

SCHOOLS.

the Report of
W. D. Mayfield.

ON QUESTION.

Tables show general... The report has been free from... The schools have been free from... The results accomplished as great... The school law passed at your last... The enrollment for the year is... The school commissioners' reports... The school colleges, male and female... The vexed question of free tuition... Under such circumstances, and for... The act passed at your last... The year ninety-eight... The total value of school property...

country boards, and a special tax levied, under the general law... Anderson 8, special tax none; Barnwell 22, special tax 9; Berkeley 2, special tax 2; Chester 1, special tax none; Chesterfield 10, special tax 7; Clarendon 2, special tax 2; Colleton 12, special tax none; Edgefield 10, special tax 1; Fairfield 16, special tax 10; Florence 7, special tax none; Greenville 1, special tax 1; Hampton 3, special tax 1; Kershaw 7, special tax 7; Lancaster 1, special tax 1; Marion 4, special tax 2; Marlboro 1, special tax 1; Newberry 7, special tax 7; Orangeburg 11, special tax 11; Pickens 3, special tax 2; Sumter 1, special tax 1; Union 1, special tax 1; York 4, special tax 1; making a total of 137 districts, with 66 levying a special tax.

Table with 2 columns: District Name, Amount. Rows include Anderson, Barnwell, Berkeley, Chester, Chesterfield, Clarendon, Colleton, Edgefield, Fairfield, Florence, Greenville, Hampton, Kershaw, Lancaster, Marion, Marlboro, Newberry, Orangeburg, Pickens, Sumter, Union, York.

Previous to this year special school districts had been established by the... The school law passed at your last... The enrollment for the year is... The school commissioners' reports... The school colleges, male and female... The vexed question of free tuition... Under such circumstances, and for... The act passed at your last... The year ninety-eight... The total value of school property...

Spanish Promises.

The Reforms to be Instituted in Cuba.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 1.—Senor de Lorme, the Spanish minister, resident here, furnishes the Southern Associated Press the following copy of a telegram from Minister Tetuan: "In the council of ministers, presided over to-day by her majesty, the queen regent, a royal decree was signed, which will apply to the island of Porto Rico the last of reforms voted in the cortes on the 15th of March, 1895.

"The preamble to this decree is of the greatest importance, because of the statements it contains regarding Cuba. It begins by explaining the reasons why the reforms are applied to-day and wherefore this has not been done before; amongst other paragraphs, it contains the following, which, owing to their importance, I copy in their entirety:

"In the actual circumstances, the government considers that the proper time has arrived for giving to the world ample proof of its firm resolve to fulfill the engagements voluntarily contracted by the nation, by implanting and carrying into effect in Porto Rico, the form of the system of government and civil administration, voted by the cortes and sanctioned by her majesty and which, conveniently enlarged and extended, will be applied in due time to Cuba."

"In unfolding the bases of the reforms with that scrupulous care which the complex nature of the case and its many and varied problems demand, the undersigned minister has been inspired with a sense of the necessity of ample administrative decentralization, and has proceeded to the utmost limit, which the actual law allows, without diminution of the independent sovereignty of the nation. At the same time, true to the solemn promise made before parliament by its president, the government proposed to give a more ample scope to the reforms when, as a herald of peace, the happy moment arrives for the definite application of the reforms to both the Antilles as soon as possible, her majesty's government will hasten to apply to Cuba not only the reforms which form the ground work of the law applied to-day to Porto Rico, but also will extend to both provinces the reforms which have been offered with the view of a local character, which shall facilitate the complete intervention of the country in its own affairs, maintaining at the same time intact the right of sovereignty and the condition necessary to the maintenance of that right as was stated in the words her majesty deigned to address to the cortes by the advice of her responsible government upon the opening of parliament.

"The amplified reforms can be partly put into practice by means possessed by the executive government and partly will require the sanction of parliament. The government is confident that it will not encounter insuperable obstacles to its rapid action in this sense, looking to the patriotic uniformity of opinion respecting the fundamental ideas which underlie the application of the reforms. Briefly, the law of reforms voted by the cortes and sanctioned by the crown, which is to-day to be applied to Porto Rico, will form the foundation stone of the new regime; but an additional decree, account of which will be given to the cortes, will amplify to such an extent these reforms that a genuine home administration will be constituted in our Antilles, in the first instance for Cuba, but to be extended to Porto Rico as soon and at the same time as it may be possible to apply it to the former island.

