

Review of the Session's Results.

What the Legislators Did at the Session Just Ended.

From The State.

Columbia resumed her normal condition yesterday and down about the capitol there was nothing to remind one of the fact that the general assembly which had been sitting for the past 35 days had completed its work and adjourned sine die. The early morning trains carried away a great many of the members who had remained to attend the final session, and during the afternoon nearly all the others left for their respective homes. A few are still here waiting to go out on this morning's trains. Yesterday the halls and streets were a good thing of it carrying the several departing members and their luggage to the depots. In Gov. Ellerbe's office were piles of ratified acts awaiting his perusal and approval or disapproval. He has as yet vetoed only one bill, and that was one duplicating another passed at the same session. He has not yet considered the separate coach, the Livingston "Nichols Law," or the fertilizer acts.

The members who remained in the city over yesterday looked tired and worn out with their two last days and nights of work; all seemed to be very happy, however, that they had managed to complete the business and get away in even less than 40 days that will be allowed future sessions. Some were still mad about the "sample" in vestigation matter, but their ire will be dissipated in the course of time. If it is not, it will not be the fault of the quality and quantity of the samples indulged in. Many members have gone home, too, not to return. A good many of them realized that fact. Not a few predicted that there would be much new material in the body that will next assemble in the legislative halls.

Now that the session is over and is a matter of history it may not be amiss to take a glance at its features and results. Elsewhere will be found the list of the acts resulting from the session. There are 206 of them all told. Of these 92 appeared originally as separate measures. The other 114 bills that got through and became acts came from the members of the house of representatives. Three or four of these were the acts providing for general and legislative appropriations, supplies and for polling precincts—matters of course. Another was a duplicate of an act that resulted from a senate bill.

The evil which the new constitution hoped to do away with was a feature of the session. This is the matter of special legislation. Of all the 206 acts a glance through the list shows that only 62 are measures of general application; all the rest are of a special and local character.

The principal feature of the session was the public printing matter. The bill that was made on the Reynolds bill in the house created no end of talk and no doubt will be heard from for many days to come. When the bill came along at first there was no sign of opposition to it. Never, perhaps, has such a fight been made on a bill when it came to the question of ordering it to be ratified as was witnessed when this bill reached this stage. It is safe to say that had it not been for the timely and forcible remarks from a business standpoint made by Mr. Cashman just before the vote was taken, the bill might have died then and there. All through the session the printing business kept bobbing up and not a few were expecting to hear much more of it on the last day than was heard.

When the appropriation bill came in and the committee informed the general assembly that a levy of more than five mills would have to be made unless an adjournment was had within the period that finally prevailed, the members saw that it would not do to exceed that amount and go back before their people, and from that moment every energy was banded to complete the work. The result showed what could be done when the effort was made. Up to that time the flood of new bills seemed inexhaustible, but then the faucet was hastily turned off and the active work of the session was begun.

Another feature of the session was the adherence of both houses to the preconcerted determination not to "monkey" with the liquor question. The first vote on the prohibition measure when the house refused to strike out the enacting words of the Child's bill was such a surprise to many of the members that it took their breath away for the moment. None dreamed that the strength of the prohibition sentiment as indicated by that vote was so strong. Absolutely the only legislation bearing upon the liquor business that has resulted from the session is found in the McCullough distillery act and the concurrent resolution of Mr. Kibler expressing the sentiment of the general assembly against the hotel privilege system. The senate even in the closing hours killed the Verner bill passed by the house exempting three counties from the operation of the dispensary law.

The new county fights were big features of the session and took up much time in both houses. Lee county has been established. Pee Dee county is to have a new election. If the Lee county act is as the Greenwood county act was the next general assembly may expect to speed several of its legislative days perfecting it. At this session

there were no end of bills looking to the perfecting of the Greenwood act. If the act isn't in the proper shape now it certainly ought to be.

The everlasting trouble about the county government system was very much in evidence and cost the State, as usual, much money. There was the usual procession of bills to amend the act as to certain counties. It finally resulted in the passage of the measure proposed by Senator Henderson with his jury drawing scheme dropped out of it. What effect the new act will have towards preventing amendatory bills in the future remains to be seen.

The usual fight against the South Carolina college appropriation was made and the house made its reduction only to have the Senate keep the college at a sustaining figure. It was the fight that is made year after year.

A good many fights were had over matters that go through one house only to be electrocuted in the other. The two houses towards the end of the session seemed to organize a kind of mutual execution society.

