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ABBEVILLE, S. C.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

MET IN ANNUAL SESSION ON TUES-DAY OF LAST WEEK.

The Election of Officers in the House and Senate the Most Important Work Done

on the First Day of the Session

COLUMBIA, S. C., Jan. 13.—The General Assembly of South Carolina convened in annual session yesterday at 12 o'clock. THE PROCEEDINGS IN THE HOUSE.

Promptly at 12 o'clock Clerk Gray, clad in his official robes, stepped up to the speaker's desk and called the house to order. When the house had been called to order Mr. B B. McWhite moved Mr. C. W. Garris for temporary chairman. Mr. Garris thanked the house for the honor conferred upon him, and proceeded to say that he would leave all matters relating to the affairs of the State for the permanent

officers. The roll was called by counties and all the members were sworn in, taking the oath in front of the speaker's stand, the temporary speaker administering the oath. The members all took the oath with hands raised and completed the act by kissing a cheap, cloth bound Bible, which was small and easy to Each member, after taking the oath, went up on the stand and signed the roll. Considering the fact that it was the first day of the session, the number of absentes was very small.

Hon. Frank B. Gary was unauimously re elected Speaker. On motion of Mr. Winkler a committee consisting of Messrs Winkler, Rainsford and Bacot was appointed to wait on Mr. Gary and inform him of his election. This committee soon returned with him. Mr. Gary on reaching the stand was sworn in, the members standing meanwhile. On taking the chair, being presented by Mr. Garris, he proceeded to thank the members. He said he esteemed it a high honor to preside over a legislative body in South Carolina. When he thought of those who had presided over the house in the past he felt that the members had mada a mistake in electing him. However, he would know no party or faction. He would be the speaker of the house of representatives and with their co-operation he hoped that the business of the house would not suffer. He again thanked them for the high honor paid him. The election of a clerk was then en-

tered into. Mr. Sturkie in pleasing terms nominated Gen. J. Walter Gray of Greenville. It was seconded by Mr Magill. Mr. Haselden rose to nominate a

man whose qualifications could not be challenged—Mr. Jesse T. Gantt. Mr. Blythe then in appropriate language nominated Mr. J. Tom Austin, who had served three terms in the house, one in the senate and was a

member of the Constitutional conven-Messrs. Crum, Haselden and de Loach were appointed as tellers. The vote resulted as follows: Gantt.....

Austin..... 4 and sworn in.

Stansell as sergeant at arms. Caughman nominated Mr. S G. Holley of Saluda. Mr. McG. Simpkins seconded the nomination in a speech highly eulogistic of Mr. Holley, who is a Confederate veteran. Mr. Crum then seconded the nomination of Mr. Stansell, referring to his excellent

Messrs, Rainsford, Childsand Burns were the tellers. The vote resulted: Holley 25, Stansell 87; total vote cast 112. Mr. Stansell was declared elected and sworn in.

For reading clerk Mr. Crum nomi nated the "man with a voice that few men had," Mr. J. S. Withers, the former reading clerk. Messis. Graham, Townsend and Perritt were appointed tellers. Mr. Withers received 108 votes, all those cast, and was sworn

A resolution offered by Mr. Garris was adopted, that a committee be sent to notify Governor Evans that this body was ready to receive any communication Le might have to make. Messrs. Garris, Sturkie and Pollock were appointed. The committee at derton, H J Kinard, R H Timmer once retired.

Mr. Goodwin moved that the rules of the old house be adopted for this house.

Mr. Meares wanted rule 81 excepted as this was the only legislative body that was accustomed to seating of members by delegations. He thought that it was for the best interests of legislation that the members be seated separately. It would prevent sectionalism.

Mr. Goodwin differed with Mr. Meares. He said it was the best advantage of the house to have the members seated by delegations.

Mr. Meares' amendment was killed and the old rules were adopted, 300 copies of the rules being ordered print-

Mr. Sturkie offered a resolution requiring all memters to stand outside the rail while the seats were being drawn. This was adopted.

The house, on motion of Mr. Kinard, under the new act, proceeded to elect a chaplain. The Rev. J. C. Abney was nominated by Mr. McG. ened to find the seat which lot had Simpkins; the Rev. R. M. Kinard was given him. From the very first the nominated by Mr. Skinner. The ballot resulted as follows: Kinard 53, Abney 46. Mr. Kinard was declared elected.

The governor's message came in at this time, and at the suggestion of his of Berkeley and Senator Archer the governor, upon motion of of Spartanburg. Mr. Garris, the reading of the message was postponed until the pri ter could present to whom the oath of office had supply sufficent copies to be placed to be administered. These senators—for the message, on motion of Senator bilities amounted in round numbers found in another column.