(Signed) TETUAN, Minister of Foreign Affairs.

A Minority Report.
That is What Commissioner Thomas is Going to Present.

Railroad Commissioner H. R. Thomas, who has gained considerable notoriety from his row with the other members of the commission over the fertilizer rate question, was in the city yesterday. Mr. Thomas made the announcement during the day that he was preparing a minority annual report which would be presented to the general assembly.

When asked about Editor Gantt's last reply to him he stated in regard to the reference to his brother, that his kinsman had been employed by the railroad long before he was elected a railroad commissioner, and that he did not see fit to resign that position because of his (Thomas') election as a member of the board. His brother held practically the same position then that he holds now.

In regard to the reference to his son he said that the lad was a student at Clemson college. He would not study there and as a punishment he took him from college and placed him in the machine shops of the Southern railway as an apprentice. The lad, he said, had not been able to buy his own clothes at the salary he got there.

Speaking further about Mr. Gantt's card, he said: "I asked Gantt to hold up his hand and answer how much money had been contributed by my colleagues and Secretary Duncan to The Cotton Plant. Gantt evades the question by saying they hadn't given anything to his knowledge. I will give to Mr. Gantt the best that is Columbia if he will say that they have not contributed one cent to The Cotton Plant.—The State."

The Outlook in Congress.

What the Two Houses are Likely to do this Week.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—Just before the holiday recess the house of Representatives, upon the recommendation of the committee on rules, arranged the business of the House for the first week of the new year. On Tuesday and Wednesday the Loud bill to amend the postal laws so as to prohibit the transmission of the mails of serial novel publications and "sample" copies of newspapers at the second-class rate will be the special order. Discussion under the general rule will continue from the reading of the Journal on Tuesday, the 5th instant, until 2 p. m. on Wednesday, and under the five-minute rule upon the proposed amendment until 4 o'clock, when voting will begin upon the pending amendments and the final passage of the bill. When the bill was called for rather unexpectedly several weeks ago it developed surprising strength, but since then the opposition has been active, and the chances of its passage are now considered rather doubtful.

After this bill has been disposed of the rest of the week—Thursday, Friday and Saturday—will be devoted to the consideration of the Pacific Railroad funding bill, reported by Judge Powers, chairman of the committee on Pacific railroads. Two days will be given to general discussion and one day to debate and action in committee of the whole upon the proposed amendments. The bill will be reported to the House at 5 o'clock Saturday, and the vote on its passage taken on Monday, the 13th instant, immediately after the reading of the Journal.

The debate on this measure will doubtless be interesting, owing to the opposition which exists among members of the House to the action of the majority of the committee. The bill proposes to extend the Government lien over all the physical property of the companies, which, it is claimed, the present lien does not cover, and substituting for all outstanding obligations a new 4 per cent mortgage, the Government debt to be carried at 2 per cent per annum.

When the Senate meets on Tuesday morning after the holiday recess it is quite likely that the matters pertaining to our foreign relations and the position assumed by Secretary Olney for the Executive will at once begin to take shape. Whether Senator Cameron will call up the Cuban resolution on the opening day of the session is not yet known, for he has not returned to the city, and the subject is entirely in his hands. It is hardly thought that he will seek to force the issue on the opening day, owing to the fact that there is not likely to be a quorum of the Senate present.

Senator Hale, who is looked upon as the leader of the Anti-Cuban recognition sentiment in the Senate, said yesterday that several Senators who have been heretofore silent on the subject had come out against the Cameron resolutions, and there was now no possible chance for its passage.

On the other hand, Senators Cameron, Lodge, Chandler, Morgan and Mills assert that the sentiment favoring action by Congress is becoming more vigorous, and that the fighting will be forced from the start. Senator Hale, who in the absence of Senator Allison, is acting chairman of the committee on appropriations, expects to have the army bill reported to the Senate on Wednesday, and this will be put forward to antagonize the Cuban proposition.

