# The Spartan.

SPARTANBURG:

THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 1857.


### EXTRA COURT.

The sessions of our extra court commenced on Monday morning, and notwithstanding the range of thermometer has been 90 and 95, his honor Judge O'Neall has continued his labors to despatch the old business on the civil dockets. The cases are not of general importance, and chiefly of interest to the parties and the lawyers. The business of the term will probably close before the end of the week.

### SALE OF LOTS AT REIDSVILLE.

Readers will bear in mind that the sale of lots at Reidsville will take place on Saturday next. This is bound to be a thriving locality, and those who wish pleasant homes, in a good quiet neighborhood, possessing moral and educational, with many other advantages, will do well to attend the sale.

We are requested to say, that there will be a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Reidsville Schools at an early hour of Saturday, the day of sale.

### THAT CAKE.

Mr. Miller—who is beginning to deserve the title of *Confectioner to the Editors*, from the frequency of his tributes to the sanctum—sent to our office on Monday morning a beautiful Cake—heart-shaped—and embellished in a style of gorgeous perfection surpassing anything ever offered to our acceptance. On the upper surface, in frosted letters, was inscribed "*Spartan Office;*" and around the edge "*Presented by J. Miller, Spartanburg, August, 1857.*" One difficulty presents itself as to its disposition: It is too pretty to eat, and the Major suggests a glass case for its preservation. We'll think about it. In the meantime, those doubting Mr. Miller's skill can be satisfied by giving him an order.

### PEACHES.

Our good friend Charles R. Roehler, esq., of Rutherfordton, N. C., compassionating the deprivation under which we have labored this season for fruit, and particularly peaches, has sent us a package of fourteen from North Carolina, with an apology that they were the only kind to be had. Say no more—we are with peaches as the lady of uncertain age was in her prayer for a husband—glad to get any kind. Consider that we have passed a formal resolution of thanks for your kindness in furnishing us with what we did not expect even to see this season.

### SILVER CUP.

We understand that Maj. H. F. McDowell will present a silver cup as a prize to be contended for by the North Battalion of the Ninth Regiment S. C. Cavalry, at their next parade at this place, in the fall.

### THE WEATHER

Has been intensely hot since Thursday last—the thermometer, we believe, going over 95. Tuesday evening brought gusts of wind, with thunder and a light sprinkle of rain, which sensibly cooled the atmosphere.

### LADY'S BOOK.

This exquisite monthly for ladies is out for September, and is, as usual, a capital number.

SHERIFF OF POLK COUNTY.—The Asheville (N. C.) News was misinformed as to the death of George Blackwell, Sheriff of Polk County, North Carolina. He is not only not dead, but has had no difficulty to give color to such a report. This we have on the authority of one of the most respectable citizens of Polk, who lives near the village.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?—The York District Chronicle, while correcting a blunder of the North Carolina Watchman, that W. B. Johnston and John G. Bowman were about to succeed S. W. Melton in the Yorkville Enquirer, puts forward the following:

"The "Sun" of Spartanburg is hereafter to be published under the auspices of the Grand Division of the Sons of Temperance."

OREGON.—Some speculation is indulged that Oregon will establish slavery, and the Charleston News wishes to know how the Wilmot proviso, which was tacked to the bill organizing that territory, (and which bill Mr. Polk signed with a protest,) will be got rid of. It would be no difficult matter to ignore the question of slavery in a constitution, and amend it after admission so as to establish slavery. But if the Missouri compromise was unconstitutional, as decided by the Supreme Court in the Dred Scott case, the proviso tacked to the Oregon bill is no less so.

SNUG RETREAT.—Robert Schuyler, the famous defaulting railroad president of New York, is thought to be at home, near Saratoga lake, where his wife has built a handsome gothic cottage. One hundred feet from this is a snug stone structure, with high windows, out of reach of foot passengers, ostensibly built for a Roman Catholic Chapel, but which is supposed to be the domicil of the identical Robt. Schuyler, who finds access to his wife's house through a subterranean passage. He is always out when visitors are about—flying to his sanctuary.

IS IT NECESSARY (asks the Camden Journal) "that every little floating item, such as "Ex-Governor Charles J. McDonald, of Georgia, passed through Columbia on Wednesday *en route* for Virginia," should be credited to the paper in which it originally appeared?"

The system of exchange among newspapers grew out of mutual advantage, and has now become a necessity. This voluntary custom has courtesies which may not be violated, without endangering a continuance of the interchange. If we quote a line from a dead or living author, we may or not, as we please, give credit to the source from whence we drew the thought, or information, and no complaint can be urged, unless we seek to appropriate it. The book is public, and the copy-right is secured by law. Not so with papers. They are public, of course, but not copy-righted. The sharp competition for public favor leads to constant effort for early news, and as the best vehicles for attractive intelligence are likely to receive the largest patronage from the public, the incentive to exertion and enterprise are proportionally increased. When, therefore, exchanges copy ideas developed by the brains of the editor or news items gathered by the industry of paragraphists, it is but fair that the paper containing them should have the credit before the public—not only because it is a tribute to enterprise, but as compensation for gratuitous exchange. These are our views as to the question of right, though we may have violated them often in practice.