Hampton got the first choice and took and Chesterfield selected seats on the siding officer's stand and there sworn and Chesterneia selected some next. in.

left side. Clarendon came next. in.

Dr. Timmerman was dispatching all got the two best seats in the house.

ence was the last county to get seats Anderson, the only colored member, got the secat he has occcupied for several sessions past.

Speaker Gary was at work last evening on the arrangement of his com- people for all ages to come mittees. He expects to announce his sentiment prevailing among the members as to the personel of the commit-

from falling skylights and the sergeant at arms was directed to have the matter given proper attention. All ess are sick at home.

Speaker Gary appointed the followng committees:

Privileges and Elections-D H Ma-S McGo. Simpkins, T T Westmoreland, J G Wolling.

On Medical Affairs-L K Sturkie, CT Wyche, HP Goodwir, RH Timmerman, A J Spear, J R Smith, J H

Price.
On Judiciary—J M Skinner, T W
Bacot, PH Gadsden, C L Winkler,
H C Patton, W P Pollock, A Blythe,
Knox Livingston, T Y Williams,
George W Gage, W H Thomas, W George W Gage, W H T H Stevenson, R A Meares

Ways and Means—C A Barry, John P Thomas, Jr, C W Garris, J C Mehrtens, CRD Burns, Thomas H Rains ford, J H. Wilson, H P Goodwin, W H Yeldell, Julian Mitchell, TA Graham, HH Crum, J W Witherspoon.
On the Peritentiary—ST McKeown,
J M Hyatt, L A Moore, J M Sullivan,

H H Crum. On Military-H H Crum, M W Pg att, HE Townsend, W S Smith, W H Thomas, A F H Dukes, J D Hasel

den, D H Magill, George B Lester.
On Claims—C. T. Wyche, R. L.
Caughman. Peter Hollis, D. B. Henderson, G L Toole, E L Asbill, T E Johnson, LN Gasque, RW Ander

Roads, Bridges and Ferries-Joshus Ashley, R L Caughman. J D Haselden, C R D Burns, A W Cushman, J S Graham, D M Miles, J O Wingo,) P Goodwin.

On Agriculture-J A Harvey, H M Lofton, J W Ashley, Peter Hollis, D M Bethune, J D Kinard, D F Efird, R B A Robinson, N M Seabrook. Corporations—C W Garris, Jeremi

h Mishoe, E L Asbill, W H DeLoach D A McCullough, W Iderton, T I Johnson, H J Kinard, W A All. On Federal Relations-T W Bacot CL Winkler, R B Anderson, A J Spear, Joseph Bailey, J F Banks, A K Sanders, B B McWhite, T I Rod-

On Railroads-W P Pollock, R C Barkeley, J M Skinner, R A Lancaster, H J Kinard, J F McLaurin, E E Verner, M W Phillips, P H Gadsden,

D Haselden. On Education-John P Thomas, A J A Perritt, A Blythe, George W Gage, D B Henderson, G L Toole, Cowper Patton, T A Graham, J D Hinard On Internal Improvements-M W Philips, D M Miles, J H Price C J Prince, JS Reynolds, M W Pyatt, S

W Russell, RY Lemmon, AB Layton. Gray 59 On State House and Grounds-R M McWhite.

On Public Buildings-M W Philips, M Hiott, J H Wilson, W A Nettles, THOwen, JE Miller, WH Kennedy, WH Edwards, EM Seabrook.

On Accounts—L A Moore, L A Carson, W G Austell, L K Armstrong, C W Whisonant, J A M Caraway, William Mauldin, A F H Dukes.
On Rules—H C Patton, W P Pollock, T W Bacot, C L Winkler, Human Sinkles.

ger Sinkler. On Enrolled Acts—T A Grabam, W S Smith, E L Asbill, Arthur Kib-ler, R H Timmerman, T Y Williams,

D B Henderson. On the Legislative Library-M W Pyatt, CJ Prince, AJ A Perritt, J M Glenn, CA Barry, EJ Limehouse

CJ McDaniel. On Engrossed Bills - Jeremiah Mishoe, LK Armstrong, J S Grahan, A B Layton, Joel H Miller, Ross Fox,

On Public Printing-J D Kinard, J A Perritt, W I Ilderton, C J Colcock, R Y Lemmon, A Blythe, J S

Reynolds. On Lunatic Asylum—J D Haselden L K Sturkie, C A Barry William IIman, L D Childs.