The Harmon Appeal.
It is said that the governor will on Saturday take up the Harmon murder case. This, as is generally known, has been appealed to the supreme court, where it is now pending. It is unusual for the executive to interfere under such circumstances, but it is understood that the defense is pressing for action before Governor Evans retires from office, and that he has been told they will abandon the appeal if the governor takes up the case.

Mr. F. C. Coughman, father of the deceased, is in the city. He, with his attorney, Col. P. H. Nelson, will appear before the governor and vigorously oppose executive action at this time.—The State.

F. S. Peair is on his way to Europe for the purpose of buying for George W. Vanderbilt choice stock of various kinds to be placed on the estate near Asheville, N. C. In Scotland he will select from various herds of Ayrshire the best specimens obtainable on basis of blood and points. In Wales he will pick from the herds which roam on the mountains a number of ponies to serve as foundation of a pony stud at Biltmore. In various parts of England will buy hackneys. Crossing the islands of Jersey, Guernsey, and others of the group in search of cows and bulls of the famous island breeds. Mr. Vanderbilt is desirous of securing a few of the cattle peculiar to Brittany, but the law prohibiting the importation of cows from France makes this impossible at present.

Maceo Brought to Life.

Excitement in Habana Over the Report That he Still Lives.

HABANA, Jan. 2.—via Key West, Jan. 2.—Reports that Maceo is alive are coming constantly from the field and all tend to show that he is recuperating rapidly. Letters received in Habana from his medical attendants explain the nature of his wounds and confirm previous reports of the character of the same and repeat the same story of Zertuche's treachery. They say that Maceo with his staff came to meet Abumada under a flag of truce and that Cirujeda and his forces were ambushed. As soon as Maceo appeared, the Spaniards opened fire. Maceo being in front fell from his horse, Gomez also fell at his side. The rest of his staff, some of whom were wounded, managed to escape and reach Balmordore. Acostas' camp instantly gathered all its small forces and rushed to the assistance. They made a desperate fight and drove Cirujeda into Punta Brava, recovered the bodies and carried the apparently dead Maceo with them. He remained unconscious four days and five nights, and when prepared for burial it was found that he was still alive. As soon as he was able to be transported he was carried with the greatest care under a strong escort to the Cienega hospital, though others say to Siguaera.

It appears that the project of the Cubans as soon as Maceo is able to move is to send him to the United States, and a steamer has already been ordered for the purpose, and thus personally prove that he is alive.

Great excitement prevails in Habana over the news. It is widely discussed, even the Spaniards are talking of the possibility of his being alive. A member of the exchange produced a sensation the other day when he announced the fact and a commotion followed. Weyler's position is critical and the Spaniards are highly indignant at his constant deceptions. Threats are freely made that if Maceo is alive, Weyler will be dragged through the streets. He surely cannot return to Spain after the outbursts of joy there over Maceo's death. His last foolish utterances concerning the pacification of the Pinar del Rio have also greatly incensed the Spaniards, they knowing that it is a gross lie. The idea that there are only 500 rebels in the province is deemed simply absurd when Weyler personally admitted a fortnight ago that there existed at least 3,000. The Spaniards also ridicule the fact of the need of eight generals, twenty colonels, and 40,000 men to crush 500 famished rebels.

The low price of tobacco has not lessened the ardor of the tobacco growers as we hear that there will be more of the yellow leaf planted next year than last.—Morning Times.

Governor-elect Pingree, of Michigan, favors a law that will send to jail every person who smokes cigarettes as well as those who sell them, and declares that if such an act is passed during his term of office he will sign it.

One of the Berlin newspapers declares 300 factories in Germany have resumed operations since the recent election in this country. The proprietors of those concerns are obviously under the erroneous impression that the un-American Wilson-Gorman free trade bill is to continue in force permanently.—N. Y. Mail and Express.

One of the most remarkable divorce records is that of a Rhode Island woman who has married for the sixth time, although five of her so-called husbands are not only living but four of them were ushers at her alleged wedding. Strange to say, she will be married in a church and a clergyman has been found to perpetrate the disgusting farce.