ANOTHER NATURAL BRIDGE.—A stupendous natural bridge has been discovered in Scott County, Virginia, 62 miles from Abingdon. It is 420 feet long—spanning a chasm 160 feet. The stream passing through is larger and more rapid than Cedar creek, spanned by the other Natural Bridge. Over the bridge passes a broad wagon road, and under its arch is the line of survey for the Cumberland Gap Railroad.

J. Poinsett Wells has got the appointment of route agent on the Greenville Railroad, lately held by his father.

### THE SAVANNAH RACE.

The American horses Prior and Princess made their first appearance on the English Turf in the race for the Goodwood Cup, on the 29th ult., and were beaten. Fourteen horses ran, and the Americans came in the fifth and sixth on the list. The first favorite and two other horses fell off, so that the race can scarcely be regarded as a criterion.

The race was won by the French horse Monarque.

A description of the cup we copy from the London Times of July 27th. Its value is $1,500, or, if less than that, the difference is made up in specie:

"The Goodwood Cup for this year is really what it professes to be—a cup and not a palm tree, a group of pugnacious warriors or flying steeds. It is a noble vase of oxidized silver, in the ornamented or *renaissance* style of the 16th century, and is beyond all doubt one of the most effective and artistic imitations of mediæval silver work which has yet been produced. The upper part is subdued and simple in style, being only ornamented with flat engravings of ivy leaves and berries upon a bright matted ground. The handles form an altogether novel and striking combination, and are so interlaced in the quaint, elaborate style of the *renaissance* period, as to present the effect of four winged figures of Fame rising from their base. The body is adorned with a finely executed bas-relief of Queen Elizabeth reviewing the English forces near Tilbury. The figures are beautifully chased and grouped with excellent taste, and the costumes of the soldiery are taken from the best authorities, the features and dress of the Queen from the coins of her reign. The opposite side has an ornamental tablet for inscription, enriched with bosses, wreaths and sunken damascene work. The foot is formed by crowned Tritons, supporting chased medallion portraits, after Holbein, of Lord Burleigh and Sir Francis Drake. The general effect of the whole piece is unusually striking and attractive, and the imitations of the steel damascene being perfect, gives the vase the aspect of an antique piece of family plate, rather than a work fresh from the jewelers."

All the horses have been entered by Mr. Ten Broeck for two additional races. Prior and Lecompte are entered for the Newmarket Houghton meeting, a single dash of four miles, one furlong and one hundred and seventy-three yards, run October 26th. Lecompte and Prioress are entered for the Sussex County Cup, a two mile and a half dash, at the Lewes county meeting, on the 10th inst. At the Houghton meeting, Lecompte carries 128 pounds and Prior 126 pounds, being the weights for aged and five year olds. There are thirteen entries for the Sussex County Cup, Lecompte carrying 119 pounds and Prioress 106 pounds.

It is suspected by the New York Herald that the loss of the race was intentional, to secure larger stakes or some turf advantage. If so, Mr. Ten Broeck deserves national execration. Color is lent to this surmise from a fact stated in sporting circles in England, that Prior had, within a few days before the 30th July, run 2½ miles—the length of the Goodwood course—in 4 minutes, and Monarque won in 4.59. If there was jockeying it will come out.

### A BACHELOR AMONG THE GIRLS.

"M. J. W.," the racy and graphic lady correspondent of the Charleston Courier, is "doing up" scenes and characters at the White Sulphur Springs of Virginia. In a late letter she unveils the rattle-trap nonsense of her own sex over the entre of a live and fascinating South Carolina bachelor member of Congress—whom we suppose to be none other than the accomplished Keitt:

"We were quietly seated this morning before a petite writing desk, whose hinges are decidedly out of joint, covered with inky green velvet, and stuffed full of mysterious hieroglyphical packets and papers, with odds and ends of writing for future adjustment. But we were not destined to remain long undisturbed. The outline of our head betrayed through the half closed curtain a human presence, and very soon it appeared as if every creature of our acquaintance had entered into a combination against our promized "sketch." One fair girl made her appearance with a long roll in her hand resembling that of a paper hanger, containing patterns of garlands, which were to be embroidered on a table cover nominally by her own hands, but virtually by those of every idle victim she could recruit into the service. She was soon followed by a legion of girls, who burst into our room like a whirlwind, creating dismay by the torrent of news they rattled forth. The grand topic was the arrival of a certain "*Bachelor Member*" from South Carolina, who was declared to be a terrible flirt—a perfect lady killer, a ruthless "massacreer of the innocents," and yet a sort of Prodigo, whose arrival everybody hailed. These last out-talked the pattern owner, as they would have done O'Kelly's parrot, which chattered incessantly for one hundred years. Indeed they all talked and argued simultaneously. Imagine, dear public, the din of an oil mill or the rhetorical chatter of a half dozen females in the healthy maturity of their lungs. Never did mortal before hear such a rush of sound. If a painting could affect the sense of hearing, as well as that of sight, this bevy of fair beings would have afforded the artist an inimitable original for the representation upon his canvass of the "confusion of tongues. We had only one mode of retaliation. We were in the confidence of a loose plank in the floor, and when the vociferous disputants grew tedious, we jogged it with our foot till all the heads and hands of all the mandarins were set in motion, and joined in harmonious dissonance. Alas, for the unhappy "member!" Like Napoleon, we saw already prematurely prepared the bulletin, proclaiming his "total defeat, with immense loss."

