MEMPHIS APPEAL

—BY—

GALLAWAY & KEATING.

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To Contributors and Correspondents:

We solicit letters and communications upon subjects of general interest, but such must always be accompanied by a responsible name.

We will not return rejected communications.

All letters, communications, or anything else for the APPEAL, should be addressed

GALLAWAY & KEATING,
282 Second street,
Memphis, Tenn.

M. C. GALLAWAY, | J. M. KEATING.

MEMPHIS APPEAL

THURSDAY MORNING, JAN. 4, 1877.

GOVERNOR HARRIS'S ELECTION CONCEDED.

All our information from Nashville, both private and public, concur in the opinion that Governor Isham G. Harris, of this city, will be elected senator for the long term. Knowing the utter impossibility of defeating him, and conceding his certain election, the aspirants for the short term are preparing for a prolonged struggle, which should be disposed by a legislative caucus. The friends of Governor Harris are rejoiced at the certainty of his election. He is essentially a representative man of the State of Tennessee, and of the southern Democracy. As a member of congress when a young man, and as governor of Tennessee, he won for himself a reputation for incorruptible honesty and great abilities. The people of Tennessee have tried him and he has always proved faithful to every trust committed to his care, and has been equal to every emergency in which he has been placed. No public man in Tennessee, or in the southern States has a more honorable record, whether personal, official or political. It is absolutely without spot or blemish, and no breath of suspicion has ever been breathed against his fair fame. Being the soul of honor, a dishonorable action is abhorent to his whole nature. Nothing can induce him to condone a measure which his own high and delicate sense of honor condemns. This predominating traits of character grapples his personal friends to him, and commands the respect of enemies. The strength which Governor Harris has developed before the people and in the legislature, indicate that the Democrats of Tennessee are determined to send our ablest men to the senate—men peculiarly suited for the councils of the nation in the discussion of the great questions which involve the stability of the republic. Governor Harris is the kind of man the people want in the senate—the kind sorely needed there. His intellect is comprehensive, deep and searching, and his untiring industry, energy and indomitable, will at once give him a front rank among such men as Thurman and Bayard. No man did more toward achieving the great Democratic majority for Tilden in Tennessee than did Governor Harris. He canvassed the State, and his speeches were unsurpassed in ability. In the APPEAL, of Wednesday next, we will have the pleasure of announcing the election of this eminent statesman to the senate of the United States.

WHAT WOULD FOLLOW TILDEN'S INAUGURATION.

The overthrow of the fraud by which it is proposed to elect Hayes, and the inauguration of Tilden as President of the United States, will be the signal for the general restoration of confidence with which will come peace and prosperity. Idle capital will seek legitimate channels; idle workmen will find work; business will resume an activity unknown; sectional strifes, which the Radicals have fostered, will be forgotten in a general era of National harmony, and the country will bound forward with renewed impetus. Such will be the result of the overthrow of the conspirators. In every part of the country we hear the same unvarying cry that business is virtually paralyzed; times are hard; and constantly growing harder; money is scarce and constantly growing scarcer. There never were as many persons out of employment as now; never as much financial embarrassment among all classes; never as much uncertainty and distrust in every department of commercial and industrial enterprise. This unfortunate condition of affairs is partly attributable to other causes besides the political situation; but were it not for that situation and the doubt and danger which accompany it, there would be a cheering prospect of brighter and better days. To suppose that the peaceful inauguration of a President who is no President will be a panacea for all our ills is supremely ridiculous. The remedy will aggravate instead of cure the disease. Instead of pouring oil upon the troubled waters, it will be oil poured into an already fiercely-burning fire. We firmly believe that if Tilden obtains the office to which he has been elected the nation will speedily enjoy the peace and prosperity it so sadly needs; and we just as firmly believe that if Hayes obtains the office to which he was *not* elected national peace and prosperity will be postponed indefinitely, if not forever.

APPEALING TO THE PEOPLE.

