

# The Newberry Herald and News.

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## THE LETTERS THAT PASS IN THE MAIL.

### TILLMAN WITHDRAWS HIS RESIGNATION, PROTESTING.

Gov. McSweeney Created a Stir—He Wrote An Open Letter to Senator Tillman in Which He Gives Some Stiff Jabs.

[The State, June 6.]

Yesterday closed the chapter in the senatorial incident. Senator Tillman sent a characteristic letter to the governor, withdrawing his resignation "if it be lawful to do so." This letter had not been received by the governor yesterday afternoon, but Senator Tillman gave it to the press with the statement that he had a right to do so if the governor has a right to give out official communications before they reach the parties to whom they are directed.

Gov. McSweeney wrote a letter to Senator Tillman which created a little breeze in political circles. This letter had not been received by Senator Tillman last night. The governor hits back at the senator for the letter's caustic letter criticizing the action of the governor in returning the resignations.

### TILLMAN'S LAST.

Senator Tillman writing from Trenton, June 5, says to the governor:

Dear Sir:—I am in receipt of your telegram in which you say, "I understand Senator McSweeney's letter to be a withdrawal of his resignation," and I have read that worthy's communication in which he graciously consents at your request "to hold on to his commission as United States senator and continue to serve the State as he has done in the past to the best of his ability."

This leaves me one of three alternatives. To appeal to the Democratic executive committee to take the matter up and determine what the best interest of the party requires to be done, to appeal to the senate itself to determine the question as to whether a resignation from that body, to take effect at some future time is binding, or withdraw my own resignation. There are no precedents on this subject because in the hundred and twenty-five years of our national life, with more than 200 resignations from the senate, no senator has hitherto been willing to occupy the despicable attitude now assumed by Senator McSweeney, and forced on me. I am certain of one thing, that the executive of a State has no authority to decline a resignation that has been tendered, and I am equally certain that had your excellency confined your action within legal bounds that your appointees would be seated in the senate when that body meets in December, and hold their seats until the legislature should act in January. My chief regret is that I am forced by your action to engage in what the outside world will consider a game of opera bouffe, by withdrawing my own resignation after Senator McSweeney's undignified and puerile action; but the purpose for which it was tendered has been thwarted by Senator McSweeney's precipitous acceptance of executive advice. But Aeres has been outdone for once. As I have already said I had no motive or purpose in resigning except to force McSweeney's, and there is nothing for me to do but accept the situation and withdraw my own resignation, if it be lawful to do so.

Yours respectfully,

B. R. Tillman.

### McSWEENEY STRIKES.

Following is a copy of the letter sent to Senator Tillman by Governor McSweeney:

Sir: Your letter of June 1st has been received. I have carefully noted its contents, and the most charitable view which I can take of it is that it was written in the heat of passion and without due consideration.

I note that you say that I have "transcended" my authority and that the governor "cannot compel a member of the United States senate to hold his commission and exercise the functions of that office if he chooses to surrender it," and that you "do-

cline for the present to withdraw" your resignation.

Had you read carefully my letter addressed to you and to Senator McSweeney, you must have seen that I did not express any desire to "compel a member of the United States Senate to hold his commission and exercise the functions of that office," if he chose to surrender it. My sole purpose in returning the resignations was to ask you gentlemen to consider calmly and thoughtfully the consequences to the people of what I judged to be a hasty act, and what you admit to have been a hasty act, and I must confess that I am somewhat surprised at the tone of your answer to my request.

I consider the course which I took in this matter to be for the best interests of the people of South Carolina, and I am responsible to them alone for my action. And, furthermore, I still believe that my course has met the approval of a majority of the citizens of the State, nor do I consider them "unthinking citizens," but men who know and recognize as fully as any people on earth the rights and duties and responsibilities of citizenship and who do not need the services of any one to tell them their duty.