"Apropos of this distinguished gentleman. Though an obdurate bachelor, he likes to be thought to wear the willow, and endeavors to extort compassion by remote hints at the suffering he has endured from unrequited affection. It is generally supposed that he has suffered from more than one tender disappointment, having always had the misfortune to fix affections just where they cannot be returned. But those who know him well say that he invariably offers himself where he knows he will be rejected. Many a lovely girl comes before him whom he might win, from whose society, for this very reason, he quietly withdraws, to carry his sighs to some quarter where a previous engagement or some other obstacle is sure to procure him a denial. He has thus had all the pleasing pains of wooing, and has the credit of great sensibility, while he hugs himself in the safe felicity of a single life. And yet to see his looks of innocent surprise when reproved by his lady friends for his massacre of the innocents. Why the prophet Balaam could scarcely have listened in greater amazement to the reproof of the inspired quadruped. It is whispered that the cause of his celibacy is a secret attachment to some fair one. If this be so, all the attacks of our friends will be like discharging popguns against the Rock of Gibraltar."

### KANSAS.

We are gratified that the Mercury has evidence so conclusive as to warrant its editors in indulging confident hope of the success of the pro-slavery interest in Kansas:

KANSAS AND HER CALUMNIATORS.—In addition to the letters published recently from General Atchison, we beg leave to say to our readers, that from other letters received from Kansas, we are informed that the pro-slavery party in Kansas is resolute in its determination of making Kansas a Slave State. In consenting to become a Democratic party, the pro-slavery men did not mean to abandon their policy, but to lift the minority it placed with them to their support. The statements which have been circulated in the South, that they had acquiesced in Gov. Walker's schemes to make Kansas a Free State, are utterly false. They thoroughly understand and detest him, and hope to make him as powerless as Geary. Gov. Walker, with the authority and patronage of the General Government, might hereafter succeed in dividing, paralyzing, and finally defeating them. This is possible. But on the 21st day of last month they were confident of success, and would form a Constitution with slavery acknowledged in it. If this Constitution is referred to the people for ratification, it is intended to refer it only to the registered voters, who will doubtless ratify it. We have more hopes of Kansas than we have ever had. We have great faith in the fighting capacities of Southern men.

GEN. WALKER.—The Washington "States" says:

If Gen. Walker leaves this country again for Nicaragua, he will do so without any violation of our "neutrality laws;" nor will he, in our humble opinion, pursue any course calculated to involve this Government in difficulties.

For the Carolina Spartan.

### SOUTH CAROLINA COLLEGE.

As I observe that your paper, with many others, has announced that I have declined the Professorship to which I was recently invited by the Board of Trustees of the South Carolina College, I ask room in your columns for this communication.

In declining to accept the appointment, I am influenced by no feeling of hostility to the College, nor by any unwillingness to contribute, as far as my abilities might enable me, to the prosperity of that honoured Institution. I make this remark lest it should be supposed that my present position as an officer in another College had influenced me in my decision. A graduate of the South Carolina College myself, all the recollections and associations of my early life forbid the entertainment of a feeling or a wish in the slightest degree inimical to it. Nor can I see any more reason in a narrow-minded jealousy of its success, than I can find in a like feeling on the part of Christians of one name at the prosperity of those who happen to be called by another.

The reasons which control my decision in the matter are simply these: 1st. My full conviction is, that, in the present circumstances of our State College, the most cordial unanimity on the part of those who shall compose the Faculty is absolutely indispensable to its existence. The Trustees, at their late extraordinary meeting, not having filled the vacant offices, and especially the Presidential chair, I find myself unable to form any opinion whether such harmony is probable in the future organization. I do not pretend to doubt that it will be the aim of the Trustees to secure this unanimity in the selections they shall make. But with the purest intentions all men are liable to mistake. Such would seem to have been unfortunately the case in the last organization. In Sectarian Colleges this bond of union is found in their very constitution. The Trustees and the Faculty are all of one religious creed. In Colleges unendowed, and wholly dependent upon the extent of their patronage for their success, interest constitutes such a bond of union. In our State College, it occurs to me, such a bond of union might be found, if the Faculty were chosen from its own alumni—in the common affection they would feel for their alma mater—in those recollections and traditions of their youth which memory delights to cherish—and in that generous and praise-worthy ambition which would inspire them to maintain unimpaired the noble reputation which their College had won in former days.