Despairing of the inauguration of Tilden, many Democrats give up the contest, and philosophically appeal to the people for redress. This reliance would be like leaning upon a broken reed, as it is truthfully shown by a cotemporary that "four years from now the parties would gather up their strength for a great struggle, and the contest would be far more bitter even than the last. The Republicans would probably be beaten, as they were last year, but by more decisive majorities. What of it? This year it was easy, with no previous preparation, to turn the electoral vote of two States by means of the manipulation of the returning boards. They voted for Tilden; they were counted for Hayes. What is there to prevent three or four, or, if necessary, half a dozen States being turned at the next election, if necessary, to keep power in the hands of the Republican party? The same men who have carried out this infamous conspiracy would still be at the head of the government, and would probably have been preparing for such an emergency during all the next four years. The army of officeholders would have increased by thousands—it grew under Grant fully twenty thousand—the army and navy would be still more completely under Republican control, and all the vast power of the administration could be swayed for one purpose. How does the fair-minded citizen like this prospect? Would this be anything but a corrupt despotism under the name of a republic? Why would it not be the best for all honest citizens to say now that this wrong must not be carried through, when Republican government can be saved by peaceful means, rather than wait till the crime has been repeated, and revolution will be our only hope. Let the honest Republicans speak out now."

PERTINENT QUESTIONS.

The New York *Nation*, an able independent paper with Republican proclivities, scouts the idea that because a certain amount of intimidation occurred in the Louisiana elections honest voters should be disfranchised. "If intimidation," says the *Nation*, "is to come in, as a factor, in deciding what are the true returns of an election, no rule can be laid down for estimating its value." Apply the remark to cases of fraud and it will be found equally pertinent, inasmuch as "the amount of intimidation"—or fraud—"necessary to vitiate the gross contents of a ballot-box must always be matter of uncertainty." And again: "What kind and amount of intimidation"—or fraud—"are sufficient to justify the disfranchisement of persons who have taken no part in the intimidation" or fraud? "In cases where intimidation has been mutual, ought an account of plus and minus to be kept and a balance struck?" The questions pierce the very core of the extravagant and disorganizing theory of those who contend that because intimidation has been alleged, or fraud practiced at the polls, all the honest votes are to be regarded as tainted with intimidation or fraud and thrown out of the count. This is the plea of the rascally returning boards, and if it is to be understood that honest votes are to be discarded because dishonest votes were cast at the same poll, and that the intention of timid voters is to be taken for their act, and their votes counted as if they had cast them, we may as well have no elections at all and let "returning boards" at all points imagine results and certify them.

LOOK AT THE PICTURE.

In Louisiana the returning board was composed entirely of four Republicans, men of the most infamous character, some of them charged with having served in the penitentiary. There should have been, according to law, one Democrat on the board, but the perjured thieves and scoundrels would not have one. They went through the farce of counting the returns openly. Then they locked themselves up in a room, and threw out thirteen thousand three hundred and twenty-two Democratic votes, in order to give the State to Hayes. In Florida the canvassing board was Republican, and they threw out enough Democratic votes to give the State to Hayes. In South Carolina the canvassing board was also all Republican, and the most laughable thing connected with that farce was that four of the five canvassers were candidates for office. Of course they threw out enough Democratic votes to elect themselves and their friends. In Louisiana and South Carolina decent, honest Republicans who were counted in by these transparent, damning frauds, have declined to accept their elections. Now where is this country bumpkin, the tawny-bearded Hayes, that he don't pronounce against those villains? It is somewhat remarkable that we always found a peg loose in the cranium of a long-bearded creature.

THE APPEAL FOR 1877.

The APPEAL is so well known to the people of Arkansas, Alabama, Mississippi and Tennessee, who have been patrons and readers for nearly forty years, that it is only necessary for us to say that it will continue the same policy which has placed it beyond controversy among the foremost journals of the south. The probable election of Tilden will invest the Democratic party with the fresh responsibilities which this great trust imposes, and the APPEAL will zealously cooperate with the National Democracy in the work of reform and reconciliation between the sections. The momentous events that will transpire during the year 1877 will impart unusual interest to a newspaper. Grave issues, full of thrilling interest, will be discussed and decided, and the APPEAL will faithfully chronicle the events as they transpire. The occurrences of the year will crowd upon each other, and the APPEAL will give the history of the times.

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GRENADA POSTMASTER.

Pronounced a Demagogue, Untrustworthy and not to be Believed on His Solemn Oath.

By a Colored Republican who Knows Him Personally and Politically, and Shuns Him as a Bulldozer.

From an Appeal Correspondent.]