Your insinuation that I have been "importuned" to "await the convenience" of any present or would be aspirants who "are not just yet ready for various reasons to enter the contest brought on so unexpectedly" and that for this reason my action has taken the direction it has, is unworthy of a man holding the high commission which has been given you by the people of South Carolina, and deserves no notice in this connection. However, I may say for your benefit that I alone am responsible for my reply and will give account for the course I have taken to the people who have honored me and not to any one individual.

In this matter I have done what I thought best calculated to promote the present prosperity and contentment of the people of my State, and shall continue to do so regardless of what any one man may say or think of my course. I did not think that a political campaign this summer could do any good. However, had the resignations been unconditional and unrestricted, my action might have been otherwise.

With due respect for your opinion, I think I have as high "conception of the office of senator and its powers" as you or any other citizen of this State, and you must have known that the brief interview to which you refer meant that I would simply meet the responsibility and perform my duty under the conditions.

If you still wish to resign your commission and will send to this office an unconditional resignation, I will exercise the authority and power vested in me by the people.

Respectfully,

M. B. McSWEENEY.

A Frank Adverser.

A gentleman who has a Christian spirit and a horse for sale advertises as follows in a Minnesota paper:

We have a good family driving horse for sale, providing you carry insurance.

He is not over-particular as to feed. In fact, he prefers our neighbors' hay-stacks and corncribs to our own.

We feed him whenever we can catch him, which is seldom.

He is partly gentle. The other parts are not, and you must govern yourself accordingly.

We will throw in the derrier and telegraph pole combination which we use to hitch him up with.

If you are fond of driving we would advise you to engage a cowboy that owns a fast horse to do your driving, and be sure and get on top of the barn before he begins to drive the horse.

For price and corner's address apply to the owner.

### You Know What You Are Taking

When you take Grove's Tasteless Chill Tonic because the formula is plainly printed on every bottle showing that it is simply iron and quinine in a tasteless form. No Cure, No Pay. 50c.

## SENATOR McLAURIN WRITES GOVERNOR

### WITHDRAWS RESIGNATION BUT SAYS HE'S NOT SCARED.

He Will Use His Own Judgment in Voting Upon National Questions, and Will Not Be Bossed by Any One, Etc.

[The State, June 4.]

Senator McLaurin, in response to the chiding of Gov. McSweeney, has withdrawn his resignation. This will now, no doubt, be followed by a similar action on the part of Senator Tillman, who has already declared that he would not withdraw his resignation until McLaurin had done so.

There is some speculation as to whether or not Tillman will resign next summer in order to meet McLaurin and try conclusions in the primary.

Governor McSweeney yesterday received the following letter from Senator McLaurin:

Bennettsville, S. C., June 1, 1901.

Governor M. B. McSweeney.—Dear Sir: Your letter of the 31st of May, in which you decline to accept my resignation as United States Senator, is received. The grounds upon which your declination is predicated are, that the people are "entitled to one year of peace and freedom from political battles and bitterness," and that a campaign this year would be a calamity to the State to be torn asunder by a heated canvass in this off year in politics without any possible good to come of it. As an additional reason you suggest that any disturbance of the harmony of the people in their work for the advancement of the material prosperity of the State might result in retarding this progress.

I appreciate fully the force of the reasons given by you, and the effects upon the people of the State of a heated and strife-producing contest for United States Senator this year. For the sake of the "peace, prosperity and happiness of the people of this State," I am willing to hold on to my commission as United States Senator, and to continue to serve the State as I have done in the past to the "best of my ability." But in retaining my seat in the senate, I will not consent to be handicapped or "bossed" by any one claiming a right to judge my motives and action. I propose to exercise my judgment on all national questions under the influence of a high sense of responsibility to the people, and to work for the upbuilding of the political and material interest of my State. I recognize fully my accountability to the sovereign people, and am always ready to give a strict account of my official acts to them.