2dly. Another consideration which has had its influence upon my determination of this question, is the proposal now before the Board to make organic changes in the Institution. The grounds of my opposition to the conversion of the College into a University, I propose to submit in another letter on that specific point. I would only remark here, that it appears to me an unfortunate time for the proposed alteration, even if it were desirable under other circumstances. There are those who are opposed to the College, for various reasons, and it is presumable that the late action of the Board will excite opposition among some who were formerly friendly, and the ranks of the discontented and the hostile may be swelled by the addition of those who, though in favour of the College, are inimical to the University.

I have deemed it proper to say thus much for the satisfaction of my numerous friends who have kindly urged my acceptance, and to prevent any misapprehension of the motives which have governed me in declining an honour which I trust I duly appreciate, and for which I feel profoundly grateful.

I am, very respectfully, yours, &c.,

WHITEFOORD SMITH.

WOFFORD COLLEGE, Aug. 12, 1857.

### STATE OF INDIA.

The last accounts from Europe bring evidence that the India revolt is more wide-spread than at first dreamed of, though no doubt is entertained of its ultimate suppression.

The Bombay Times of July 1 says that the rebellion is universal in the Bengal army, and even the Seventeenth Regiment Native Infantry, which was publicly thanked by the Governor General in person for its loyalty three weeks before, had been disarmed.

Not a symptom of dissatisfaction has yet appeared in the Madras army, which manifested perfect loyalty, and repelled indignantly every attempt made to seduce them from their allegiance by emissaries from the Bengal troops.

The ex-King of Oude and his minister have been found to be at the bottom of the conspiracy, in conjunction with the pensioned King Delhi, and it is asserted that discoveries of other Mohammedan Princes being concerned in it has led to the disarming of all the native troops at Calcutta and in the neighborhood, with the exception of a body guard, which is composed of picked and well tried men, many of the disarmed men have since deserted.

In Calcutta and the neighborhood great excitement existed, owing to the discovery of a conspiracy for a general uprising on the part of the Mussulman population, and seizure of the city by them. The inhabitants keep themselves armed, and the public buildings, hotels and other principal places are garrisoned by sailors belonging to ships in the river. The French Consul at Calcutta called together all the French inhabitants and captains of French vessels, and desired them to furnish and equip a company of armed men to watch over the safety of the European community.

A letter from Binney Company, (a highly respectable firm,) dated Madras, June 27, states positively that official intelligence had reached Madras on the previous day of the fall of Delhi.

CHINA.—Further details of the naval operations in the Canton River state that on the 27th of May thirteen junks were destroyed, and that on the 28th twenty-seven heavily armed junks were captured.

On the 18th of June, two thousand of the British naval force were engaged, and captured a fort, and took or destroyed one hundred and twenty seven jupks, mounting over nine hundred guns, with 9,000 men. The British lost three officers and eight men, and fifty six wounded—some mortally.

At Hong Kong, the export of tea from the 1st of July, last year, to the 10th June, was 68,468,000 pounds; and of silk 72,569 bales.

The United States frigate San Jacinto remained at Hong Kong.

ALIEN SUFFRAGE.—The Washington correspondent of the Charleston Mercury says that the Intelligencer republishes *in extenso*, from Crallé's Writings of Calhoun, a speech pronounced in the United States Senate, in 1836, by that distinguished statesman, on "Alien Suffrage," in which he says that "to suppose that a State can make an alien a citizen of the State—*or, to present the question more specially, can confer on him the right of voting*—would involve the absurdity of giving him a direct and immediate control over the action of the General Government, from which he has no right to claim protection, and to which he has no right to present a petition."

HON. R. B. RHETT.—The Chester Standard seems to entertain our views as to the propriety of restoring Mr. Rhett to the Senate:

"A writer in the Laurensville *Herald*, in a long article, sets forth the claims of Hon. R. B. Rhett. This is copied and endorsed by the Charleston *Mercury*. But, notwithstanding this indicates a good deal, and notwithstanding there is much wholesome truth in what this writer says, we are not disposed to favor the elevation of Mr. R. to this trying and very important post. We think he lacks that coolness and deliberation which are essential in a Senator. We concede to him exalted patriotism and talents of a high order, but he is impulsive and too little inclined to prudence and caution. We need a considerable measure of his fire there, but not all of it. We believe in fire; but we don't want every thing burnt up yet exactly."

The Savannah *Republican* learns that the Rev. J. P. Boyce, of Greenville, S. C., has been elected President of Mercer University.

### SPARTANBURG AND UNION RAILROAD.

The annual meeting of the Stockholders in the Spartanburg and Union Railroad took place in the Court House of this town, on Wednesday, the 12th instant, when Col. H. H. Thomson was called to the chair, and T. B. Jeter, esq., of Union, was appointed Secretary.

As soon as the Committee on Proxies reported through its chairman, Maj. Geo. W. H. Legg, that a majority of the stock was represented, the Report of the President and Directors was read. This report is as follows:

OFFICE SPART AND UNION R. R. COMPANY,
UNIONVILLE, August 10th, 1857.