SARDIS, MISS., January 2.—Eighteen inches of snow, the heaviest ever known in this section of the State. Very few of our citizens were prepared for such an initiation of the new year, and a great deal of distress among all classes is the result. I inclose a you a correspondence which I would ask (in justice to a long-suffering people) a place in your columns. Price, to whom the letter refers, has, for a long time, been postmaster at Grenada, and failing recently to bulldoze the good people of that section into his way of thinking, he put forward some infamous lies, which the good readers of the APPEAL, through its columns, have been fully advised. J. T. Settle, whose name is signed to the inclosed correspondence, was chairman of the Mississippi delegation that nominated Mr. Hayes at the Cincinnati convention, and also elector for the State at large upon the Republican ticket, and stands to-day the head and front of his party in the State. Mr. Settle is a colored man, and though differing with many of us politically, still he is ever ready to frown down fraud and corruption when the welfare of a whole community is jeopardized.

SARDIS, MISS., December 19, 1876.

Hon. J. T. Settle:

SIR—Occupying the high position you do among your race, and an elector for the State at large on the Republican ticket, and knowing well that, politically and personally, you are well acquainted with Captain Price, postmaster at Grenada, who of late has been guilty of a gross misrepresentation of the people of Grenada, and the people of Mississippi in general, I would ask if you would believe the aforesaid Price upon his solemn oath, and what, so far as your observation extends, is your opinion of the man. Yours, truly,

D. B. M'HENRY.

SARDIS, MISS., December 26, 1876.

D. B. M'Henry, Esq.:

DEAR SIR—Yours of the nineteenth instant came to me sometime since, to which I would have sooner replied but for a pressing business. In your letter, you ask my opinion of Mr. William Price, of Grenada. I cannot say that I am well acquainted with him personally; politically, I think him a complete demagogue, unworthy of confidence or belief. I further think the election of such men to office is one of the causes of the recent defeat of the Republican party in this State. Respectfully yours, etc.,

J. T. SETTLE.

NEWS, reliable news. This "new principle, new way," Dr. J. H. M'Lean's cough and lung healing globules cures coughing, hoarseness, bronchitis and consumption. Trial boxes by mail 25 cts. Dr. J. H. M'Lean, 314 Chestnut, St. Louis.

The Gates of Pearl,

through which the human voice issues, should never become rusty. To keep the teeth for ever free from blemish, to render their decay impossible, it is only necessary to use fragrant Sozodont. It is antiseptic and supremely wholesome.

Governor's Message.

[*Continued from first page.*]

years, resulting in the investment of a large amount of money in our State, many immigrants have been induced to come to the State. They are generally people of substance, who have been attracted by its fertile soil and genial climate. The people have cooperated with the State officials in encouraging immigration, and their own peaceful and hospitable disposition has furnished the argument and inducement to come to Tennessee.

I recommend the repeal of the act appropriating $2000 to the bureau of immigration, and the passage of an act requiring the commissioner of agriculture, statistics and mines to perform the duties of commissioner of immigration, without additional compensation.

DRAWING MONEY FROM THE TREASURY.

I renew the following recommendation made to your predecessors:

Comptroller Burch, in his report to my predecessor, calls attention to the requirements of the constitution, that money shall only be drawn from the treasury in consequence of appropriation made by law. (Const. art. 2, section 24); and also to the requirements of the code, that the comptroller shall, at stated times, report "the unexpended balances of the several appropriations." Notwithstanding this provision in the constitution, with a legislative construction clearly indicated in the code, it is believed that specific appropriations are the exception, and that for many years the public moneys have been expended without the authority contemplated by the constitution. If that instrument is recorded and required from the executive officers, the legislature is enabled to see what amounts may be necessary, and can place a check upon the expenditures by prescribing a limit beyond which they shall not go. The mere fact that an appropriation is to be made requires investigation of the amount necessary to be set apart for the purpose, and promotes inquiry into former as well as present expenditures, while the system now practiced does nothing to insure a faithful performance of this important duty. Under the present system the comptroller complains of the extent of the discretion practically left to him. He is to examine and adjust all accounts and claims against the State, which are by law to be paid out of the treasury. (Code, 207, s.s. 1.) With a proper system nothing could be the subject of a warrant but such as had been included in some appropriation made by law. The supreme court has declared "that an indebtedness of the State fixed and recognized by law, was payable out of the treasury without a specific appropriation." Still it is the duty of the general assembly to make specific appropriations for the various purposes of the State, and relieve the comptroller of the treasury of the discretion now necessarily exercised by him.