On Offices and Officers—BL Caughman, N W Philips, George W Davis, R B A Robinson, B B McWhite, T T Westmoreland, J M Price.

On Commerce and Manufactures--C Barkeley, R Y Lemmon, George W Fairey, E J Limehouse, W A All, A McCullough, A W Cushman, S W Russell, D M Miles.

On public Schools--H P Goodwin William Ilderton, AJ A Perritt, SW Smith, Arthur Kibler, L A Carson TI Rodgers, CL Winkler, C J Col-

On Mines and Mining--J C Mehr tens, J H Wilson, C J Prince, C W Whisonant, AF H Dukes, SH Epps TY Williams, Knox Livingston, WG

THE PROCEEDINGS IN THE SENATE. Promptly at noon Lieutenant Gov ernor Timmerman called the State H M Stackhouse, L S Connor. senate to order by sharply rapping his gavel. The noise and talk of the senators who were standing about in Buist, J T Douglass, H M Stackhouse, groups at once subsided and each hastened to find the seat which lot had Calla, D K Norris, W M Mauldin. senate settled down to routine work as Dennis, G L Buist, A H Williams, J had not accrued, but what was expectif it had been in session for some time T Hay, D K Norris. instead of but a few minutes. The roll call was at once ordered and showed ferred. The committee returned after dissection of the accounts it was ascerthe only absentees to be Senator Den- informing Governor Evans that the tained that the profits had not reached

Anumber of new members were upon the desks of all the members. Henderson of Aiken, Mayfield of Asynopsis of the message will be Barnwell, Talbird of Beaufort, Gaines 12 o'clock. The governor's message sequently affected to the amount of of Edgefield, Walker of Georgetown. will then be read. The delegations then preceded to Dean of Greenville, Scarborough of draw for seats. A small boy drew the names of the counties from a hat. of Lexington, Brown of Marion, Mower of Newberry, Conner of Orthe seats midway on the right side of angeburg, Alexander of Oconee, Sudthe centre aisle. Union, Chesterfield dath of Saluda, and Love of York, and Spartanburg came next. Union were escorted to the front of the pre

right side and Lancaster and Abbe- this routine work as fast as was comville on the left. Messrs. Pollock of patible with the dignity of the body Chesterfield and Smith of Hampton over which he presided, when he suddenly recalled that the proceedings cided to accept.

It required over an hour's time to had not been opened with prayer. He complete the selections of seats. Flor- suspended business and announced that the Rev. Mr. Willoughby would at d had to take what were left. R. B. make the opening prayer. Mr. Willoughby did so, asking fer direction from above and that all work which was done by the senate should be for the glory of God and the good of the

Dr. Timmerman here extended a appointments at today's session. He cordial greeting to the senators and says he will give the matter most then announced that the election of careful consideration and ascertain the the clerk of the senate was in order. On motion of Mr. Mayfield Gen. R. R. Hemphill was unanimously retees.

At yesterday's session, Mr. Rainsford called attention to the danger D. K. Norris of Anderson was elected pressident of the senate pro tem and Mr. W. H. Steward reading clerk.

A good many candidates appeared but 13 members of the house were in the field for the position of sergeantpresent yesterday. Some of the absen- at-arms. Messrs. J. D. Hood of Chester, D. R. Leseene of Williamsburg, J. W. Floyd of Kershaw, W. J. Shelton of Union, R. Jolley of Spartanburg, J. T. Parks, of Orangeburg, John F. gill, Chairman: S T McKeown, R Y Lemmon, Ben F Townsend, C M Davis, G L Toole, John M Glenn, D F Efird, Peter Hollis, Jeremian Mishoe, S McGo. Simpkins T T Westmore.

On motion of Senator McCalla the president appointed a committee of nform him that the senate was ready

committee. Dr. Timmerman announced the following appointments: J. T. Gantt, journal clerk; E. A. Perry, bill clerk; George Anderson and — Auld, pages; Jas. T. Parks, postal clerk, Jacob F. Gooding and J. F. Shumpert, door keeper and assistant doorkeeper; D. W. Harris, galler; doorkeeper; W. E. Evans, assistant gallery doorkeeper N. O. Pyles, general committee clerk M. S. Ashley, Calhoun Butler and H. A. Turner, porters; Jas. Frazier and James Hodges, laborers. He made these appointments after consulting with the newly elected lieutenant governor, Mr. McSweeney, to ascertain if they were satisfactory to him. The following committees were also

announced: Agriculture-J H McDaniel, chairman; JS Dubose, A S Williams, H M Stackhouse, J T Douglas, A C Sanders, W B Love.