*To the Stockholders of the Spartanburg and Union Railroad Company.*

GENTLEMEN: Before proceeding to lay before you the transactions of the last fiscal year, we propose to direct your attention to the statement of our financial condition, embodied in our report made to you in August, 1856, which, for the purpose of refreshing your memories, we quote as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Received from all sources, in cash, stocks and notes, | $650,733 62 |
| Paid out on requisitions and vouchers, | 631,108 92 |
| Leaving this balance of unexpended receipts, | $19,624 70 |
| To which balance add the subscription still due our company by stockholders, | 97,729 38 |
| Making our assets yet unexpended, | $117,354 08 |
| We ascertain our indebtedness to this date to be | $171,462 30 |
| From which deduct assets, | 117,354 08 |
| The remainder, | $54,108 22 |
| Is the debt of the company after all assets are exhausted. | |
| It to the amount of cash expenditure already paid towards the construction of the road, say | $631,108 92 |
| We add the amount now due contractors, say | 171,462 30 |
| We ascertain that there has been expended towards the construction of our road, | $802,571 22 |
| To the last amount we should add | 400,000 00 |
| Which we consider necessary to finish the road. | |
| Making the total cost of construction (One million two hundred and two thousand five hundred and seventy-one 22-100 dollars) | $1,202,571 22 |

Since our annual meeting our resources have been confined to the assets then reported. We were then struggling against difficulties and disasters, and were attempting the passage of Broad River and its bottoms—the point on our line of road offering the greatest difficulty to our progress. Concentrating our energies on a given point, we effected the passage, and landed on the Spartanburg and Union ridge early in the spring.

Immediately before us lay (for three miles) the largest mass of grading on the whole line. Upon it we operated our available forces, and have removed all the obstructions which would interfere with a steady and continuous laying of the track to Unionville.

At our present terminus (in Mr. Alston's field, half a mile on this side of the bridge) we have erected "Unionside Depot," for the reception of our freights. At this point we have been compelled to pause, in consequence of being unable to raise out of our assets or *credit* the cash or available paper to an amount sufficient to make a *small purchase of iron*—by which we could *advance* the track to the top of the ridge, and by doing so attain a *good business point* for our road, and hotels or inns for the accommodation of passengers and our operatives. How long we must rest at this uncomfortable position time and chance must determine

Unable to effect anything by remaining longer on the line of road below, we moved to the office of the company at Unionville, where we have spent much of our time, in the investigation of accounts, and the review of our affairs and condition generally. The result of our labors we shall now proceed to lay before you.

Of our assets, say $117,354 08, reported at our annual meeting last year, we have realized and paid out over $50,000 (fifty thousand dollars) *on our debts and ten thousand on construction and repairs.* We calculate, in future settlements, to exchange $40,000 more of these assets for $40,000 of our debts. This will reduce the sum of our assets to $27,354.

To what extent we shall be able to realize on this balance we are not prepared to make even a conjecture. Compared with a subscription of $750,000, it might be considered a *close collection*, when we come to consider *the number of stockholders who have left the State since that subscription was made!*

The following statement will show you the condition of our debt, its increase and its reduction:

| | |
|---|---|
| Our debts, reported August, 1856, were | $171,462 |
| To which add amount of requisitions for unsettled contracts before and since that date | 28,878 |
| Add accounts audited and passed | 1,748 |
| Indebtedness, say | $202,088 |
| Reduced by payments already made, | 40,000 |
| Leaving | $162,088 |
| Against which we have assets to the amount of $67,354, out of which we calculate to exchange for our debts as above stated, | 40,000 |
| To this last amount, say | $122,088 |
| We should add an amount for *unsettled balances due contractors, before and since our annual meeting*, estimated by Maj. Mills at | 15,400 |
| Making our indebtedness | $137,488 |
| Against which we only have $27,354, being the balance of our assets. | |

A detailed statement of the accounts due *creditors*, the payments made them, and showing the balance still due them on the account, is herewith presented to the present convention of stockholders, amounting in the aggregate to $162,088 02.

Also, an estimate, in detail, showing the amount, quality, and *cost*, of materials, machinery, and rolling stock necessary *to complete the road*, and to *put it into profitable operation*, amounting in the aggregate to $351,450.

We need not, in this report, again call your attention to the trials and difficulties through which our company has passed.

These subjects were brought fully to your attention in our August and October meetings, 1856, and in the February meeting of the present year.

The compromise between our company and the creditors (effected in the February meeting) resulted in a confession of judgment to D. Goudelock, Esq., as trustee for all the creditors, to an amount sufficient to cover and secure their debts, *with a stay of levy* until the 1st February, 1858. This compromise secures creditors, and gives to our company *time* to make a last effort. Surely you are not prepared to yield your Railroad for the amount of debts due by the company!

After the most anxious deliberations on the various plans suggested for our assistance, we believe that in our present crisis an application to the State of South Carolina for an endorsement of our bonds presents the best, if not the only, prospect of relief.