CONVENTIONAL INTEREST.

I recommend the repeal of the law authorizing a conventional rate of interest as high as ten per cent.; the law has failed to meet a single promise of its friends, and its repeal is very generally demanded by the people of the State.

THE PENITENTIARY AND THE LEASE.

The act of the legislature, approved March 22, 1875, provided for a lease of the State prison and labor of the convicts for a period of five years, if the highest bid offered was "satisfactory to the governor and inspectors." Notice of the proposed lease was duly made, and proposals invited. Only three bids were made; these were pronounced unsatisfactory, and the whole subject committed to the general assembly. I transmit the report of the governor and inspectors, with a detailed statement of their action. Subsequently I extended the lease, with the present lessees, for the period of eight months, for a rental of ten thousand, one hundred and eighty-one dollars and seventy-five cents, for eight hundred convicts, and for any larger number the rent to be proportionately increased. Said lease can be vacated by either of the contracting parties, at any time, on giving thirty days notice in writing. A copy of the lease is herewith transmitted.

The present system of employing convict labor is wrong; but I am not certain that the general sentiment of the people of Tennessee is not in favor of it. The tax-payers have been so heavily burdened in the past with taxes levied to support this institution, that there is danger that they will acquiesce in any policy, however unshaken or mischievous it may be, that secures them from taxation. If it is determined to lease the labor of the convicts, no authority should be given to the lessees to employ the convicts outside of the prison, unless it is done where secure prisons can be provided, or upon the islands of the Mississippi river, where escapes are almost impossible. It has been suggested that the State should employ the labor of the convicts in building or repairing public roads. The State owes it to her citizens to employ this labor so as to avoid competition with the mechanics of the State; but it would be impossible to use it in the construction of roads without taxing the people heavily for their support, and for the support of a strong force of guards. Under the late lease, the lessees were authorized to sub-let the labor of convicts to farm and railroad contractors, and the result shows that a large number of them have escaped in the face of the utmost watchfulness. I can suggest no plan for the employment of this labor that is not subject to objection; but, under existing circumstances, I do not see how another lease of the prison can be avoided. If it is done, the employment of convicts outside of the prison should be reduced to the iron and coal mines; and if the lessees are required to employ all the able-bodied convicts, whose punishment will allow them to be worked outside of the prison walls, in the mines, this would embrace a large per cent. of the labor, and will almost destroy anything like competition with the mechanical labor of the State. This plan will meet with the opposition of about three hundred respectable miners now engaged in mining coal, but so long as the penitentiary system is maintained the convicts must be employed at some manual labor, and this will bring them in competition with the fewest number, and will be productive of the good result of cheapening the price of coal and iron ore, and of stimulating the manufacturing interests. The lessees should be required to receive the convict at his place of conviction. The State has paid, during the past two years, for bringing convicts to the State prison, $25,073 73. The lessees move convicts from point to point a hundred per cent. less than is paid by the State. The lessees now pay a reward of $25 for the capture of escaped convicts. It will cause more care and watchfulness on their part hereafter, if they are required to offer such reward as the superintendent of the prison may decide is necessary, and be compelled to make publication of it whenever he decides that it is important.

INSPECTORS OF THE PENITENTIARY.

No necessity now exists for this office. The duties once required of them can be performed by the superintendent without an increase of compensation.

RAILROADS.

On the eighth of May, 1876, the railroad commissioners sold the Tennessee and Pacific railroad at public outcry to the highest bidder, to satisfy an unpaid balance due to the State, amounting to $150,000, with interest from July 1, 1870. The company became the purchaser, and has paid, through the counties of Davidson and Wilson, the sum of $178,000 in bonds of the State, leaving a balance of $3500 in bonds and $10,650 in cash unpaid, for the payment of which no provision has yet been made.

The Knoxville and Charleston railroad was sold by the commissioners to Messrs. O'Conner & Co., at the price of $75,000—one-fourth in cash, and the balance in one, two and three years. One-half of the purchase money has been paid in the bonds of the State, and with the bonds received from the counties of Davidson and Wilson, have been cancelled, and are on file in the office of the comptroller of the treasury.