Your suggestion that it is not your purpose by your official action "to prevent the fullest and freest discussion of all public questions and the education of the people along all 'political lines'" is in accord with your patriotic course in reference to the resignations. The people are entitled to hear both sides of these questions and to form a judgment. Personalities and bitterness in a joint debate would interfere with a fair and full discussion of them, and instead of educating would mislead and deceive them. All that I have claimed is this right of the people and my right to enlighten them on these questions whenever called upon. In my effort to do this, I was interfered with by the senior senator, who affirmed that my doctrines were political heresies and hurtful to the people. My wish is that all public questions may be freely and fully discussed before the people and I will be content to abide their decision upon them.

In consenting to hold my commission, I wish it understood that it is in response to your patriotic appeal that it is for the good of the State and not because I feared to go before the people and discuss with the senior senator or others the national issues of the day. I am a public servant of the people and it is my duty and pleasure always to promote their interests in every way I can.

I have the honor to be, etc.

John L. McLaurin.

## FIREMEN'S FIFTH ANNUAL CONVENTION.

### The Best Convention Held in Years—So Say the Firemen.

#### NEWBERRY'S HEARTY WELCOME.

### Horse Hose Wagon Contest Wednesday—Hand Reel Races Thursday—A Large Crowd All Enthusiastic. Everything Pulled Off in the Very Best of Humor—Visiting Teams Who Contested for the Prizes During This Occasion.

The Interstate Firemen's Tournament has come and gone. Wednesday and Thursday were big days for Newberry. There were seven companies that contested for the prizes in the horse hose wagon contest and six in the hand reel contest. Although all of these contestants could not carry away the prizes they all did excellent and every feature was worked as smooth as could be expected and we believe that every fireman is glad that he had the opportunity to visit Newberry and we are sure that Newberrians were happy to have the fire ladders with them.

Wednesday was a beautiful day and the track over which the horse hose wagon contest was pulled off was in excellent condition. These races were very exciting and the crowds of spectators who lined the side walks and filled the grand stand and covered the tops of neighboring buildings were all more than repaid for their waiting. These races with the horse hose wagons were something new for Newberry, and a horse hose wagon is a thing that Newberry is very much in need of. The entire program was well carried out and those who were in charge deserve much credit for their efforts.

The races that were set for Thursday were pulled off in regular order and all the teams did well. The rain that began to fall about 10 o'clock left the track in bad condition, in fact it was so slippery that the boys could hardly make the runs.

The hand reel races, the grab race, the shoo fly race, individual foot race, sack race and wheelbarrow race were all pulled off Thursday. The crowd to witness these was larger than on the day before.

The West End Brass Band furnished excellent music for the entire occasion.

The exercises at the opera house were well attended by both ladies and gentlemen and we give below those who spoke and their speeches in full:

#### MAYOR KLETTNER'S WELCOME ADDRESS.

Mr. President, Members of the South Carolina Fireman's Association and all the Visiting Firemen:

As mayor of Newberry it becomes my duty, as well as pleasure, to extend to you a most cordial welcome to our city. We rejoice that you have selected this as the most suitable place, where you will hold your fifth annual convention.

And especially do we congratulate ourselves that you have accepted the invitation which we give you, notwithstanding the fact that other worthy and prosperous cities were anxious to have you come to them, and as an inducement were ready with cash contributions to help defray the expenses of your meeting. We feel that you have honored us by your coming to Newberry, and we trust that the impressions which you shall carry away with you when you shall leave our city shall also be to our credit.

We cannot boast of as numerous a population as some other towns and cities within our State. But we do claim a good, substantial citizenship, and our numbers are steadily growing. Ten years ago the population of Newberry numbered less than 3,000. Now it has increased to about 5,000.

We also have quite a number of business and industrial enterprises that are meeting with good success.

I cannot refrain, but must make mention of the Newberry cotton mill,

which under the the efficient management of the president and general manager, Mr. T. J. McCrary, has become one of the best mills of South Carolina.