Notwithstanding our company have already expended on the road nearly seven hundred thousand dollars in cash—to be increased in future settlements some forty thousand more, to which should be added the amount of contractors' debts, making in the agregate near nine hundred thousand dollars actually expended in the construction of our road—yet, when we have attempted to issue our bonds for the completion of the road, and these bonds secured by a first mortgage and the only lien, *we have not been able to raise five thousand dollars from their sale!*

An endorsement, then, of our paper by the State appears to be our only chance. The prostrate credit of our company, like an individual, needs propping. The State of South Carolina can do this without the risk of loss. Her wisdom in rendering such assistance to another road—in embarrassed circumstances—enabled that company to save their stock, to make it valuable, and to be a public benefit to the population at large.

Railroads *are public benefits to the country!* They offer facilities for the expeditious transit of freight and passengers which nothing has yet been discovered to rival. Why should not all who are benefited by railroads be *taxed* for *their construction in proportion to their interest to be benefited?*

At present the liberal and generous few tax themselves for the construction, while those who are to receive the greatest benefit stand aloof, witness their struggles, and deny to them their aid and assistance! A law should be enacted to reach this class. They should be taxed in proportion to the benefits that are to accrue to them, and be made to feel that *they are a part of the community in which they live.*

Failing to get the endorsement of the State, you have the option of raising a sum sufficient to pay the debts, *or suffer the debts to sell the road!*

At your annual meeting, on the 8th and 9th days of August, 1855, you passed the following resolution:

"*Resolved*, That the Secretary and Treasurer, in connection with the President and Chief Engineer, be required to make up a detailed itemized statement, in chronological order, of the whole expenditure of funds on account of the company, with specifications as follows: For what class of work the payments have been made: in what sums, and in what years; how much has been drawn on State subscriptions; how much of the State stock has been sold, and at what prices; how much has been paid for iron, etc.; by whom and to whom paid; in short, a sheet of items, charged regularly on the debit and credit principle; and that said officers do report the same for publication to the Directon, by or before the 1st Monday in November."

This resolution called for a mass of information, requiring much labor, time, and investigation.

On assuming the management of the road, we failed to find among the papers of the company any statements corresponding to the requirements of this resolution; and therefore set to work with the hope of being able to comply with its demands, and, if possible, to furnish you the information. So much of our time and attention have been engaged in other departments of our road, that we have been allowed only intervals of time to devote to the work.

The result of our investigations are herewith *presented* to the Direction, and by them to the stockholders, embodied in three books.

The result of the investigation, it is our pleasure to add, proves the integrity and honesty of your disbursing officers.

It is a matter for regret that the resolution was not complied with at the time, since the information is valuable, and would have aided us greatly, at the commencement of our charge of the road, in establishing a better feeling in the company, and a better credit also.

The large amount of money which has been expended on the road, with only 20 miles finished for the locomotives, no doubt gave grounds for suspicion to the minds of stockholders.

A review of the early history of our enterprise explains to our mind very satisfactorily many reasons for the increased cost of your road over the original estimate.

In the original survey, made up Broad river, the first line of location ran up the level bottoms, and, as we understand, was the basis for the original estimates. The August freshet of 1852 soon after demonstrated that this line of location was exposed and unsafe, and was buried by that freshet ten feet deep! This fact induced the Direction, for sensible and prudential reasons, to change the original location to a location that would be *five feet above* the point of high water ascertained by that freshet. This you will see raised the grade line fifteen feet higher than the original line, and made it necessary *for safety to move the location to the hill sides, skirting the low lands.* The valley of Broad river is walled in by hills and spurs rising abruptly from the low lands and river in a short distance to very considerable elevations. These spurs are cut up and divided by numerous deep ravines, in a majority of cases requiring large culverts to pass the water, which descends to the river like mountain torrents, and over which (for the sake of elevation to the five feet point above high water mark) we have heavy embankments.

In adjusting the grade line to the topography of the route, the line has necessarily passed through the spurs and over the ravines. A succession of cuts and fills, from near Alston to the river crossing, is the result of the change of location, which gave us safety from high rivers, but a difficult and an expensive line to build.

The change of location, it was estimated at the time, would increase the cost $2,000 per mile; but on the line we have attempted to describe it would be difficult to estimate with accuracy, since experience has proven the hills to contain granite rock almost without exception from Alston to Shelton. This difficulty in the calculation will become more apparent to you when you consider that only 10 cents per yard was paid for grading earth, while for loose rock it was from 30 to 40 cents, and for hard rock 75 cents to $1 00—increasing in price for certain depths in a cut.

The calculation up the level bottoms, where embankments would predominate, could be arrived at with great accuracy. The calculation for the grading through the hills, for the reason of the classification of the work above stated, could only be an approximation.

Our line, as now located and built, is exposed in but few places to the action of high water currents. The banks can be protected against their action by additional earth, and setting them in grass and willow trees.

In addition to the increased cost of grading by the change made in location, iron will add a large item to the expense of construction.