The Mississippi Central railroad failed to pay the semi-annual interest due July 1, 1875, and January 1, 1876, on the bonds loaned by the State. On the twenty-fifth day of February, 1876, I appointed R. P. Neely, of the county of Harman, receiver, and under my directions, he took immediate possession of the road, and has been operating it in the interest of the State. Since this road has been in the hands of a receiver it has been kept in good repair, its running expenses paid, and the sum of $60,000 paid into the treasury of the State on account of taxes and interest. This management on the part of General Neely occurred at a time of great business depression, and it is much to his honor and credit. Negotiations are now pending by which the past-due interest and sinking fund due from this company, and possibly the principal not yet due, will be paid at an early day.

I invite attention to the following statement of facts made by my immediate predecessor in his message to the thirty-ninth general assembly. It discloses the reasons why I have not taken action under resolution No. 72, adopted by the same legislature, instructing the governor to institute suit for the enforcement of a claim of the State against the Memphis and Little Rock railroad company. "The act of the twenty first of February, 1856, extending aid to the Little Rock railcompany, authorized the governor of the State to indorse three hundred and fifty bonds of the city of Memphis, for $1000 each, to be paid to the Memphis and Little Rock railroad company; *provided*, the said Memphis and Little Rock railroad company should first indorse each of said bonds, guaranteeing payment of principal and interest of the same; and, *provided further*, that the city of Memphis shall first, by its proper authorities, execute a mortgage, giving to the State of Tennessee a priority of lien on the stock and interest of said city in said railroad company; and, *provided further*, that said railroad company shall give to the State of Tennessee a prior lien upon the iron and equipments upon the first division of said road, extending from Memphis to the St. Francis river in Arkansas," etc. Section 12, of said act, provides further that the said bonds shall provide and set apart a fund, known as a sinking fund, out of which shall be paid over and above the 6 per cent. interest, 2 per cent. per annum on the said bonds, commencing four years from date. These bonds were issued, and in 1856 and 1857 indorsed by the governor of the State. After a careful examination of the archives of the State, I have been unable to find any mortgage upon the stock of the city of Memphis in said road, or upon the iron and equipments of the first division of said road. I have caused search to be made also in the register's office at Memphis, and in the proper offices in the State of Arkansas for some registration of such mortgages, but without avail, and I can find no evidence that such mortgages have, in fact, been made. The execution of these mortgages, and providing of a sinking fund, were conditions precedent to the right and power of the governor to indorse said bonds, and the liability of the State did not attach in the absence of a compliance with such conditions." I am satisfied the mortgages referred to by Governor Brown were never executed, and that the State has no lien, as is assumed in resolution 72. Holders of these bonds indorsed by the State have demanded payment of the past-due interest, and, without any legislative declaration on the subject, I have not hesitated to say the State was in nowise responsible for its payment, or for the payment of the bonds at maturity.

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

I commend to your earnest consideration the the report of this officer, herewith transmitted, and to his more elaborate report of a year ago, copies of which will be furnished to you. The present incumbent has been zealous and untiring in his efforts to advance the cause of education, to popularize the *common school*, and to teach the public that it is to that agency we must look at last for the diffusion of that noble lesson of our State constitution, "that knowledge, learning and virtue are essential to the preservation of republican institutions."

REPORTS OF OFFICERS.

The reports of the secretary of state, the librarian, and superintendent of the capital are transmitted for your information.

THE STATE NORMAL COLLEGE.

Under the act of March 23, 1875, I appointed J. B. Lindsley, Edwin H. Ewing, Samuel Watson, R. W. Mitchell, C. G. Tarbox and John J. Reese, as the State board of education. Recently J. W. Hoyt and Leon Trousdale were appointed members of the board, *vice* Samuel Watson deceased, and L. G. Tarbox resigned.

The board of trustees of the University of Nashville gave to the State board the lease of its buildings, and the school was located at Nashville.

