The Press and Banner.

By Hugh Wilson.

Wednesday, April 30, 1884.

The Negro.

We are satisfied that crime is not increasing in our county, and we hope that it is not increasing in the State. The fact that the number of convictions at our Spring term of court in 1884 exceeds the number in 1883, does not, we think, prove that crime is increasing. Nor does the fact that the majority of the convicts are "educated" negroes, that is able to write their names, prove that education will not make the negro a better citizen. Most of the young negroes can sign their names, but we have never yet heard it insisted that the ability to read and write should cure all defects of character. We have not tried sufficiently to ascertain whether education will make the negro a better citizen. We are told that he does not improve his advantages; by this we suppose it is meant that he does not come up to expectations. But history proves that we must not expect too much of the first, or even the second generation of freedmen. History also proves that no race ever improved more in a given space of time than the negroes of the South.

Those who are disappointed that the negro has not ascended to the moral and intellectual level of the white man, and who are astonished that most of the convicts of the State are negroes, should remember that the *advantages* of the negroes do not extend over a period of twenty years. Prior to 1876, his school facilities were meagre and the very government under which he lived was immoral and debasing in all its tendencies. The political training of the negro has been bad and his school teachers, even now inefficient.

We know that the negro might do better, and we hope he will; but we must admit that he has done remarkably well, considering his surroundings. Six, at least, of the thirteen convicted at our last term of court, could not write their names; we do not know whether the others could—but this little learning should not be expected to work miracles. *Newberry Herald.*

Public education in the South is a departure from the old plan which gave South Carolina the highest stand in point of an educated citizenship. Under reconstruction and the moral force of the Government at Washington, together with a desire on our part to conciliate Northern sentiment, we were induced to adopt the new plan, which, it was contended, would cure all the ills with which we were afflicted. The *Press and Banner* partook of this sentiment and for years cheerfully supported the tax for public education, but upon more mature reflection, and after having had an opportunity of observing results, we have come to the conclusion that all public education is wrong is principal and demoralizing in its effects. No sophistry or false reasoning can ever convince us that the industrious and self-denying citizen should be taxed to educate the children of indolent and immoral parents. It is a delusion and a snare to suppose that education affects the morals of a citizen—education is a negative force which may be used for good or for evil, as the individual may be inclined.

All morality, culture and true religion is based on material prosperity. While there are noble exceptions to the general rule, in individual cases, yet it is absolutely certain that no people ever attained any creditable degree of morality who did not possess some of the comforts of life, and who did not live in comfortable houses.

It is a physical impossibility to expect morality, decency or refinement where a large family occupy a house of only one room, and where only the scantiest supply of even the necessaries of life are to be found. The condition of the negro will not improve as long as one large family or two small families occupy one room—for cooking, eating, sitting, sleeping—in sickness and in health.

The negro, before he can rise above his present level, must live in better houses and must have something of the conforts of life for his children. They must at the fireside, be taught those most important lessons, which his white neighbor impresses upon his children.

The mere ability to read a newspaper in an unintelligible way and the art of signing one's name to a note in a mechanical manner will never supply the more important lessons of morality and self-respect which must be taught by the mother at the fireside, and which must be maintained by the independance and manhood of the father

The negro, must learn the value of time, and must learn to work six days in the week. One reason the white man of this country is richer than the colored man is to be attributed to the fact that the former works more than the latter. Hundreds of colored men are to be found every Saturday in the various towns and at the different depots, even in the busiest months of the year. No man, white or black, can prospor who has to neglect his business one day in the week to go to preaching, and then has an excuse for going to town every Saturday.

Public education has turned the heads of the negroes, and nine-tenths of them to-day believe that the ability to read and write is of first importance. This fact has done much to retard the progress of the negro. The ability to merely read and write is of very little practical use to the great mass of bread-winners, but a good house, decent furniture, and respectable clothing is of ten thousand times more value to them. People who live in good houses, well filled with nice furniture, and who wear good clothing will always command the respect of their fellows, whether they have education or not. The man who lives in a house which is not fit for a horse stable, can never expect his children to stand the peers of those who live in better houses and observe the decencies of life, no matter how much *book-learning* they may have.

Then, we say, it is an injustice to the negro to take his children from the farm to school before a good home and decent furniture are secured. A good dwelling house, with separate comfortable rooms for the children is of first importance, then furniture, then education, and, then, to crown the whole, that morality, which is begotten of independence and self-respect, and that Christianity which has for its foundation an intelligent conviction of right and wrong.

It requires time to bring the colored race to our standard. They need a symmetrical development, as the white race have. The abnormal development of the intellect while the morals are neglected is not worth the cost. The public schools are demoralizing our own people and teaching the negroes that they are mendicants and paupers. They should, on the contrary, be self-reliant and should assert their manhood in securing houses, furniture and education by their own commendable exertion and wholesome economy.

Diversified Industry.