When the estimates were made iron was at its lowest point and, the Direction failing to secure it at that time, adds $100,000 to $150,000 to our present estimates.

The elevation of the bridge 14 feet above high water adds to the item of expense also. The bridge has cost us $80,000. The change of location was done for prudent reasons, and appears to have met your approbation in convention and meetings, which from the record we ascertain to be the fact.

During these meetings you finally decided to have a "*first class road*, with low grades—straight lines—soft curves—and solidly constructed.

Passing over your line from Spartanburg to Alston and from Alston to Spartanburg, no one can doubt that the Engineer, Maj. Mills, has laid out and graded you a first class road. Would that the rails extended to your terminus, and the locomotive could carry us to it, and that we could report the work finished, and the road in successful operation.

The large amount of expenditure already made is distributed along *and over the whole line*, and accounts satisfactorily to our minds where the money has been expended. The vouchers of your disbursing officers explain "*to whom and for what" the money has been paid.*

We desire to bring to your attention that part of the "Air-Line Railroad" projected from Newberry to Chester, or to some point below the village, on the line of the Charlotte and South Carolina Railroad. Our bridge is located over Broad river, very nearly on *an air line* between the two villages; and should the road be built, it will, we believe, be to the interest of our company to subscribe to the capital stock of that company *half the cost of our bridge*—say $40,000—taking that company into equal partnership in the bridge, and thereby saving to us half the expense of *repairs and building.* This arrangement would save that company the expense of building a bridge over Broad river—say $60,000 or $80,000!

Many other advantages, by the junction and connection, might result to each company, and to our population generally.

The construction of that road would precisely fulfil what we all so much desired at our convention, when we made the final location of our road. The friends of the "Cornwell route" would be accommodated—as would the "friends of the Tinker Creek route," and the friends of the Ridge route also.

The report of our Superintendent, Mr. O. T. Gibbes, is herewith presented, for the information of the Direction and Stockholders. It contains condensed information of the Transportation Department.

Maj. J. Y. Mills, our Chief Engineer, tendered his resignation in January last; but has not deserted us, and still continues to afford us the benefit of his counsel, as well as his aid and assistance—still discharging the duties of the office when required by the company.

Our Secretary and Treasurer, John H. Evins, Esq., having resigned his situation at our last annual meeting, we have been compelled to act ourselves in that capacity, not having been able to induce a competent man for the occasion to take the situation.

Dr. B. F. Rawls, however, stepped forward to our aid, and has rendered us much valuable service.

We are also indebted to H. W. Rice, Esq., whose knowledge of book-keeping and classification of accounts has aided us in being prepared to furnish you the information asked in your resolution.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN L. YOUNG, Pres.

The report was referred to a committee, of which J. W. Tucker, esq., was chairman, who, at a meeting held at night, (over which Col. T. N. Dawkins presided,) reported on the financial condition of the road, showing that its affairs were in such a state as to lead to ardent hope that the road might be completed within two years, should the Legislature look favorably upon the proposition to endorse the bonds of the Company. The report closed with a resolution, [illegible] President and Directors to appoint two delegates from each of the Districts of Spartanburg, Union, Newberry, and the city of Charleston, to memorialize the Legislature on this subject, and give to the members whatever information might be promptly in the course of the application for endorsement of the bonds of the Company.

This resolution and the report were adopted, and the convention adjourned.

At a meeting of the Directors, held after the adjournment of the Convention, the following gentlemen were appointed to memorialize the Legislature:

*Charleston*—S. S. Farrar and W. [illegible], Esqs.

*Fairfield*—Ex-Gov. J. H. Means and Col. Allston.

*Union*—A. W. Thomson, Esq., and Dr. J. H. Dogan.

*Spartanburg*—President J. W. Tucker and Maj. T. O. P. Vernon.

We are not in possession of the official proceedings, and must content ourselves with this meagre sketch, as we took no notes. The authorized report will doubtless appear as soon as the Secretary can prepare it.

### KANSAS.

We publish in our columns to-day, says the Charleston Mercury, a letter from Col. Alpheus Baker, enclosing extracts from letters he has received from General Atchison. We commend these letters to the careful perusal of our readers. They will see that the assertion so widely circulated throughout the South, that the pro-slavery party in Kansas had given up the contest to make Kansas a Slave State, is a mere falsehood. We argued as much, as our columns will show, from the facts themselves, as far as they were disclosed. Thank God, Kansas is not yet lost—all the lies to the contrary notwithstanding.

EUFAULA, ALA., August 8, 1857

*To the Editors of the Charleston Mercury:*

GENTLEMEN: I received this morning, from Gen. Atchison, letters from which I make for publication the following extracts, shedding light upon the real position and hopes of Southern men in Kansas, refuting the slander now widely circulated that our leaders there have abandoned the struggle for the rights of the South, and properly characterizing the base suspicions which have been whispered in some quarters, even against the Executive Committee whom I had the honor lately to represent before the people of the South, and South Carolina especially, in their appeal for pecuniary aid.