The board of trust of the Peabody educational fund donated to the school for the first scholastic year the sum of $6000, and $9000 for the present year. The school is now in successful operation under Dr. Eben S. Stearns as president, with a corps of competent teachers, and is a first class institution for the education of teachers. It has not been a charge upon the treasury or upon the people of the State, and furnishes gratuitous instruction to all comers. The institution is supported by the Peabody board of trust. This support will be withdrawn at the close of the present scholastic year, and I earnestly appeal to the general assembly to provide the means necessary for its maintainance, not by a new levy of taxes, but by the appropriation of $10,000 of the school fund now provided by law. The withdrawal of that amount will add materially to the efficiency of the public school system, and will maintain an institution full of promising results to the educational interests of Tennessee. The great defect of our school system is the want of competent teachers. This school will supply this want, and furnish them from our own people. For the history of the operation of this school I refer to the report of the State board of educatiod made to the superintendent of public instruction.

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURE, STATISTICS AND MINES.

In transmitting the report of the commissioner of this bureau, I adopt the following article, taken from the editorial columns of the leading mining and manufacturing journal of this continent, *The Iron Age*, published in the city of New York:

"*The Tennessee Bureau of Mines.*—Of late years the attention of ironmasters, both at home and abroad, has been constantly directed to the south, and especially to Tennessee. Probably at this time there is more inquiry as to its mineral resources, from foreign capitalists than concerning those of all the rest of the southern States. A million dollars of British capital have already been invested within the past two years, and there is strong probability that this is but the foretaste of other millions. For this result the State is indebted to its wonderful resources, but also in a large degree to Colonel J. B. Killebrew, chief of the bureau of agricultural statistics and mines of that State. We acknowledge our great indebtedness to him personally, and to his various publications for information we have uniformly found trustworthy. During the two years this bureau has been in existence four thousand copies of the *Resources of Tennessee*, a book of twelve hundred pages, have been distributed, besides eight thousand abridgements. Prof. Huxley, speaking of the work and its author, said: "I am indebted to this most admirable work, of which a copy was presented me yesterday, a *Report of the Resources of Tennessee*, which, in my judgment, does infinite credit to the State that paid for it and the person who put it together, which I do not profess to have read since yesterday, yet out of which I contrived to pick the sort of information I want of the structure of the region where we now stand." We have heard it whispered that some persons in Tennessee have suggested the abolition of this bureau. Such a course would be most short-sighted, and occasion the highest injury to the State. Tennessee needs capital from abroad, and this bureau has brought it. Colonel Killebrew is wise enough to see that it is not alone in the development of its mineral resources that wealth is to be found, but in the agricultural as well, and his effort has been to bring in capital to this end. No State can at this present day afford to dispense with such agencies, because capitalists look for information from official sources, and not from parties who wish to sell; and we speak from personal knowledge and examination, when we say that the publications of Colonel Killebrew are among the fairest statements of the resources of a State we have ever seen.

Governor Porter, in his canvass of the State, said: "Our resources have been advertised all over the continent, and in many parts of the old world. Any man who has been working for a farm, for a water-power, for a mine of coal, iron or copper, has had his demand for information supplied from this bureau, and I state it as a fact, the climate, soil and productions of the State of Tennessee have been more generally and intelligently advertised than those of all the States of the south combined. It would be a source of the greatest regret to those who know its value, if the bureau were to be discontinued. So competent and conscientious a public officer cannot be spared until the great work he has undertaken, and thus far successfully performed, is fully completed. If every southern State had placed the work of acquainting the public with its resources in equally competent hands, immigration would have been less difficult to obtain, and capital more disposed than now to seek investment there."

INSURANCE SUPERVISION.

State supervision of the business of insurance is necessary for the security of the citizens and for the protection of solvent companies; this supervision is now exercised by the state treasurer, who is *ex officio* commissioner of insurance. The duties of treasurer demand the undivided time and attention of that official; his duties as commissioner of insurance are necessarily secondary to that, and he cannot give to the business of insurance the attention it deserves. The law requires that he shall, under certain circumstances, visit and examine any insurance company in the State. He cannot do this without neglecting the more important duties of the treasurer's office. I recommend that the office of commissioner of insurance be made separate and independent, the fees now authorized by law will be ample compensation for the services of a commissioner. I transmit the report of the commissioner of insurance and commend his recommendations to your consideration.

A GEODETIC SURVEY OF THE STATE.