Merchants and other business men do not make all their money on a single article, then why should farmers attempt to make all their money on a single product. Let us have a diversified industry on every farm. Every farmer's wife and daughters should have fowls and bees. With a little care and judicious management nothing will pay better than bees and fowls. Mr. Albert Clinkscales within the last ten days has sold fifty dozen eggs in this village at fifteen cents a dozen —$7.50. If the hen-givers would provide themselves with a good stock of fowls and give them proper attention they would not be compelled to go so much in debt at the stores.

Every farmer should have a good pasture and a flock of goats and sheep. Goats and sheep may pasture on the same land. The goats are not grass feeders like sheep,—they eat the buds and tender sprouts of the bushes.

A good milk cow is of vital importance. Keep no inferior stock.

THE slanderous stories which have gone abroad as to suffering in the lower counties of this State, it seems to us, should be corrected by the newspapers. It's a wonder that nobody has attempted to put out the little spark that has made so much smoke.

THE chatter of the English sparrow is not musical sound.

The Meeting on Saleday.

Our citizens from every part of the county are expected to assemble in the Court House next saleday, to hold the first political meeting of the campaign. While no matters of vital interest to the welfare of the county are involved, yet it is not to be denied that the action of the County Club on that day may decide some questions of general interest to the people at large, and of special interest to the citizens of particular localities. The contest for County Chairman, and the election of delegates to the State Convention may have the effect of healing any little local differences and prejudices of opinion which may have heretofore existed. On the other hand these elections may bring out the old skeleton with which to revive a local contest, and to excite feelings which should not exist among our people.

The people of Abbeville county have never disregarded the interests and the claims of the people of Ninety-Six. The result of former elections, we think, will prove the correctness of this assertion. At the last election a proposition was made to change the Constitution of the State whereby the area of counties was limited to 625 square miles. This was a change of the old settled policy of the State, and, as a matter of course, involved a division of sentiment and a diversity of interest. After a hotly contested election, the matter was decided.

It would seem that in ordinary cases, where a contest is closed, that the war should stop. Until recently we had supposed that such was the case in reference to the new county question, but we are informed that such is not the fact, and that as a reward for advocacy of the new county some of the candidates for position are to get the full and undivided vote of Ninety-Six on Monday next.

If the vote of Ninety-Six should be given to any candidate as a reward of superior merit or of better fitness for the position, then it is all right and proper, but if it is as a reward for political opinion, then is it not a declaration of a continuation of strife, and an effort to punish the people of Abbeville county for a conscientious vote on a question about which the best, the wisest, and the most patriotic citizens may differ?

If the county question was a live issue it would be perfectly right and natural for Ninety-Six to vote for those who supported their side of the question. But when the matter has been settled, for a time at least, it would seem to us that a mere gratification of a little spite or the infliction of a little wrong, would be a poor remuneration for the antagonisms which such a course would be very likely to follow. If Ninety-Six rewards her friends with votes, is it not natural and right that the other side should reward their friends in like manner?

To go beyond this. Other elections are to be held in the coming campaign, and if this is to be an unceasing war, Ninety Six, with her few hundred votes, will, in all probability, hurt herself worse than she will hurt her neighbors in other parts of the county. Already Ninety Six has a candidate in the field for office at the hands of the people of the County. To renew this old matter may be of no particular advantage to him at this time. In fact, as the withdrawal of support is a game at which more than one can play, if Ninety Six wants to injure the prospects of the candidate hailing from that section it is barely possible that no surer means could be adopted.

For our own part we do not see what Ninety Six expects to gain by an unequal contest with the remainder of the County. While she may feel safe to inflict a wound at a time when she has no candidate for Legislative honors, yet the time will come when some of her citizens may expect and deserve the votes of the very people whom they may now be seeking to wound. But, if Ninety Six proposes to go to war, we think it well for us that we receive the first shock of battle at the beginning of the canvass. It is right and proper that we understand each other, and the public, we feel sure, will thank Ninety Six for the enunciation of a course of action in reference to the dead issue. If Ninety Six proposes to slaughter candidates for the Legislature because of their opposition to the new county, then we say, may the act bear its legitimate fruits. We have no fear of results. Ninety Six is a fractional part of Abbeville County, and if she desires to excite the prejudices of the greater part of Abbeville County it is a matter of her own choosing. If Ninety Six chooses to call for a division, it is her right, if she, in her wisdom, chooses to do so. It will then be her privilege to uphold her candidates, and it will be our duty to support ours.

The Literary Negro—Letter From the Penitentiary.

As a matter of interest to our readers we submit the following letter from the Hon. T. J. Lipscomb, which is in reply to our letter enquiring the number of convicts in the penitentiary who had had the advantages of the public schools, and the number who had not been to school.

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE,
SOUTH CAROLINA PENITENTIARY,
COLUMBIA, S. C., 28th April 1884.

Hugh Wilson, Jr., Esq., Abbeville, S. C.

DEAR SIR—Your favor of the 20th came duly to hand, and at the regular weekly inspection yesterday each convict in the prison was asked, whether he or she had ever attended school. Of the 561 inside the walls, 310 answered, "Yes" and 251 answered "No." Of the 251 negative answers, many of them are too old to have availed themselves of the privileges of schooling since emancipation.