Very truly and respectfully,

ALPHEUS BAKER, JR.

CLINTON Co., July 12, 1857.

*Col. A. Baker:*

DEAR SIR: A week or two since I received a letter from you; also I have read letters from you to Colonels Buford and Boone. You have nobly discharged the trust we have reposed in you. You have laboriously, eloquently and energetically done *your* duty to the South; all this you have done, and every true and honest Southern man must, sooner or later, acknowledge it and thank you in his heart for it. Your mission was a difficult one, and you have been misconstrued by some and wantonly slandered by others. Yet, if it is any consolation to you, you must know that in this you stand not alone. Indeed, every man who has taken an open and manly part in defence of Southern rights, has encountered the abuse of the North, and, what is still worse, the sneers and detraction of Southern men. The most ready weapon which comes to the hands of a *mean man in the South*, is, that the end we have in view is not the rights and interests of the slave States, *but our own.* They insinuate that the money raised in the South is not to be expended in her cause, but to be appropriated to the use of Atchison, Buford, Russell, Boone, Stringfellow, &c. Now, every intelligent man who uses such weapons *is a liar*, and is conscious of being so when he circulates or publishes such a charge; and try him in any emergency, when the South shall stand in need of all her sons, and he will prove himself a coward or a traitor, or both.

I see that not even thunder and lightning will arouse the South. I doubt whether an earthquake—a moral and political earthquake, shaking the institution of slavery to the earth, and bringing ruin upon the whole South, would arouse her to action. In a word, my only hopes now for Kansas are in the border counties of Missouri; and, by the by, any one of ten counties I could mention have expended more money than any one State of the whole South in this cause. The Executive Committee for Kansas Territory will have a meeting on the 18th of this month; for consultation, when you shall hear from us.

If the South would but do half her duty, Kansas would be a Slave State; and I hope we will be able to effect that object, notwithstanding the apathy of the Slave States and the energy of the Free States, and all the open or secret efforts of the officers of the Federal Government.

Yours, truly,

(Signed) D. R. ATCHISON.

In a letter to me of the 20th July, disheartened by the indifference of the South to their appeals for assistance, and more deeply wounded by unjust charges against some of the best and truest of her friends in Kansas, who have ruined themselves in her service, he says despondingly:

At times I have almost come to the conclusion to curse Kansas and quit the cause of the South. It is hard for a man to devote all his time and energies and money to a cause, and receive nothing but abuse and slander in return from those who should sustain and co operate with him; and to be the object of suspicion even to good men, is worse than all. Yet, in defiance of all this, I will not abandon our cause so long as there is the shadow of a chance for success, and this is the determination of most of our friends in Kansas and Missouri. Our cause is not a hopeless one. We always have had, up to the 1st of March last, a majority of friends in Kansas, and I believe we still have. I will give you my reasons for still thinking so: The registered votes amount to near ten thousand, and this registry was made last winter and spring, and at least *nine-tenths of these voters are pro-slavery men*, for the Abolitionists refused, as a general thing, to register their names, and the reason for their refusal was, in my opinion, that they knew they were in a small minority. *It was not to preserve their consistency*, for Abolitionists are consistent in nothing but villainy. Now, if our Delegates to the Convention shall refer the Constitution to the registered voters for ratification or rejection, then we will ratify the Constitution. If it is to be referred, as Gov. Walker says, to all the people who shall be in the Territory on the day of voting, then we *must and will* have a majority at the polls on that day. If the South would but make one speedy and *united* effort, all would be safe. If Walker's plan, however, prevails, it will give us infinite trouble, but it will also give the Abolitionists more. Walker has done us and our cause more injury than Hale, Chase, or any other Abolitionist could have done; yet, I repeat, I do not despair. ONE MORE EFFORT! It is the last we can make, and we will succeed.

I am happy to find that Walker is fully understood at the South. A great many Southern men have gone to Kansas this summer, and many more will go from this region. We do not give it up. I regret that I cannot devote my whole time to our Kansas affairs in this crisis. Now is the time for the South to act.

Yours, truly,

(Signed) D. R. ATCHISON.

### SOUTHERN COMMERCIAL CONVENTION.

AUGUSTA, August 14.—In the Commercial Convention at Knoxville, on Wednesday, the Business Committee reported against Free Trade and Direct Taxation; against the South's receiving goods from States which do not uphold the Fugitive Slave law; and against the discrimination by the Federal Government in favor of foreign mail lines from Northern ports.

The Committee reported in favor of exempting one slave to each slaveholder from seizure for debt; in favor of erecting Arizona into a Territory; and in favor of recovering certain land lost by a recent Treaty with Mexico.

The committee also reported that the time had not arrived for the Convention to consider the project of re-opening the African slave trade.

A resolution was adopted, advocating the withdrawal of the United States squadron from the African coast.

A resolution in favor of Montgomery, Alabama, as the place of meeting for the next Convention, was adopted.

### NEWS.

A [illegible] Bank, Hillsboro, County, N. C., [illegible] ult., under