It affords me pleasure to announce that principally through the representations of D. J. M. Safford, State geologist, the United States coast survey concluded during the year just closed to inaugurate, and is now actually carrying on, a geodetic or correct surface survey of Tennessee. This is in accordance with an act of congress providing that in States in which geological surveys are in progress, the United States coast survey may institute geodetic works for the benefit of such geological surveys. The surface survey thus inaugurated within our borders is one of primary importance. Its results cannot fail to be of great service, and that, too, without cost to the State. Tennessee is deplorably deficient in the matter of correct maps. There is no map of the State worthy of the name, nor can there be until such data are at hand as will be supplied by the operations of the coast survey. Government maps are needed, not only to meet the wants of geological delineations, but for educational, commercial, political, and numerous other purposes. Such we are in a fair way to have. The coast survey will doubtless, within a reasonable time, supply a complete outline map of this State, based on accurate instrumental observations and trigonometrical calculations. This work in Tennessee is under the general direction of Dr. Safford, as State geologist, and is executed by Prof. A. H. Buchanan, of Wilson county, who holds his place under the superintendent of the coast survey, to whom he reports, and from whom he receives all instructions as to the details of the work. It is thus in the hands of well-informed and able gentlemen. Out of the yearly appropriation made by congress for the coast survey, $2000 were set apart for the work in Tennessee. The survey was commenced last summer, Dr. Safford selecting the part of the State lying between Nashville and Knoxville as the initial region. Considering the shortness of the time, a large amount of very satisfactory work has been done. The country designated has been reconnoitered and provisionally mapped; suitable points have been selected for stations, and a base-line located. The latter runs over ground in the vicinity of Lebanon, and will be measured during the summer. Reconnoitering has commenced west of Nashville, and will be extended to the Mississippi river so soon as practicable. For further information in regard to this work, I refer you to the report of the State geologist, to be made to you at an early day. To facilitate the survey, so auspiciously commenced, I recommend the passage of an act authorizing the surveyors to run the necessary lines upon lands within the State, to adjust damages, if such should occur, and for the protection of signals, marks, monuments, and other property pertaining to the civil survey.

SIGNAL LIGHTS ON OUR RIVERS.

The Federal government has established a number of signal lights, and other aids to navigation, on the banks of the Mississippi river, in the State of Tennessee. At certain points malicious persons have interfered with these aids to navigation; lanterns have been broken and lights extinguished, thus endangering steamers and other vessels navigating the river. This is a subject of public concern, and I recommend the passage of an act protecting these aids to navigation, with a provision for the punishment of persons injuring or destroying them.

A STATE BOARD OF HEALTH RECOMMENDED.

The necessity for the creation of a State board of health is commended to your attention. In the twelve States where such a board is provided, very much has been accomplished by arousing the public to a sense of the necessity for the adoption of sanitary measures in order to prevent the operation of causes productive of disease. Since the completion of our railroad system, a large per cent. of the population of the State are in direct and daily communication with some one of the great centers of population, and citizens of the agricultural districts are as subject to epidemical diseases as the inhabitants of the cities and towns, and have a common interest in the adoption of preventive measures. If by the adoption of this reform disease can be mitigated or prevented, or the life of a single citizen saved, to that extent it will be a contribution to the wealth of the State.

OUR MILITARY RESOURCES.

At the request of the secretary of war the adjutant-general of the State recently made to that officer a report of the military strength in Tennessee. This report shows that we have within the military age 239,564 men; that we have no complete or efficient military organization, except a few volunteer companies. I submit to the general assembly the propriety of giving force and effect to our declaration of rights that the sure and certain defense as a free people is a well regulated militia.

INSPECTORS OF ILLUMINATING OILS AND FLUIDS.

The act creating this office has been productive of much good to the people of the State in protecting them from the use and purchase of spurious and dangerous burning fluids. The fee now allowed the inspectors should be increased, that allowed under the existing act is so inadequate that in the small town sinspectors cannot afford to provide themselves with the necessary instruments for the testing and gauging or weighing the fluids, and the result is there are now only seven inspectors on duty in the State. I transmit the report of the inspectors at Nashville, Memphis, Jackson, Brownsville and Chattanooga.

REPORTS.

I transmit the report of General J. T. Wilder, commissioner from Tennessee. His services have been of great value to the State, and should receive suitable recognitions from the general assembly. I also transmit the biennial report of the trustees of East Tennessee unniversity concerning the State college, with the report of the treasurer of that institution.

SALE OF LANDS.