We have 377 out under lease, and at our farm and brick yard, who we could not examine, but the above is a fair average.

I will be pleased at any time to give you any information you may desire.

Yours truly,
T. J. LIPSCOMB, Supt. P.

We claim that this letter proves conclusively the correctness of the opinion which we hold, that education has no moral effect upon the individual. It will be noticed that a considerable majority of the convicts have been to school, while many of the minority "are too old to "have availed themselves of the privileges of the schools since emancipation."

From this we would infer that the literary negro much more easily finds his way to the penitentiary than his less cultured brother.

Politics Under the Guise of Education.

Those of our friends who have not been able to see politics in the educational bill will read with profit the remarks of Professor Greener to Mr. Curtis in reference to this appropriation. He sees what some of our Democratic friends in Washington have not been able to discern, and we leave it to others to say whether he speaks wisely or not.

ONE MAN STRUCK BY LIGHTNING.

"An Old Soldier" Makes a Call on Col. George McDuffie Miller to Stand for Sheriff.

Editor Press and Banner:

Some of the old soldiers of the 7th S. C. Regiment have an impression that, as there seems to be a disposition on the part of a large number of our voters to have a change in the matter of our county officials, no better man for the position of Sheriff could be found than Col. G. McD. Miller of Ninety-Six. Col. Miller if elected to fill this responsible position would do so fearlessly, faithfully, and satisfactorily to all concerned. I hope then that he will not suffer his modesty and diffidence to serve as barrier to his asking for that to which he is as much entitled as any man in our county—but that he will act upon the suggestion here made and publicly proclaim himself a candidate for Sheriff, and without delay enter upon the race for the same.

AN OLD SOLDIER.

For County Chairman.

The name of W. C. Benet, Esq., will be submitted to the County Democratic club on Sale Day next for the office of County Chairman. His eminent fitness for the office, if selected as our standard-bearer, will assure us of a successful canvass, should the enemies of the Democracy raise the issue in this County at the next election.

DEMOCRAT.

Is It Right?

[*Camden Journal.*]

While anxious to extend to our colored brethren every right conceivable with merit and American citizenship, is it right to make our State House a house where incendiary harangues, lying speeches and drunken bulldozers can be placed against the interest of the tax payers of this State?

Does political equality mean "arson?" Does a county between different parties mean "murder?" Does accommodation and politeness mean "the midnight torch?" If the words of Tom Miller, which were so loudly applauded last week by the negro convention, are to be accepted as truths, these are the conclusion and answers—"Meet the devils as they come."

THE ATHENS OF ABBEVILLE.

The Musical Talent and Literary Acquirement of Her Beautiful Women---Pleasant Chit-Chat.

Major E. W. Mills of Blackstocks, S. C., spent a couple of days recently in our town. His son, Mr. P. Y. Mills, returned home with him, the doctors advising more rest and less study.

Carp ponds are becoming fashionable. Mr. R. M. Haddon has a nice one, well stocked, so has Dr. O. P. Hawthorn. Some of our boys were fishing in Chickasaw and caught a fish which they supposed was a carp—a truant from one of these ponds.

If you wish to buy fine Jersey cattle, authentically Registered, you need not go outside of Abbeville county. Mr. Calvin Pressly has a fine herd. His *Carolina Chief* has a State reputation and is in every way a fine animal, with all the marks that cattle men prize so high. He is from the famous "Montgomery Herd" of Mississippi. He has just received a second one, *Montgomery* aged 12 months, from this herd. Mr. Pressly has three handsome young fellows about a year old that would be a prize to any one loving fine stock.

Our streets have been made lively for the past few days by a couple of colored musicians, one with a banjo and the other with bones. This combination—bones, banjo and voices—produces a strange sensation on the ear. They pass around the hat at the close of about every other piece and take in a good many dimes.