Claims and Grievances-Altamont Moses, chairman; E L Archer, Geo S Mower, G W Ragsdale, J M Gaines, S Suddath, J H Turner. Contingent Accounts—D J Griffith,

Mauldin, I H McCalla, G L Buist.

Enrollod Bills-LeGrand Walker, chairman; Jos Alexander, A H Dean. Thos Talbird, R B Scarborough, E J Dennis. Finance-G L Buist, chairman; I

H McCalla, W. B. Love, A H Williams, A C Sanders, J S Dubose, Altamont Moses, H M Stackhouse, D J Griffith, D K Norris.

Charitable Institutions—J T Doug-lass, chairman; J N Turner, B F Mil-lsr, W B Love, J T Hay, J B Suddath LS Connor. Commerce and Manufactures-F L Archer, chairman; A H Dean, D K

Norris, J E Pettigrew, LeGrand Walk-system. er, J S Dubose, J M Gaines. County Officers-A C Sanders, chairman; R B Scarborough, W A Brown,

G W Ragsdale. Federal Relations-H M Stackhouse, chairman; W T O'Dell, G L Buist, J

R Turner, E J Dennis, B F Miller. Immigration—E J Dennis, chairman; C R Wallace, A H Dean, JS

Dubose, G W Ragsdale.

Incorporations—D S Henderson,
chairman; Geo S Mower, A H Dean,
G W Ragsdale, R B Scarborough, J T Hay. Judiciary—S C Mayfield, chairman

Geo S Mower, J T Sloan, G L Buist, D S Henderson, Thos Talbird, Le-Grand Walker, J T Hay, R B Scarborough.

BSuddath. Penitentiary-I H McCalla, chair-

Gaines, D S Henderson, G W Rags dale, J T Hay. Public Lands--A H Dean, chair-

man; J S DuBose, L M Ragin, J T Hay, Jos Alexander. Retrenchment-Jos Alexander, chair man; AH Dean, GW Ragsdale, A

C Sanders. Roads, Bridges and Ferries-W T O'Dell, chairman; A. H. Williams, A. Sanders, B F Miller. CR Wallace,

J B Suddath, D J Griffith.
Legislative Library—J T Hay, chairman; J E Pettigrew, L S Connor.
Military—W H Mauldin, chairman;
A C Sanders, Altamont Moses, J T

Sloan, J H Turner. Mines and Mining-J S DuBose, chairman; LeGrand Walker, H M R Wallace, Thomas Talbird.

Printing—J M Ragin, chairman; J H McDaniel, J B Suddath, Jos Alexander, I H McCalla, Altamont Moses, W A Brown. Public Buildings-J E Pettigrew,

chairman; W T O'Dell, J T Douglass, Railroads and Internal Improvements-J T Sloan, chairman; G L

Rules-LS Connor, chairman; E J Several bills were introduced and ra-

senate was ready for business and announced that the governor said he cash, merchandise, teams and wagons would send his message in a few min- and personal accounts amounted in

Will Take It.

CANTON, O., Jan. 13.--A message received here from Washington tonight makes it reasonably certain that Senator Sherman's present intention is to accept the position of secretary of State in President McKinley's cabinet. It was intimated to Senator Sherman several days ago that Maj. McKinley would be glad to know whether he would be inclined, to accept a cabinet position, and he has de-

HIS LAST MESSAGE.

GOV. EVANS' OFFICIAL COMMUNICA-TION TO THE LEGISLATURE.

Much Space Devoted to the Dispensary Law-Other Matters of Grave Importance

The following is the annual message f Governor John Gary Evaas to the

leneral Assembly: dentlemen of the General Assembly: It is the duty of the governor under he Constitution to give you from time to time information of the condition of the State and to recommend such measures for your consideration as he may deem expedient. I shall confine myself in this my last annual message to giving you such information as I have been able to obtain as to the condition of the State, leaving to my successor to make recommendations as to any future legislation or policy. Two years ago I was elected gover