The act of the twenty-third of March, 1875, directed the governor, comptroller and treasurer to sell the "lands purchased by the State for the location of hospitals for the insane in the eastern and western divisions of the State," "provided said lands shall not be sold for less than three-fourths of its original cost." No lands were bought in the western division; in the eastern division a tract was purchased and is now the property of the State. This tract of land should be sold, and the terms should be left to the discretion of the officers mentioned in the act referred to. Under section 3 of the same act I appointed James S. Boyd and J. M. Carter, of Knox county, to act in conjunction with the attorney-general "to make settlements with all persons to whom the State is indebted on account of said hospital for the insane." Their report is on file in the office of the comptroller of the treasury.

NAVIGATION OF TENNESSEE RIVER.

In pursuance of senate joint resolution No. 64 I have appointed a board of commissioners to consider plans by which the passage of railroad bridges can be made in safety by boats navigating this river. The commissioners have made no report.

THE COMMISSIONERS TO PARIS.

In pursuance of resolution No. 52, adopted by the thirty-ninth general assembly, I appointed commissioners to the geographical congress and syndicates of trades, held at Paris, France, in August, 1875. Four of the commissioners, Messrs. Bronson Bayliss, Albert Akers, Nathan Adams and Volney S. Stephenson, were in attendance, and through their agency a diploma was awarded to the State of Tennessee. The commissioners have as yet made no official report.

A. O. P. NICHOLSON.

A. O. P. Nicholson, chief justice of the supreme court of Tennessee, died on the twenty-third day of March, 1875. Few citizens of Tennessee have been honored like this distinguished man, member of the general assembly, chancellor, president of the bank of Tennessee, delegate to the constitutional convention, judge of the supreme court, senator in congress, and to his greater honor and credit it can be said, that in the performance of all the high trusts committed to him by his fellow-citizens he never deviated from the line of principle and integrity. The general assembly will respond to the sentiment of the people of Tennessee by giving expression to their feelings of sorrow at the death of this eminent man, and that of his illustrious compeer,

ANDREW JOHNSON.

On the thirty-first day of July, 1875, Senator Andrew Johnson, the seventeenth President of the United States, departed this life. The death of this illustrious private citizen and eminent public officer, brought deep sorrow upon the public heart, and the general bereavement has become the more bitter by subsequent political developments, threatening alike to freedom and our free institutions, in which, had he lived, he would have acted a conspicuous part in behalf of the people, whose cause he made his own. The life of the deceased is full of encouragement, illustrating that neither humble origin, poverty or want of sound influence in early life, present insuperable barriers to the triumph of an indomitable will and free spirit.

The life of this distinguished man must pass into our country's history, and while it is open to the criticisms of opponents and the admiration of friends, all admit that it would be impossible to draw a circle of great men, and wholly exclude therefrom Andrew Johnson. His hopes in the future of our country were based upon the following sentiment, uttered to a friend as he was leaving his home for the last time: "Our country supplies its own saving power in the honesty and patriotism of its people." May this people be equal to the present trouble! As chief executive I attended his funeral, and tendered to his family a spot upon Capitol hill as his last resting place. The death of Senator Johnson created a vacancy in our representation in the senate of the United States, and I commissioned Hon. D. M. Key, of the county of Hamilton, to fill the same *ad interim*.

THE BULLDOZED STATES.

The representatives of the people of Tennessee cannot disregard the recent action of the Federal authorities in certain States of the south, notably in Florida, Louisiana, South Carolina and Virginia; in three of these towns and districts had been garrisoned with troops of the United States at a time of profound peace, without any proper demand being made for assistance by the local authorities; and the Statehouse of South Carolina was subjected to an armed occupation by Federal troops. The army was made the arbiter of a disputed election, and has been prostituted to the base purpose of organizing a partisan legislature. The order of a subaltern excluding the representatives of the people from the State capitol was made impudently and without shame in the interest of judicially declared fraud, and against the judgment of the law as rendered in its highest court. The representatives of the people of Tennessee should protest against these accumulated outrages with the utmost solemnity and energy.

EARLY APPROPRIATIONS URGED.

I earnestly recommend that the bill for the appropriation of money be considered at an early day. The pernicious custom of postponing the consideration of a question of the first importance to the country, to the closing hours of the session encourages hasty and inconsiderate legislation and the appropriation of money without discussion to purposes of doubtful propriety.

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