THE CONCERT AT THE FEMALE COLLEGE.—Our town enjoyed another treat in the way of a musical festival at the Female College last Friday evening. This entertainment took place in Smyth Hall. (Wouldn't Kennedy Hall be a more appropriate name?) This hall will seat about 200 persons. It was neatly decorated and hung with pictures on this occasion. The number of music scholars in the Institution this year is unusually large. Hence a varied programme, and something good could be guaranteed in advance. The hill of fare fully came up to expectations. Where so much beauty of person, excellence of performance, and variety is given it is hard to make selections for the reader so that he can form an idea of what the exercises were. The following young ladies, Misses Lula Cowan, Jennie Townsend, Maggie Boyce, Julia Kennedy, Mary Miller, Nell Lathan, Emmie Brice, Susie Lee, Thiraesia Davenport and others took an active part in the exercises and did themselves credit. Of the readings "The Senator's Wife," presented by Miss Lethea Young was fine and well received. It was a vivid description of the wife's efforts to make "ends meet" on $200 a year, while her husband was laying the foundation of his future greatness. Our sympathy was completely enlisted in this whole narration, and it was charmingly read. We fancy this story has its complete counterpart among public men of our day. Miss Mittie Davenport of Tennessee, read a thrilling story, that was well listened to and produced a good impression. The Junior Class, some forty in number, read in chaste, a selection, "The Camelion," which was something brand new in this line and a decided success. The class was divided into three parts, one division claiming that the Camelion was blue for days and days, the other claiming that it was green for they had *seen it with their own eyes*, while the third was willing to affirm in most positive language that they too had seen the animal and they swore it was *black*. An angry dispute followed and they were about to pluck out each others eyes. Miss Pennick managed to get the belligerents calmed without an actual fight, and the audience cheered most heartily. Something of this kind would be new on commencement occasion and "taking." Miss Pennick deserves credit for the excellent way in which she succeeded in getting her reading pupils to present their pieces. Of the vocal selections we were especially pleased with the way in which "May Flowers" were presented by Miss Lelia Cowan. The lady has a fine voice and well cultivated. "Somebody is Tall and Handsome" was *handsomely* rendered by Miss Jennie Townsend. We heard the remark made that it could sound well, "Singe privately." "Tit for Tat," by Miss Davenport was pretty hard on the young man she left so unceremoniously standing on her father's style. It was rich. Miss Julia Kennedy sang, with sweet pure voice, "'Tis Moonlight." In connection with this piece, as well as several others, Miss Jessie Bell played upon the guitar with fine effect. We enjoyed in a higher degree perhaps than any of the other selections, this one, "I will Live and Love Thee," participated in by Misses LeGal and Pennick. It was full of sweetness and melody. Of the instrumental selections, we cannot omit to mention "Rolling Billows," by Misses Maggie Boyce and Mell Lathan, on two pianos. This piece was skillfully played. We also enjoyed very much the two choice pieces of composition, "Military March" and "Oxen Waltz." The former on two pianos and the latter on two pianos and an organ. It takes very fine skill to keep together so precisely on two or more instruments and then play with so much expression. These young ladies deserve credit. We mention with especial notice, the handsome way in which Mrs Bonner and Miss Julia Kennedy rendered the choice piece, "Music among the Pines." The citizens were out in full force and greatly enjoyed this entertainment. The truth is our people are especially partial to these musical feasts. The Senior Class of Erskine was invited on this occasion and their brother students perhaps from feelings of envy, thought they were considerably "set up."

The Democratic Club of Due West township met and was called to order by F. W. R. Nance, retiring President, who offered this resignation which was not accepted. Robinson was unanimously elected President for the next term. The only business before the house was the election of delegates to the Abbeville Convention, which followed the election of officers. The officers are: J. L. Robinson, President; J. E. Todd, Vice-President; E. H. Edwards, Secretary. The delegates sent to the Convention which will serve according to custom this entire year are: J. L. Robinson, J. E. Todd, E. H. Edwards, F. W. R. Nance, J. B. Bonner, J. H. McDill, R. H. Armstrong.

R.

A NEW TOWN IN ABBEVILLE COUNTY.

Coronaca---Her Broad Streets---Her New School House---Her Fine Mill ---Her Fish Ponds--And Her Splendid People.

Editor Press and Banner:

We correspondent had the pleasure of visiting Coronaca, a prospective new town on the Augusta and Knoxville Railroad on Friday last. It is situated seven miles from Greenwood, and two miles from the Saluda River. It has a thickly settled community. The land is more than usually productive and the small grain looks much better now than in other parts of the country. It has a thrifty enterprising population. The people rejoice at the line of the new railroad spoken of in the highest terms of Messrs. Coleman & Rice, of Union, the contractors who engaged to do the grading. The grading to the river is almost finished and to an outsider it would seem a suicidal policy for the railroad authorities to delay laying the track. Consequently we expect the whistle will be heard soon. A part of the town site has already been surveyed and lots laid off. Parties at a distance are already corresponding for the purchase of lots as soon as the cars commence running.

Messrs. Fuller and Henderson will remove their store to the depot and do business there.

Two acres have already been surveyed for the school house lot and they will commence erecting a suitable building before long. Let it be a nice, commodious building, an attraction and ornament to the town.

The Baptists have already erected a large new building there.

Thanks to the courtesy of Mr. Wm. Kluch, we were shown through his large new mill. It is a handsome brick structure—40x55 feet—has three floors and is a grist and four mill combined. It is furnished with a 40 horse power engine and with the most improved machinery. They have already built a gin house and will run a gin in connection with their business. The property is owned by the Messrs. Kluch Bros. who are enterprising gentlemen.

It is a splendid site for a nice town—a level, beautiful country. Some of the new streets have already been laid off sixty feet wide.

Capt. Henderson is having a large fish pond built and Col. Rice and Dr. Waddell already have them.

We attended Bethlehem church on Sunday. The Sunday School under the efficient superintendency of Mr. J. D. Foushe has a large number of young people on its membership. Rev. Mr. Rogers, the pastor in charge, preached an effective and impressive sermon. The congregation was large.