nor to succeed a leader of a revolution who, to use his own language, was the "worst hated and best loved" man loughby was elected chaplain of the who has ever entered the politics of our State. The policy that I should pursue was already formed by the people and the only issue made was as three to wait on Governor Evans and to the enforcement of the dispensery law-whether it should be aggressive for business. Senators McCalla, Buist with a view of destroying the illicit and Pettigrew were appointed on this traffic in liquor or whether it should be of a milk and cider form as our enemies would have it with the hope of its final repeal. My nomination and election meant the former and I have endeavored to be true to that policy. It would have been an easy matter for me to have placated my enemies and the enemies of the Reform movement by giving ear to the overtures of the whiskey element and their allies in the cities of the State—the daily press. These people who slandered and vilified the framers of the dispensary law have continued their stubborn warfare to an extent that would barely be tolerated by a less conservative people. They have not been content to express their contempt of the law, but have attempted to drag down by lying and slandering every official connected with the administration of the law. Every error in bookkeeping of an inexperienced disper has been magnified into an embezzlement. Every arrest of an illicit dealer in liquor by a constable has been characterized as vilest oppression of innocent and law-abiding citizens. If perchance an offender is killed while resisting the officers and carrychairman; A H Dean, L M Ragin, L ing on his damnable traffic, it is class S Connor, J T Hay. S Connor, J T Hay.

Education—WA Brown, chairman; ed as a murder most foul. These reports are sent out to the world as D S Henderson, D K Norris, W H truths, when as a matter of fact they ports are sent out to the world as are brazen falsehoods. It is a disgraceful spectacle that South Carolinians should descend so low as to slander their own government from political

malice. The dispensary law is stronger to day than at any time since its enactment and is better enforced as will appear from the statistics later on. This is the most important matter | Paid to towns and counties,

with which you will have to deal, and I would respectfully call your attention to the excellent report of the board of control, with the request that you study it and think well before

making any changes in the present THE DISPENSARY AS A BUSINESS. Up to the time of my induction into with submitted. office as governor, the dispensary had been in operation about 18 months. cial business its success can not be de-The governor was charged, not only nied. To the above estimates the sum with the enforcement of the law, but as business manager in the capacity of chairman of the board of control.

The business had continually increased until it reached over \$1,000,000 an- law has been the bane of the whiskey city to the law than an outsider who of all good citizens in placing Charles nually. Realizing that as a business dealer, the terror of the illicit distiller, it was tentative and that it had not been placed upon what could truly be called a business plane and that it was burdened with crudities of which it must be divested before it could reach the expectations of the public as a moral reformation and a business success. my first official act was to give its former management a thorough investigation in order to ascertain its financial status as well as its weak points. was met by many difficulties, politi-Medical Affairs—A H Williams, cal as well as business. To commence chairman; Altamont Moses, A H the business the general assembly of Dean, D J Griffith, C R Wallace, J 1892 voted an appropriation of \$50, 000. For the first 18 months of its existence the dispensary experienced man; Altamont Moses, A H Dean, D many vicissitudes and when it was J Griffith, C R Wallace, J B Suddath.

Privileges and Elections—Geo S
Mower, chairman; I H McCalla, J M

One of the State are—at the results the State treasury in net earnings and the \$50,000 appropriation was still unliquidated. The statements of its liquidated. The statements of its growth and progress as published from time to time by the former commissioner were unsatisfactory to the public, for the reason that the system of bookkeeping was a Chinese puzzle and Chief Fant and the lower in charge of no one could tell exactly the true sta Chief Holley. The salaries and extus of the business. This fact gave color to the adverse criticisms of the administration of the law and invited \$47,726.01. the terrific accusations that were made against those charged with its management. The last statement of these assets and liabilities and profits which the former commissioner made was for the quarter ending January 21, 1895. In that statement, the profits of whiskey and brandy seized in the throughout the State, but I determined Stackhouse, AH Dean, GL Buist, C claimed to have accrued to date amounted to \$151,295.51. Bookkeepers of experience could not cipher this out and claims were made that the profits were fictitious. I determined to and horses, and 10 illicit distilleries proved a success in every sense of the change the business management and adopt a full and satisfactory system of accounting. An expert bookkeep. er was employed and it was ascertain-

ed that the profits claimed had not accrued, but that the accrued profit to that date was forty-odd thousand dollars less than the amount. This was simply a mistake in bookkeeping and in crediting to the profit account what ed to have accrued in the hands of county dispesers. After a thorough \$110,000. The entire assets, including \$2,000 in a final checking and adjustments of accounts. The liabilities were as follows: To State appropriation, \$50,000; to sundry persons, for liquors \$36,000; total indebtedness \$86,000; cash on hand \$45,548.40 or \$40,451.60 date the indebtedness. This is simply

and in good condition and as sound almost at the doors of the court house

a board of control composed of farmability, whose reputation for honesty from the hands of the commissioner and given to this board. They have ner to command the respect of all parties. The duties of the commissioner the board and superintendent, and the