The most important acts resulting from the 35 days of legislative work were Mr. Livingston's measure as to the taxation of telegraph, express, sleeping car and other companies; Mr. DeLoach's measure putting the telegraph and express companies under the control of the railroad commission; Senator Archer's law to prevent unreasonable discrimination in charges of telephone companies, and Mr. Ashley's fertilizer label system. Provision was also made for the drawing of juries in public. The new State holidays have been provided for—Jefferson Davis' birthday and Arbor day—the third Friday in November.

The general assembly extended the time for the payment of State taxes for the year 1897 and for the payment of the commutation tax for the same year.

For 20 years efforts have been made at every session to pass a separate coach bill. This year Mr. Coughman made the fight and won, and now there is on the statute books at last such an act.

The usual fight to get the anti-free pass law made and as usual the senate prevented the house from repealing the act that Maj. Woodward had put on the statute books about the time that free passes were being much discussed. Maj. Woodward was on the floor the last night of the session, and he was having his annual chuckle of satisfaction at seeing his act stand all the onslaughts made upon it.

At this session the insurance deposit act of the preceding session was perfected, and at last provision has been made for a commission to look into the matter of establishing a juvenile reformatory in this State.

Among the acts of a general character passed may be mentioned the following: Senator Henderson's measure making the embezzlement of public funds a felony; Mr. Stevenson's resolution providing for the paving of the walks and court yard of the capitol; Senator Dennis' measure relating to the holding of preliminary examinations by magistrates; the act of Mr. DeBrulh giving protection to keepers of boarding houses; Mr. McCullough's plan for collecting taxes in towns and cities; the measure of Messrs. Patton and Winkler relating to mortgages on real estate; Mr. Meares measure making the office of State librarian elective; the resolution requiring the distribution of the supplementary school tax fund; Mr. Sullivan's law relating to arrest without warrant; the paper perfecting the sinking fund commission act, and the changing of the time for the holding of courts in the Seventh circuit.

The reelection of Chief Justice McIver and the several of the circuit judges and the making of a new judge—Mr. Gage—were among the results of the session.

Secretary of Agriculture Wilson, who is a practical farmer, we believe, and has had opportunities for extended observation at any rate, expresses the opinion that Florida is specially adapted for "dairying" and "sheep raising," as well as cattle and hog raising, and that these will some day be the "staple industries" of the State. South Carolina is even better adapted than Florida for dairying and sheep raising, yet the two industries are almost wholly neglected here. We have more natural advantages than any people on earth, and make the poorest use of them—*News and Courier.*

Madrid, Feb. 17.—A decree has been gazetted, accepting the resignation of Senor Dupuy De Lome as minister of Spain at Washington, and severely criticizing him.

The Surprise of All.
Mr. James Jones, of the drug firm of Jones & Son, Cowden, Ill., in speaking of Dr. King's New Discovery, says that last winter his wife was attacked with La Grippe, and her case grew so serious that physicians at Cowden and Pana could do nothing for her. It seemed to develop into nasty consumption. Having Dr. King's New Discovery in store, and selling lots of it, he took a bottle home, and to the surprise of all she began to get better from the first dose, and half dozen dollar bottles cured her sound and well. Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Coughs and Colds is guaranteed to do this good work. Try it. Free trial bottles at Dr. J. F. W. DeLorme's Drug Store.

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THE WRECK OF THE MAINE.

Lieut. Jno. J. Blandin Tells the Story.

Key West, Feb. 17.—Lieutenant John J. Blandin of Baltimore, one of the Maine's survivors, who is at the Key West hotel, gave the correspondent of the Associated Press this evening a succinct account of the disaster, saying that not until now has he been able to recollect the sequence of events in the awful 10 minutes following the explosion Tuesday evening. Lieutenant Blandin says:

"I was on watch, and when the men had piped below I looked down the Maine hatches and over the side of ship. I walked aft to the quarter deck, behind the rear turret, as it was after 8 o'clock in the evening, and sat down on the portside, where I remained for a while. For some reason I cannot explain to myself now, I moved to starboard and sat down there. I was feeling a bit glum, and in fact, was so quiet that Lieutenant Hood came up and asked laughingly if I was asleep."

"I said: 'No, sir; I am on watch.' 'Scarcely had I spoken when there came a dull, sullen roar. Would to God that I could blot out the sound and scenes that followed. Then came a sharp explosion, some say, numerous detonations. I remember only one. It seemed to me that the sound came from the portside forward. Then came a perfect rain of missiles of all kinds, from huge pieces of cement to blocks of wood, steel railings, fragments of gratings and all the debris that would be detachable in an explosion."