We regretted to learn that Mr. Castles, the Principal of Coronaca Academy, had been called home temporarily by sickness in his father's family, and the sympathies of the entire community were extended in his behalf.

The guest of Capt. Henderson of course we were pleasantly entertained.

M.

THE OFFICES ON THE HUNT FOR A MAN.

Shall the Old Officers Continue to Feed at the Public Crib, or Earn Their Bread "in the Old Usual Way?"

Editor Press and Banner:

In the last issue of the *Press and Banner* there is a letter signed Rotator, who thinks time about is fair play, and asks the question, shall we not ask them (the present incumbents) to stand aside that others may feed for a while at the public crib. I desire a small space in your columns to express a few thoughts in way of answer to answering those two points of Rotator; and also to express myself in reference to the filling of the different offices. In the first place, I contend we are free born and live in a free country. Therefore any man has a perfect right to offer himself as a candidate for any office he chooses, without any regard to his previous occupation. I claim that a man has as much right to offer for re-election as he had to offer the first time. Now as to time about is fair play, I would just say to Mr. Rotator, when ever he wishes or any of his preference wishes to be fed from the public cribs, send his or their names accompanied with $5 a piece to the editors of the country papers and offer himself for any office he may choose. The ballot-box will tell whether he shall feed at the public crib or whether he shall feed himself and family in the old usual way. I think every office should seek the right man, and not the man the office. And here I would say that I am satisfied the Clerk's, Sheriff's and Judge of Probate's offices are still seeking their present incumbents. If either of these gentlemen should be defeated in their re-election, I am satisfied that they would stand aside reconciled to their fate. I for one expect to vote for the man I think will fill the office best, though he may have had it for years. Now if any of our present officers are growing so old that they are getting in their dotage, I think it would be best to change them and get new ones. It is not good policy to exchange a good family horse that has been tried, for one you know nothing about. I am satisfied the people of Abbeville county do not wish to elect a man simply that he may be fed at the public crib, but they wish to elect one that will do his duty at all times and under all circumstances to all parties.

Yours respectfully, VOTER.

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN PREACHING AT McCORMICK.

A Deserved Compliment to a Worthy Abbeville Preacher.

McCORMICK, S. C.

Editor Press and Banner:

Dr. Martin, pastor of the Presbyterian church at Abbeville, visited our little town last Sabbath and delivered two powerful discourses in the Baptist church, to a large and attentive audience. In the morning he took for his text the 4 chapter 2nd Corinthians and 5th verse. His sermon was plain, pointed, full of sound argument, and at times eloquent, and sublime in thought. He is the first Presbyterian that has ever preached in McCormick and we can safely say he has made many friends, and we trust he may be induced to visit our town again. Its citizens will gladly receive him. We have no Presbyterians in McCormick at present, but in time to come we hope to see all denominations represented—to see more churches built with their spires pointing to Him who is the ruler of the universe.

Mc.

An exchange wisely remarks: "Standing advertisements in a paper command confidence. The man who a year resides in a community and lives a reputable life, even though he be of moderate ability, will grow in the confidence and esteem of his fellows. On the same principle a newspaper advertisement becomes familiar in the eyes of the reader. It may seldom be read, still it makes the name and business of a man familiar, and its presence in the columns of a paper inspires confidence in the stability of the advertiser."

THE C. C. G. & C. R. R.

GEN. HAGOOD, COL. BOWEN, COL. CAMPBELL, AND COL. GREGG COME TO SEE JUDGE COTHRAN.

They Hold an Important Railroad Meeting---They Renew Our Hope, and Almost Promise to Build Our Great Railroad---General Hagood Falls Into the Hands of a Reporter, and is Betrayed Into Giving a Hint as to Important Transactions in Which we are Much Interested.

Governor Hagood, Colonel Bowen and Col. Campbell of this State, and Col. Gregg of Morristown, Tenn., met with Judge Cothran of this village last Tuesday and Wednesday. While we do not know the particulars, from which these gentlemen seem so hopeful as to the building of this great Railroad, yet their evident belief in the final success of the enterprise is assuring to those who whom they talked. Of late our people had begun to despond because of hope deferred, but as soon as these gentlemen came to town, the fact was noised abroad, and our people were anxious to hear anything upon which they could renew their hope for the completion of the Road. Without any definite knowledge as to actual fact, we believe that our people would be ready at any time to contribute as liberally to the work as their means would allow. The recent construction of the Greenwood and Augusta Railroad, and the fair prospects for the early completion of the Savannah Valley Railroad from Troy to Anderson village, makes it imperitive upon us to get an additional outlet if we would keep pace with the demands of the times. We believe the Savannah Valley Railroad will be built. A large part of the fifty-one miles from Troy in this county to Anderson has been done, and with between $40,000 and $50,000 now in hand, it seems to us the grading of the road will be finished, when it is understood that the Georgia Central will put on the iron and rolling stock. This would make us entirely surrounded by railroads, and the necessity for an additional iron highway to this place must be apparent to all.