of the dispensary and every penny a-

law and return to the old system, you will find by investigation that such propositions come from lean and hunthe same period \$122,000, making a total accrued profit to the State, towns and counties \$322,000; addin , \$57,652. 65 unearned profit on goods in the hands of local dispensers first of January, 1897, swells the total of earned and unearned profits to the State and towns and counties for the past year to the amount of \$379,652.65. net profit accruing the past administration for 18 months was \$110,348 80. Net profits for 1895, \$133 467.79. Net profits for 1896, \$200,000, making a total net accrued profit to the State to date \$443,816.57. Add to this net acprofit, \$57,652.65, makes a total earned add the amount of the net accrued profits to the towns and counties for the years 1895 and 1896 of \$228,121 28 we have a grand total of earned and unearned profits to State, the commission of crime of which towns and counties to date of \$729,600.-The amount that has been actual ly paid to the State, county and town reasurers from the net earnings from the State and county dispensaries is as

foliows: Paid into the State treasury in 1896..... 100,000

Total..... \$200,000 1896...... 122,000 00

Total.....\$228,131 28 Grand total net profits paid in from all sources \$428,131 28. For further particulars of stock on hand, etc., I would respectfully refer you to the report of the State board of control here-

It will thus be seen that as a finan-

the pitiful excuse for the opposition of form of disgrunted politicians catering to local influences, good or bad. It is the duty under the law of all the executive officers of the State, counties and towns to enforce this law, and such officers are compelled to take an body to faithfully enforce the law when they assume their official duties. The governor is authorized to employ constables and State detectives, whose especial duty it is to enforce the law. l have employed on an average about and one State detective, and they have been zealous and faithful in their obtained during the past year 55 regular commissioned constables, including the two chief State constables, have been regularly employed. The State is divided into two divisions known as the "upper" and the "lower." penses, including one detective and

were destroyed. In the lower divi- word and I am satisfied, if left to a sion there were seized and confiscated vote of the honest, Christian, lawabid-6,090 gallons of whiskey, wine and ing citizens of Charleston, freed of lons of beer and cider in kegs, three it. In the first place it is admitted by vehicles and four head of mules and its enemies that the chief of the force horses one i licit distillery was de stroyed. The resistance to the law have given better service than any in counties of the State a healthy condition exists and the citizens are almost police, in an interview in a city paper unanimous in support of the law, and I am glad to report that the law is shal Martin and his entire force had being better enforced throughtout the acted with absolute impartiality and State at large, as is snown by the sales convictions of illict dealers in the the constables show a better state of feeling throughout the State at large, In the counties of Oconee, Greenville and Chesterfield difficulties have been had with traders coming from North less than amount necessary to liqui | Carolina. These desperadoes invariaa rough statement of the status of the termination to resist the officers to the

financially as any business institution and they narrowly escaped with their son perish in South Carolina. Under of the country. It has been taken out lives. The good people of the country the laws of this State police officers

of politics and placed in the hands of became indignant and an honest at- are State officers. Municipal tempt has been made to bring these formed for the purpose of aid ers, bankers and business men of offenders to justice. In two instances State government in enforcing the constables have been compelled to laws of the State. They are inte and integrity cannot be impugned, shoot down these desperadoes, and although fully justified and acquitted ment, and when they fail to perform to some men, has been taken by the courts of the land of any their functions they should be put wrong, they have been handed down under State control, of or have their by the newspapers opposed to this law charters repealed. It has been conexercised it judiciously and in a man- and branded as common murderers. tended that the police have been tak-The only way to deal with such offen- en from the control of the citizen ders is to let them know that the law are now exercised by the chairman of will be enforced even if it be necessary to take their lives.

office of commissioner could be abolished by your body. If this power is ever again placed in the hands of one which allows the importation of has enjoyed the confidence and whiskey for "personal" use. The which allows the United States has would at once become an obabuse and slander of all the enemies States supreme court, and if our posisponsibility. The experience of the traffic. One of the best evidences of of which were taken out in the city of Possibly the best evidence of the work Charleston. It will thus be seen that of the force would be a comparison of for the revenue year ending June 30, the sales from the dispensaries. The 1896, the State at large showed a degains under the metropolitan system crease of over 56 per cent, while the during the first second and third quarcity of Charleston showed an increase of over 20 per cent. Since the 1st of June, 1896, the State at large shows a and county reach \$7,427.02, nearly decrease of over 42 per cent., while 100 per cent. the city of Charleston for the same period, under the metropolitan police, consumption of whiskey and a promoing the holidays only one instance of have not been entered. ported in the State, and the Christmas holidays were marked for their sobriety, peace and quietude. During the recent State fair held in the city of 1895.....\$100,000 day and not an arrest for drunkenness was made in the city. The same re-In the State. The number of convictions for the violations of the dispensary law has increased from year to year, as the following table by the attorney general shows: No Bills

& discon. Not Mis tinued. Guilty trial Guilty tal. In year 1893.24 16 1 112 2 In year 1894 107 In year 1895.65 55 21 141 In year 1896 444 24

ported 231 were from the city of Charleston. METROPOLITAN POLICE.