"I was struck on the head by a piece of cement and knocked down, but I was not hurt and got on my feet in a moment. Lieutenant Hood had run to the poop and I followed. He was dazed by the shock, and was about to jump overboard. I hailed him, and he answered that he had run to the poop to help lower the boats. When I got there, though scarce a minute could have elapsed, I had to wade in water to my knees, and almost instantly the quarter-deck was awash. On the poop I found Capt. Sigsbee, as cool as if at a ball, and soon all the officers except Jenkins and Merritt joined us. The poop was above water after the Maine settled to the bottom. Captain Sigsbee ordered the launch and barge lowered, and the officers and men, who had by this time assembled, got the boats out and shoved a number in the water. Lieutenant Wainwright went forward to see the extent of the damage, or to extinguish the flames which followed closely upon the explosion and burned fiercely as long as there was any combustibles above water to feed them."

"Lieutenant Commander Wainwright on his return reported the total and awful character of the calamity, and Captain Sigsbee gave the last sad order: 'Abandon ship' to men overwhelmed with grief, in deed, but calm and apparently unexcited. Meantime four boats from the Spanish cruiser Alfonso XII arrived, to be followed soon by two from the Ward line steamer City of Washington. The two boats lowered from the City of Washington were found to be riddled with flying debris from the Maine, and unfit for use. Captain Sigsbee was the last man to leave the vessel, and left in his own gig."

"I have no theories as to the cause of the explosion. I cannot form any. An examination by divers may tell something to a court of inquiry. I, with others, had heard that the Habana harbor was full of torpedoes, but the officers whose duty it was to examine into that reported that they found no signs of any. Personally, I don't believe the Spanish had anything to do with the disaster. Time may tell; I hope so."

FROM FOOT TO KNEE
Ohio Woman Suffered Great Agony From a Terrible Sore—Her Story of the Case, and Her Cure.

"For many years I was afflicted with a milk leg, and a few years ago it broke out in a sore and spread from my foot to my knee. I suffered great agony. It would burn and itch all the time and discharge a great deal. My health was good with the exception of this sore. I tried a great many kinds of salve, but some would irritate the sore so that I could hardly stand the pain. I could not go near the fire without suffering intensely. Some one sent me papers containing testimonials of cures by Hood's Sarsaparilla, and I told my husband I would like to try this medicine. He got me a bottle and I found it helped me. I kept on taking it until my limb was completely healed. I cannot praise Hood's Sarsaparilla enough for the great benefit it has been to me. It cleanses the blood of all impurities and leaves it rich and pure." *MRS. ANNA E. EAKEN, Whittlessey, Ohio.*

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A Time For Serious Study.

This is a time for serious thinking and sober reflection. The politicians have already begun showing their hands, and are seriously studying the situation, and why not the people begin now to seriously study the politicians?

There seems to be no scarcity of gubernatorial timber. Gov. Ellerbe will stand for re-election; Edgefield comes up with Col. Geo. D. Tillman and Senator Watson; Spartanburg with Senator Archer; Newberry with Senator Mower and Solicitor Schumpert; and Barnwell with Senator Mayfield. There are also others spoken of in this connection.

The struggle is between the people and the politicians, and the masses of the people should be active, cautious and wise with reference to their part of the performance.

If any one should enter the race for no higher motive than at they regard Ellerbe as a weak man, and in consequence of this they might be elevated, their stock in trade is very poor, and no such candidate should be endorsed. What we want is men of inflexible loyalty to truth, unswerving devotion to duty, unflinching rectitude—men who will "stand four-square to all the wind that blow." We should by all means have a man for Governor who measures up to such a standard as this whether it be W. H. Ellerbe or some one else.

It might be well to remember that a good deal of the "dissatisfaction" with Gov. Ellerbe's administration has its origin with the politicians—more than with the people in fact.

Then the executive chair is not the only important place to be filled, and what we would like to see is good, honest, capable and wise men—those who have the courage of their convictions—filling each of the important offices in the gift of the people, and to this end we shall continue to work, regardless of factional lines. We want less of strife and more of peace; less of political scheming and more of political honesty.—*Waterloo Messenger.*

Something New At Last.

A Cleveland small boy made his first trip to a kindergarten a few days ago, relates The Plain Dealer. When he returned home his mother asked: "Well, Spencer, what did you learn to day?"

"Oh," he said, "I learned 'cat'." "But you knew it before, but I learned it C-a-t, cat."

The next day Master Spencer came home and said he had been put in an other room.

"And what did you learn to day?" his mamma inquired.

"I learned cat, c-a-t," he answered. His mother didn't press her interrogations any further. She didn't want to shake his faith in kindergarten.

When he came home the next day he said he had been moved back into the first room.

"And is it the same old cat again?" his mamma asked.

"Same old cat," he laughed. "On the fourth day she inquired: 'And what did you learn to-day, Spencer?'"

"Oh," he said, "to day I learned it was a black cat!"

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**H. Harby.**

Sumter, S. C., February 16, 1897.

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