One has but to glance at the hundreds of comfortable houses erected for the use of his operatives, and he will at once recognize the self-abnegation, devotion and liberality of this high-toned Christian gentleman. With him, it is not the all absorbed question of how much dividend he can declare annually, but how much good that he can effect towards the amelioration, advancement, comfort, social, moral and intellectual welfare of his many operatives, and in return he is esteemed and beloved by every one, the result is that—go where you may—you cannot find a better, moral, intellectual or industrious class of mill operatives than we have here at Newberry, S. C. We have many other industrial enterprises that are meeting with good success and new ones are springing up from time to time, offering fine opportunities for safe and profitable investments.

We have among us the finest legal talent, the most skillful physicians, the most efficient journalists and eminent ministers of the gospel.

We would not forget to make mention of our churches and schools. We point with interest and pride to Newberry College which, under the judicious, efficient and over humble management of President Geo. B. Cromer has gained a world-wide reputation of excellence and is continually growing in popularity and usefulness.

We have a Graded School that is fully abreast of the times. All the leading churches are here represented by active and growing congregations. Thus we are favored with rare advantages for the education of our boys and girls both intellectually and morally. And we feel that we are safe in saying that the influence of these institutions goes far to maintain the peace and good order which usually prevail amongst us.

We believe that we can also claim that Newberry has never failed in the matter of hospitality to her invited guests. We can assure you that you are in the midst of a warm-hearted, generous people—a people who will take pleasure in making your stay amongst them one that it will be pleasant for you to remember.

But we are not here to boast of ourselves and of the things which concern us; but we are here to bid you welcome in the name and on the behalf of the people of Newberry. And we can assure you that no set of men could meet with a more hearty reception than you gentlemen of the South and North Carolina Fireman's Association. For, there is no set of men whose services to the public are more welcome and more freely rendered than are those of our firemen.

We know that the purpose for which they have been organized and which binds them together, is an unselfish one.

They do not expect to be compensated for the services which they render except by the gratitude of those for whom they are ever ready to risk life and limb.

The alarm of fire summons them from every other duty or occupation, and from every pleasure, that they may aid in extinguishing the merciless flames that spare neither life nor property.

The city may be wrapped in darkness, and her thousands inhabitants stretched upon their comfortable beds, careless of the fire fiend, and dreaming only of self pleasures and increasing gains. In the meanwhile in some dark cellar or unfrequented attic a smouldering spark slowly but surely burns away until suddenly the flame bursts forth and lights up all around with its lurid glare. Then are heard the quick steady strokes of the fire bell that awakens all from their peaceful slumbers and sends a thrill of terror through every nerve. It is a signal of danger and distress. It is also a summons calling together all who are able and willing to render assistance in battling with the furious and destructive element, and there are none who respond to this call more cheerfully and promptly than do our brave firemen. In less time, almost than it takes to tell it, they are ready and away with their fire engines, hose carriages and hand reels and other equipments to the scene of the fire. They do not stop to ask whose property it is that is threatened, whether it be that of the rich or the poor, the white or the colored, but for one as well as for another they will employ every means and put forth their best efforts until they have got control of the devouring flames, and when possible, have saved the property from destruction.

There is no set of men who think less of danger, or who are ready to make greater sacrifices than they.

It is not alone in the records of our army and navy, and of the life saving service along our extensive coast-line that we look for instances of great courage and heroism. The records of the fire departments in the towns and cities of our great country are rich sources of such instances. They furnish the names of many men whose brave deeds in rescuing men, women and children from buildings wrapped in flames and pouring out volumes of dense black smoke entitle them to be enrolled among the grandest heroes of all the ages.

Many a one after saving a half dozen lives or more from an awful death amidst the ruins of burning buildings, has at last perished in the attempt to add another name to the list of those who owed their lives to him. And, indeed, no fireman knows, when he hurries out in response to the fire alarm that he will ever return alive to his home. He may perish amidst flames, or he may be the victim of many an accident, as was the case last summer with one of our own faithful colored firemen, Henry Jonkin.

We look upon you, therefore, as men whose very calling demands the greatest courage, brave men who are never more calm and determined than when you face danger and death, men who are ready at a moment's notice to sacrifice your own interest and pleasures in order to render a most acceptable service to others who may be in distress.