While Governor Hagood did not say so to us, yet we have heard that the engineer's estimate of the cost for an approach to this village has been made. Beginning at the diverging point, the route through the village in rear of the Episcopal Church by Maj. Zeigler's lot, to Capt. Bonham's and out by the Misses Cater's would cost $28,000; the ridge route by the Morse house and near Mr. J. F. Livingston's dwelling would be $6,000—including right of way in each estimate. All the heavy grading from Troy to Abbeville has been finished.

It is understood, and in fact Governor Hagood said so, that while the prospect for aid was good, yet in no event could we get the road without further help from our own citizens. Aiken will be allowed another chance to vote a subscription as a township. The charter allows the company to connect their road with that of the South Carolina Railway Company at or near Aiken, and if Aiken refuses to give a liberal subscription, it is certain that the road will not run to that town. In the event of the refusal of subscription it will connect with the South Carolina Road at Montmorencie, some five or six miles nearer Charleston, at a much less cost than would be incurred to take it to the town of Aiken. At Montmorencie the *pro rata* of travel and freights would be thus lessened to the South Carolina Railroad. The officers and directors of the company desire to go to Aiken, but they cannot afford to do so at a cost to themselves of some eighty thousand dollars. If Aiken township will vote a tax or bonds to the amount of $70,000 or $60 000, the road would be secured to that town when built. But if the town which is to be the terminus of the road refuses to make a subscription, it is hardly to be expected that other towns along the route would force a railroad on the Aikenites.

We presume from Governor Hagood's remarks to us that in a little while he will have some definite proposition to make, and our response will determine the whole matter. Abbeville will be expected to give additional help either by private subscriptions, taxation, or bonds. As between taxation and bonds we are entirely in favor of the levy of a tax for any amount which our people propose to give in that way towards the construction of the road. Without being familiar with the manipulation of the bonds, we have a prejudice, if not a well founded reason, against voting a bonded debt. There are many chances that the bonded debt may be hurtful to us. The amount which we would pay in interest would certainly be a liberal subscription itself. For this reason, if for no other, we shall oppose a bonded debt, but we favor taxation for that purpose. Then whatever we give, goes directly to the furtherance of the enterprise for which it was intended. If we vote a tax on ourselves we know exactly what we are doing. We know the burden which we will undertake to carry, and we know the date at which we will be relieved. But with a bonded debt and accumulating interest over our heads, we are certain of nothing. We believe a reasonable tax for railroad purposes would be a profitable investment. We presume the taxes which were paid for the Augusta and Knoxville railroad has already been more than returned. The people along the Savannah Railroad have just voted a tax of ten mills for two years. Does anybody doubt that the advantages to be derived from having the road will repay them fourfold? besides this, the direct return in taxation on the road itself, at a valuation of say $10,000 a mile is no inconsiderable item.

The people of Troy may expect to be called upon to make a liberal contribution. They are centrally located, and, with the proper effort on their part, that town at no distant day, is bound to be one of the most important trade centres in the county. Even in case the C. C. G. & C., is never built, we must join hands and unite Abbeville and Troy by rail. We take it, that the Georgia Central would iron and equip the track, if we finish the grading. This additional railroad we must have, even if we get no more. With railroads all around us we would be hemmed in unless we get a new outlet.

Gov. Hagood said to us, in an interview, as follows:

Reporter—I have sought you, General, for the purpose of getting such information for the public as you may feel disposed to give touching the present prospects of the Carolina, Cumberland Gap and Chicago Railroad in which the liveliest interest is still felt.

Gen. Hagood—The financial agent of the company, Mr. Schofield, is at present engaged in negotiating in England with reliable parties for the purpose of procuring the money necessary to build the road. The undertaking is one of vast magnitude, and the operations have necessarily been slow. Capital is always cautious. You will readily understand why we move slowly when you reflect that the negotiation is for placing at once near two million dollars and potentially the raising of four or five million more.

Reporter—What progress is he making in the negotiation?

Gen. Hagood—He has been for over 12 months actually engaged in fully and clearly laying before capitalists there the merits of our scheme; this of itself has been no matter of quick accomplishment. Persons who are lucky enough to be the owners of millions do not, generally, except upon the fullest assurance of safety and profit, put them far from their immediate control. They have demanded and we have given to them the fullest and most minute information as to the advantages and capacities of this proposed through route across the mountains; and of every particular circumstance connected with the enterprise. These representations have been verified to them in the most conclusive manner possible, and I am assured by Mr. S. that his negotiations have passed through the preliminary stage and have reached the point at which he confidently anticipates an early success.

Reporter—Do you feel at liberty to give an outline of the character of his negotiations—especially in reference to the relation that our own people are expected to stand towards the same.