The greatest problem that I have has had no dealings with them would imagine, but it has come to be a polithypocrites and cranks, and the plat- ical and a social question in that community and a great number of its friends have not the timerity to publicly uphold it. I realize that to be politic in dealing with this question erate with the State administration in meant to be false to the great majority of the people of South Carolina and untrue to those who had elected me out the illicit traffic, all good citizens oath prescribed by your honorable untrue to those who had elected me and I determined upon an aggressive must admit that in Columbia, Greenpolicy towards this city. The question narrowed itself down simply to towns a better feeling exists and earn-this: Whether the illicit traffic and est efforts are being made to enforce contempt of law and order should prevail in Charleston and be restrained 50 constables during my term of office in the rest of the State or whether I should support and enforce the law with a strong hand giving equality to all men. Seeing the increased amount of illicit sales of whiskey in this city people of the State are—at the results and the contempt with which the officers of the law were treated and having warned the mayor and city council repeatedly of my intention to no time to time and see that they are avail, the State commission consisting of the governor, the secretary of state and the comptroller general, was in the accounts of county dispensers The upper division is in charge of called together and thoroughly reviewed the situation. They unani-Chief Holley. The salaries and ex- mously agreed that the only course county boards of control. These deleft was to use every power for the the clerk in my office, amounted to enforcement of the law placed in our hands by the general assembly, or to eral with instructions to prosecute, Thirty-one constables are assigned abandon the city to the barkeeper and to the upper and 24 to the lower division. The upper divison has been former course. I expected and so did much harder to handle by reason of the other members of the much harder to handle by reason of the other members of the board to rethe proximity of North Carolina and ceive the condemnation of this city and and becomes unworthy of his position. the mountain distilleries. The amount of the enemies of the dispensary law upper division for the past year was to do my duty, and, failing in that, 245 gallons, 90 gallons of beer, 8,976 to recommend to you such legislation gallons of cider and beer in bot- as I deemed necessary to meet the iles, 12 vehicles and 16 head of mules case. The metropolitan police has

> a bitter opponent of the law and the and perpetuated. after the last election stated that Mar-

This is untrue. They are in the hands of a commission of native born Charlestonians, whose interests are It will be seen that the total drinks

tion is sustained there will be little and drunks and disorderlies have liner, without any moral or social re- trouble in putting an end to the illicit gradually decreased from 801 in 1890 to 277 in 1896 under metropolitan popast year should be enough to contract the decrease in the illicit traffic is the lice—a decrease of nearly 75 per cent. The street of the decrease in the illicit traffic is the lice—a decrease of nearly 75 per cent. The street of the decrease of the decrease of nearly 75 per cent. The lice—a decrease of nearly 75 per cent. vised and importuned to change this year ending June 21, 1896, there cases. Their names and residences were issued to parties outside are duly given in the report. Of this of dispensaries 315 licenses and number 32 have been tried and conone wholesale license included. Of victed and have paid into the county pry politicians with itching palms. these 190 were taken out in the city of You will be told that the operations of the present board are a failure. The same period ending June 31, 1835, 720 licenses were made but for the fact that at the last Judge them by their acts and results taken out. Of this number 157 were term of the court every case was con-and not by hearsay. The subjoined taken out in the city of Charleston, tinued upon the affidavits of attorneys comparative statement of sales to showing a decrease of 405 in the State who claimed to be sick and were seen county dispensers has been furnished and an increase of 33 in the city of me by the bookkeeper and is subject Charleston. For the year ending to your examination and verification:

The net profit that has accrued to so far to illicit dealers 173 licenses, of had, the grand jury refusing in many the State for the past year is in round which 125 were taken out for Charles-cases to find true bills. It is a notanumbers \$200,000. The next amount ton, among them four wholesale lible fact that two of the city council accrued to the towns and counties for censes to dealers in that city. For the who were sworn to enforce this law same period the previous year there were among the number indicted and are 299 licenses to illicit dealers, 157 against whom true bills were found.