The progressive ladies of Westfield, Ind., issued a "Woman's Edition" of the Westfield News, bearing date of April 3, 1896. The paper is filled with matter of interest to women, and we notice the following from a correspondent, which the editors printed, realizing that it treats upon a matter of vital importance to their sex: "The best remedy for croup, colds and bronchitis' Cough Remedy. For family use it has no equal. I gladly recommend it." 25 and 50 cent bottles for sale by Dr. A. J. China.

A Cure from Lame Back
"My daughter, when recovering from an attack of fever, was a great sufferer from pain in the back and hips," writes Louisa Grover, of Sardin, Ky. "After using quite a number of remedies without any benefit she tried one bottle of Chamberlain's Pain Balm, and it has given entire relief." Chamberlain's Pain Balm is also certain cure for rheumatism. Sold by Dr. A. J. China.

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SHAREHOLDERS MEETING.
THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE Shareholders of the First National Bank of Sumter, will be held at the Bank on Tuesday, Jan. 12, 1897, at 12 o'clock noon. L. S. CARSON, Cashier.

The State's Militia.

The Adjutant General's Report.

The adjutant general has prepared and forwarded his annual report to the adjutant general of the United States giving the figures showing the status of the volunteer militia force in this State. They are interesting. Under the new enlistment act the number of men in the State militia has been materially decreased.

There are now 97 active companies in the State—31 cavalry, 2 light batteries, 61 in the infantry and 3 in the naval militia. In addition to these there are 6 reserve companies as follows: Greenbrier Rifles, Fairfield; Hickory Grove Rifles, York county; Montgomery Rifles, Spartanburg; Saluda Rifles, Saluda; Mountville Light Infantry, Laurens, and a new company in Kershaw county.

The total militia is as follows: General and staff officers 47, in the cavalry 1,212 officers and men, in the light batteries 77 officers and men, in the infantry 2,398 officers and men making a grand total of 3,734 officers and men.

The number of privates is as follows: Cavalry 648, light batteries 47, infantry 1,479. The total number of commissioned officers is as follows: Cavalry 145, light batteries 12, infantry 316. The total number of non-commissioned officers is as follows: Cavalry 310, light batteries 18, infantry 603. The number of men in this State available for military duty but unorganized is placed at 20,000.

General Watts says in his report that the militia force of the State is in better condition to day than it has ever been. He also says of the new enlistment law that it has been of great benefit to the militia, as heretofore "the force was entirely voluntary."

Dragged by Wild Horses.

Presence of mind and cool nerve are what H. Fersten, a cowboy, possesses to a marked degree. To these he owes his life, which seems to have hung on a slender thread one day last week. He left Billings early one cold morning, riding a horse and leading three bronchos. He crossed the river to go to the Crow reservation, where there is no settlement, when his horse slipped and fell. This caused him to be led horses to jerk back, throwing him from the saddle and entangling his legs in the rope. The frightened horses then ran, dragged Fersten, who realized at once his awful danger and lay on his back, says a Butte special to the Philadelphia "Times".

It was necessary to act quick. So with rare presence of mind and consummate coolness he reached for his knife, opened it with his teeth, but in slugging the rope had it knocked from his hand. He then reached around to his revolver. Suffering severely from contact with the hard, frozen ground, he managed to fire, but did not hit the nearest horse fatally. Then he fired again, this time bringing down the horse, to which he clung in such a manner as to relieve him from further bruises and the strain of the rope which had already broken a small bone in his leg. The horses soon stopped, when he was able to extricate himself from the danger of his situation. He immediately mounted a horse and returned to Billings for medical aid. This instance deserves to be put down as one in which rare presence of mind and nerve were displayed, under the most trying of circumstances. But the hardy cowboy only smiled and seemed to regard it more of a joke than anything else. He blamed himself for being caught by his guard and in such a position as to be dragged by wild horses.

Richard Cornelius, cashier and for forty-two years connected with the Farmers and Planters National Bank of Baltimore, was found to be \$60,000 short in his accounts, and committed suicide by drowning in the Druid Hill Park duck pond yesterday.

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