General Hagood—Our people will certainly have to contribute of their own means if they expect foreign capital to be invested in this enterprise. In the shape that our negotiations have now taken it is probable that the contract with foreign capitalists will be, that they furnish the money and the material stipulated, and then our people have either contributed a certain amount of work, or have exhibited by their contributions the needing for doing so. This is but a reasonable assurance required by them of our faith in the success of our own enterprise and of the necessity felt here for the Road. The exact amount of our own contribution is still a matter of negotiation, but I do feel at liberty to say that it is probable that when our people are again called upon to put their shoulders to the wheel and add to the fifty odd miles they have already graded it will be with assurance that a binding contract has been already made for sufficient capital from abroad to complete the line.

Reporter—Do you then expect to call for contributions from our people at this time under the recent Act of the Legislature authorizing the taxation by townships, &c.

Gen. Hagood—As at present advised I do not until our negotiations abroad are more fully developed; or until some new condition has been introduced into the problem before us. Those in charge of the Road do not contemplate any call for a dollar of additional subscription until we are fully assured that its expenditure will extend to the substantial advancement of an accomplished Road.

TEXT OF THE BLAIR BILL AS IT PASSED THE SENATE.

A Liberal Measure for the Purpose of Raising a Campaign Fund to Control the Negro Vote of the South, and to Perpetuate Republican Rule at Washington.

The Blair bill, as it passed the Senate is as follows:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That for eight years next after the passage of this Act there shall be annually appropriated from the money in the treasury the following sums, to wit: The first year the sum of seven million dollars, the second year the sum of ten million dollars, the third year the sum of fifteen million dollars, the fourth year the sum of thirteen million dollars, the fifth year the sum of eleven million dollars, the sixth year the sum of nine million dollars, the seventh year the sum of seven million dollars, the eighth year the sum of five million dollars; which several sums shall be expended to secure the benefits of common-school education to all the children of the school age mentioned hereafter living in the United States.

Sec. 2. That such money shall annually be divided among and paid out in the several States and Territories in that proportion which the whole number of persons in each who, being of the age of ten years and over, cannot write, bears to the whole number of such persons in the United States; such computation shall be made according to the census of eighteen hundred and eighty.

Sec. 3. That no State or Territory shall receive any of the benefits of this Act until the Governor thereof shall file with the secretary of the interior a statement, certified by him, showing the character of the common-school system in force in such State or Territory; the amount of money expended therein during the last preceding school year in the support of common schools, not including expenditures for the rent, repair, or erection of school-houses; whether any discrimination is made in the raising or distributing of the common-school revenues or in the common-school facilities afforded between the white and colored children therein, and, so far as is practicable, the sources from which such revenues were derived; the manner in which the same were apportioned to the use of the common schools; the number of white and the number of colorer common schools; the average attendance in each class, and the length of the school term. No money shall be paid out under this Act to any State or Territory that shall not have provided by law a system of free common schools for all of its children of school age, without distinction of race or color, either in the raising or distributing of school revenues or in the school facilities afforded: Provided, that separate schools for white and colored children shall not be considered a violation of this condition. The secretary of the treasury shall require of the States and Territories which he finds to be entitled to share in the benefits of this Act, and also the amount due to each.

Sec. 4. That the amount so apportioned to each State and Territory shall be drawn from the treasury by warrants of the secretary of the treasury, upon the monthly estimates and requisitions of the secretary of the interior, as the same may be needed, and shall be paid over to such officers as shall be authorized by the laws of the respective States and Territories to receive the same.

Sec. 5. That the instruction in the common schools wherein these moneys shall be expended shall include the art of reading, writing and speaking the English language, arithmetic, geography, history of the United States, and such other branches of useful knowledge as may be taught under local laws.

Sec. 6. The money appropriated and apportioned under the provisions of this Act to the use of any Territory shall be applied to the use of common and industrial schools therein by the secretary of the interior.

Sec. 7. That the design of this Act not being to establish an independent system of schools, but rather to aid for the time being in the development and maintenance of the school system established by local government, and which must eventually be wholly maintained by the States and Territories wherein they exist it is hereby provided that no greater part of the money appropriated under this Act shall be paid out to any State or Territory in any one year than the sum expended out of its own revenues or out of moneys raised under its authority in the preceding year for the maintenance of common schools, not including the sums expended in the erection of school-buildings.

Sec. 8. That a part of the money apportioned to each State or Territory, not exceeding one-tenth thereof, may yearly be applied to the education of teachers for the common-school system, which sum may be expended in maintaining institutes or temporary training-schools, or in extending opportunities for normal or other instruction to competent and suitable persons, of any color, who are without necessary means to qualify themselves for teaching, and who shall agree in writing to devote themselves exclusively to the teaching of common schools for at least one year after leaving such training-school, to teach in the common schools, for such compensation as may be paid other teachers therein.

Sec. 9. That no part of the educational fund allotted to any State or Territory shall be used for the erection of school-houses or school-buildings of any description, nor for rent of the same.