> ters of the year 1896. Under metropolitan system to city

The police made during the year 1895 582 raids and recovered 418 botshows a decrease of over 20 per cent. It is another significant fact that in the of wine partly filled, 39 bottles of wine partly filled, 70 demejohns of crued profit the outstanding unearned counties of the State where public sen-profit. \$57,652.65, makes a total earned timent has always upheld the law, as key partly filled, 5 half barrels of and unearned profit to date of for instance the county of Abbeville, whiskey partly filled, 42 full barrels \$501,469.22. If to this sum we the sales of the dispensary have fallen of whiskey, 54 10 gallon kegs of whisoff. Thus showing a decrease in the consumption of whiskey and a promobeer and 10,304 bottles of beer. The tion of the cause of temperance. Duc- caids where no seizures were made

> Thirty-one ex-barkeepers and illict whiskey was the direct cause was re dealers have been made to discontinue their business and most of them have left the city.

> The police department consists of three commissioners, who exercise Columbia 20,000 people were reported all the powers conferred by law upon to have been upon the grounds Thurs the department. The strength of the force is as follows: One marshal and chief of police, three lieutenants, two cord has been made in every county orderly sergeants, eight line sergeants, one chief detective, three detectives, seventy-three privates, four gateme two draymen, five drivers, ten special

> In the enforcement of the dispensary law the police force have not neglected their duty in the detection of other offenders against the peace and good order of the city, and no com-plaints have been made on this score, Capt. J. Elmore Martin has enforc-In year 1896 444 24 159 627 ed the laws in an aggressive and vigorous manner. Notwithstanding the

hundreds of arrests made and the intricate and delicate questions he has has had to decide as the executive officer of the department, on every occahad to meet since my connection with sion he has displayed the ability to amicably adjust the issues involved. He and his efficient force and the poice commissioners deserve the thanks ton upon as high a plane as the other cities of the State. So far as the other cities of the State

are concerned, I am happy to state that the municipal authorities in every instance have shown a desire to co-openforcing this law, and while we do ville, Spartanburg and the smaller towns a better feeling exists and earnthe law.

I desire to call your attention to a feature of the law which I think could be dispensed with. The county boards of control in most instances do not control. They could be abolished and their duties imposted upon the State board of control and three or four inspectors, whose duty would be to visit the county dispensaries from properly conducted.

There have been several shortages

and they have been invariably the result of negligence on the part of the linquent dispensers have been promptly reported by me to the attorney gen-We might as well argue that the banking system should be destroyed because a cashier occasionally goes astray. There are good and honest men, and they can be had to fill all these positions. It is your duty, not only to the dispensary law, but to the Reform movement and to those having its interest at heart to investigate this business from its organization to the brandy, 39 barrels of beer, 2,255 gal- political malice, they would sustain present time. If anything wrong is lit. In the first place it is admitted by its enemies that the chief of the force and the police are more efficient and have given better service than any in the history of the city. The policein the upper tier of the counties ad-joining the North Carolina line and man as a political ward wheeler has in the county of Charleston has been been destroyed and even Mr. Barn. doing is suspected. In this way alone most stubborn. In the remaining well, chairman of the opposition and can your government be kept honest

CLEMSON COLLEGE.

I am unable to give you a full insight into the workings of this institution. The governor is not a member had performed their duty faithfully. of the board of trustees and is depenof the dispensaries and the number of Praise from Sir Hubert is praise in dent entirely on the reports of the ofdeed. The only objection seems to be ficers of the institution and personal The that the city has been deprived of one inspection for what information he violations reported to my office show a feature of home rule and this has been may possess. The reports of the offilarge decrease and the daily reports of the slogan in the absence of any mer- cers have not been furnished me alitous objection. What is home rule? though request has been made to the Does it mean the absolute power of a municipality to abrogate and nullify data. What I shall say, therefore, is municipality to abrogate and nullify data. the statute laws of a sovereign State? taken from a newspaper report and Does it mean the submission of the my own knowledge from visitation, lives and homes of honest citizens to a President Craighead, in his reports ble go armed to the teeth with a de-termination to resist the officers to the dealers in whiskey? Does it mean the ment 346, of which 169 were in the dispensary when I took charge of the extent of loosing their lives if necessa- free parade through the avenues of preparatory or fiting school, leaving business. I am happy to state that I ry. In Oconee a dastardly attempt lawless Italians with whiskey barrels 174 in the college proper. It will turned it over to my successor healthy was made to assasinate the constables wrapped in the flag of the Union? If thus be seen that there has been a large so, then let this conception of Jeffer falling off in the attendance upon the

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