a professional historical journal, it would be a nice piece of manuscript criticism to go into the examination of this question. To one loving the art, there is keen pleasure in examining really valuable documents with a view to their authenticity, age and originality. One can hide the dates and tell within a decade or so by the style of the hand writing.

As a slight commentary on the State of our unprinted Revolutionary and colonial records, I will say that with my own hand I have read

ed leaves in this particular volume (besides in others) torn completely in half, and pasted back some that were altogether loose and unattached.

It is positively a fact that the libraries in the State house contain no journal of either the House or the Senate for the period covering the "Wallace House" and Hampton inauguration, and the return of the vote. Whether official neglect or unpreventable theft by persons wanting these especially interesting records, accounts for their absence, I do not know. It may be neither. Be the cause what it may, the fact is the same, that the historian is absolutely without these records so far as the State libraries are concerned.

But these are not the only missing volumes in our modern records. There are no House journals for 1857, 1859, 1862, 1864, 1867, sessions of 1876-77 Hampton and "Wallace House" times) and 1880. There are no Senate journals for 1839, 1857, 1859, 1862, 1864, 1867 and the session of 1875-77 (Hampton and the "Wallace House" times). The manuscript of the "Wallace House" is in the Secretary of State's office; I am speaking of printed matter in these citations.

If any private party has any of these journals it would be a patriotic service to place them in the possession of the State, or at least offer them for a reasonable price. These losses are due undoubtedly to some extent to negligence of officials. Some years ago a certain official was chinking off some documents in a way that moved an old, patriotic inmate of the State house to say "You ought to be indicted; you're hiding those valuable records away where nobody'll ever see them again."

Whether this fate overtook him, and what became of those records, I do not know. But the official did not deserve the primary blame. The people of South Carolina are to

blame for the difference to the records of their history that allows them to remain in the condition described by the recent report of the public records commission. If education is to reach a high development, if we are to have a literature, if we are to claim our rightful place in the history and the intellectual movements of the country, we must respond to such appeals. In what torpor is historical study among us when treasures that in other States would be kept in glass cases are buried in rubbish heaps knee deep in the plunder room.

D. D. WALLACE.

"RED" TOLBERT COMES BACK. Settling His Business Affairs—Denies Talking of "Poor White Trash"—Seems Against Collins.

(Special to Greenville News.) Abbeville, S. C., Jan. 24.—R. R. Tolbert, ("Red" Tolbert), republican State chairman, returned here yesterday from Charleston and Washington. He says he came to sell his crop and "what was left out of the wreck." He told some prominent citizens that he was in favor of white supremacy and was an Anglo-Saxon and knew the white people would rule this country and that he was a white man himself and had never done anybody any harm. He said further that his visit here was strictly on personal business and had no connection whatever with politics or the post office.

He said that he thought it would be some time before there would be any change in the post office here and that he did not know what the administration intended to do. He denied ever having incited the negroes against the white people and denied having said anything about the "poor white trash."

His brother, Joe, made the same statement here three weeks ago about the "poor white trash" causing

the Phoenix riot. Public sentiment here is overwhelmingly against "Red" Tolbert's brother-in-law, Collins, coming back into this community.

Too Much Hero Worship. (Exchange.)

Our people have a mania for heroes. It requires very little timber to make one these days. When men enlist in the army or navy they are expected to do their duty, whether they are stokers on a warship, scouts in front of a main line, or officers in command. There are always gushing girls, sentimental women, or brass legislators, ready to reward these newly made heroes with kisses and swords and all sorts of visible and tangible honors. Hero worship is a proper thing. When bestowed at the right time and in the right way it honors the worshippers as much as the worshipped. But before a monument is built in honor of a hero he should be dead. It is a good plan never to fall down and worship a man unless he has been dead a long time. When one erects an image and bows down to it, he should be very sure that it represents a worshipful iden. The inconsiderate legislator who proposes to give a sword or any other token of honor to a young man for the simple discharge of duty, may be doing said young man an injury instead of a benefit. These thoughts were suggested by the resolution offered by a member of the General Assembly of this State to give Victor Blue, who is from Marion County, and a very worthy young man, a sword.

One may respect the sentiment that prompted such a measure without endorsing it. A young man with a long career ahead of him, perhaps varied with sunshine and shadow, stands in the race very much handicapped by having a very fine sword dangling at his side. When the house rejected the resolution they did the best thing possible for Mr. Blue. His life is mostly ahead of him. What honors he may merit have to be won. The legislature of 1950 or 2,000 will be the better judges of the real worthful merit of Victor Blue and all such who may have attained some ephemeral distinction in the recent war with Spain.

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and one thousand dollars reward is offered to any chemist who can prove that it contains a particle of mercury, potash, or any other mineral ingredient. S. S. S. is the only blood remedy guaranteed to be absolutely free from mineral mixtures. Books sent free by Swift Specific Company, Atlanta, Ga.

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Florida Central & Peninsular Time Table in Effect July 6.

Table with columns for stations, times, and directions. Includes stations like Jacksonville, Tallahassee, and Tampa.

SHAKE INTO YOUR SHOES Allen's Foot-Ease, a powder for the feet. It cures, painful, swollen, smarting, nervous feet and instantly takes the sting out of corns and bunions. It's the greatest comfort discovery of the age.

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FRED H. DOMINICK, ATTORNEY AT LAW, NEWBERRY, S. C. Office on Law Range over O. McK Holmes' Cotton Office.

SOUTHERN RAILWAY. Central Time Between Columbia and Jacksonville. Eastern Time Between Columbia and Other Points. Effective January 10, 1899.

Table with columns for Northbound, Southbound, and stations like Savannah, Jacksonville, and Columbia.

SLEEPING CAR SERVICE. Nos. 31 and 32—NEW YORK AND FLORENCE LIMITED. Solid Vestibule Train of Pullman Drawing-Room Sleeping Cars.

Florida Central & Peninsular Time Table in Effect July 6.

Table with columns for stations, times, and directions. Includes stations like Jacksonville, Tallahassee, and Tampa.

SOUTHERN RAILWAY. Condensed Schedule in Effect Oct. 16, 1898.

Table with columns for stations, times, and directions. Includes stations like Jacksonville, Tallahassee, and Tampa.

COLUMBIA, NEWBERRY & LAUREN RAILROAD. Time Table in Effect August 1, 1898.

Augusta and Asheville Short Line. Schedule in Effect Aug. 7, 1898.

SEABOARD AIR LINE VESTIBULE LIMITED DOUBLE DAILY SERVICE TO ALL POINTS North, South and Southwest.

Table with columns for stations, times, and directions. Includes stations like New York, Washington, and Atlanta.

THE CHARLESTON LINE. Double Daily Trains between Charleston and Columbia and Augusta.

Table with columns for stations, times, and directions. Includes stations like Charleston, Columbia, and Augusta.

Connections at Columbia with Southern Railway and with the Southern Railway and North Carolina. Solid trains between Charleston and Asheville.

Table with columns for stations, times, and directions. Includes stations like Charleston, Columbia, and Augusta.

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