Sec. 10. That the moneys distributed under the provisions of this Act shall be used only for common schools, not sectarian in character, in the school districts of the several States and Territories, in such way as to provide, as near as may be, for the equalization of school privileges to all the children of the school age prescribed by the law of the State or Territory wherein the expenditure shall be made, thereby giving to each child, without distinction of race or color, an equal opportunity for education. The term "school-district" shall include all cities, towns, parishes, and other territorial subdivisions for school purposes, and all corporations clothed by law with the power of maintaining common schools.

Sec. 11. That no second or subsequent allotment shall be made under this Act to any State or Territory unless the Governor of such State or Territory shall first file with the secretary of the interior a statement, certified by him, giving a detailed account of the payments or disbursements made of the school fund apportioned to his State or Territory, and received by the State or Territorial treasurer or officer under this Act, and of the balance in the hands of such treasurer or officer withheld, unclaimed, or for any cause unapplied, or unexpended, and also the amount expended in such State or Territory as required by Section 8 of this Act, and also of the number of public, common and industrial schools, number of teachers employed, the total number of children taught during the year and in what branches instructed, the average daily attendance, and the relative number of white and colored children, and the number of months in each year schools have been maintained in each school-district. And if any State or Territory shall misapply or allow to be misapplied, in any manner approximated or used other than for the purposes herein required, the funds, or any part thereof, received under the provisions of this Act, or shall fail to comply with the conditions hereinprescribed, or to report as herein provided, through its proper officers, the disposition thereof, and the other matters herein prescribed to be so reported, such State or Territory shall forfeit its right to any subsequent apportionment by virtue hereof until the full amount so misapplied lost or misappropriated shall have been replaced by such State or Territory and applied as herein required, and until such report shall have been made: Provided, That if the public schools in any State admit pupils not within the ages herein specified it shall not be deemed a failure to comply with the conditions herein. If it shall appear to the secretary of the interior that the funds received under this Act for the preceding year by the State or Territory have been faithfully applied to the purposes contemplated by this Act, and that the conditions thereof have been observed, then the secretary of the interior shall distribute the next year's appropriation as hereinbefore provided. The secretary of the interior shall have power to hear and examine any complaints of misappropriation or unjust discrimination in the use of the funds herein provided; and shall report to Congress the results thereof.

Sec. 12. That on or before the first day of September of each year the secretary of the interior shall report to the President of the United States whether any State or Territory has forfeited its right to receive its apportionment under this Act, and how forfeited, and whether he has withheld such allotment on account of such forfeiture; and each State and Territory from which such apportionment shall be withheld shall have the right to appeal from such decision of the secretary of the interior to Congress.

Sec. 13. That the secretary of the interior shall be charged with the practical administration of this Act in the Territories through the commissioner of education, who shall report annually to Congress its practical operation, and briefly the condition of common and industrial education as affected thereby throughout the country, which report shall be transmitted to Congress by the secretary of the interior, accompanying the report of his department. And the power to alter, amend or repeal this Act is hereby reserved.

Sec. 14. That no State or Territory that does not distribute the moneys raised for common-school purposes equally for the education of all the children, without distinction of race or color, shall be entitled to any of the benefits of this Act.

THE NEGROES' HARVARD.

What Becomes of the Graduates of Howard University.

[*Mr. Curtis in the Inter-Ocean.*]

I asked Prof. Greener, the other day, what became of the graduates of Howard university.

"About two-thirds of them go South," he said, "and the remainder either get clerkships or go into business in Washington. A few have gone into the Northern States and become successful men, but the place for them is among the colored people of the South, and there they ought to be encouraged to go, as a little leaven in the big lump."

"Are they successful in the professions?"

"Yes; remarkably so, but there are the proportional number of failures, as is the case everywhere. Some men were born to fail as others were born to succeed, and an education at Howard university cannot change the laws of nature. There are comparatively so few of them in the great mass in the South that the world loses sight of them, but they are there, exercising an influence for good in the community in which they live and encouraging the coming generation to seek an education. They are doctors, lawyers, clergymen, editors, teachers, and some of them enter mercantile business. Others have plantations."

"What becomes of the girls?"

"They teach and some of them become physicians. I know several successful ones. A lady who graduated at the medical college last year went to San Domingo and is keeping a drug store. The rest of them marry in higher stations in life than they could have reached without education, and exercise a refining and elevating influence among those who surround them."

"There used to be a prejudice among the colored people against educated marriages of their race. I remember when an Oberlin nigger was very unpopular."

"So do I; but that has almost entirely died out. The people see the advantages of education. They see that those who have had schooling succeed better than those who have had none, and they all want to learn and have their children go to school."

"Have any of the graduates of Howard university obtained a national reputation?"

"A few; but the institution has not been running long enough to give them a chance; you must remember that it is young yet; but your question can be answered as well as to some extent of an inquiry about Cornell university, which graduated its first class about the same time Howard university did. The students of the former came from the record of the white race, while those of the latter were from the despised and down trodden, just released from slavery. Yet Howard university has a Member of Congress in its Alumni—Mr. O'Hara, of North Carolina—and the Minister to Liberia—Mr. Smythe. I don't believe