You are here today for the sake of social enjoyment and pleasures, and to compete with one another in friendly contests for the awards of excellence, and yet if the alarm of fire were sounded every one of you would give up all thoughts of pleasure, and would compete with one another in your effort to extinguish the flames and to save life and property, and you would do it with as much cheerfulness and energy as you would if it were in the towns and cities from which you have come.

We honor you for the grand service which you render to humanity, and for the noblespirit which prompts and sustains you in that service, and we reach out to you the hand of hearty welcome, hoping that you may enjoy yourselves while in the midst of us, and that you may carry away pleasant memories of this occasion. And I want to say further, that if any of you should be so favorably impressed with Newberry and her people as to decide to make your home with us in the future, and to seek amongst us the remuneration of any honorable business, trade or profession, we will try and make room for you and help you on to success.

The address of welcome was responded to by President J. R. Hayes on behalf of the South Carolina Volunteer Fireman's Association. Mr. Hayes spoke as follows:

#### PRESIDENT HAYNES' RESPONSE.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Mr. Mayor and Fellow Firemen: In behalf of the State Volunteer Firemen's Association I thank you for your address of welcome. It has always been the custom in these affairs to have a set speech in response to the address of welcome. But I see here some old firemen. We have a team visiting here from North Carolina, our sister State. Now, I am going to call on the captains of the teams here and let them respond with a short address.

#### OTHER RESPONSES.

Mr. B. J. Swinston, Captain of the Charlotte Reel Team, was the first to respond, and he did so in a few well chosen words. He was followed by Chief Daly and President Shields, of Columbia, and President I. W. Bowman, of Orangeburg.

Mr. Bowman was freely applauded when he referred to the women of Newberry. He said in part: I say that we are glad to be here, and when our friend the Mayor was bragging upon the great lawyers and doctors and preachers of Newberry we looked to hear him say something about the beautiful ladies, but somehow he didn't. But, gentlemen, I stand before you as a man who knows some of the Newberry women and I say that for purity and progress and for the women that tend to make the best men in this State, Newberry is the equal of any in the world. Why, two of our men came here once on a visit and each of them came back and got a wife and they are two of the best women you can find anywhere. We have men in our town for as many more of these ladies as our boys can get. My friends, I have been to nearly every one of these associations, and this is the best welcome that we have had yet, but I am glad to see the old association taking on new life, and now we will go on to victory. Let me say to you, let us learn to do like Napoleon's bugler. It is said that when one of his battles was at its best and Napoleon was defeated he turned to his bugler and said to him, blow the retreat. The bugler replied, sir, I can never blow the retreat.

Col. W. H. Hunt, who for many years was connected with the Excelsior Fire Company, was called upon for a response and spoke as follows:

#### COL. HUNT'S RESPONSE.

Ladies and Gentlemen: This is quite a surprise to me. When I was invited on the stage I did not know that my friends were setting a trap for me and it always scares me to make a speech when I am not prepared, and I am not prepared this morning. And I have very much the same feeling that one of the recent converts of one of our ministers had when called on to pray. He said: "O, Lord, come down and help your humble servant, for he is scared near unto death."

But when asked to respond in behalf of the Excelsior Fire Company I could not refuse. I could not refuse to do anything the Excelsior boys ask me to do. In days gone by they honored me in a great many ways—among others as their President—and we had some mighty good times together. And I can tell you that they are as fine a set of boys as you can find anywhere—not finer than you, of course, because South Carolina and North Carolina firemen cannot be beat the world over. I want to tell you that when these boys bid you welcome and give you the hand shake of welcome they mean it, and I can swear to the hospitality of the Excelsior boys as earnestly and just as fairly as the Irishman swore to the identity of the gun when he said he had known it ever since it was a pistol. I have known them all my life and I know that their welcome means something. They feel honored by having you in their midst, and want you to have as good a time as possible.

And now I am coming to the best