

resigning his seat in the Senate of the United States.

The retirement of this distinguished Statesman, from a post in which he has not only served the State which he represented, but in which he is not less to be deplored, for reasons of public consideration, than for the causes which personally influence his determination. The illness which renders this step unavoidable, withdraws from the counsels of the country a patriot, whose abilities have been surpassed by nothing but his fidelity and freedom from all impure and selfish motives. He will carry, with him the undivided confidence and gratitude of the people of this State, to whose service he has devoted so large a portion of his life, with their warmest wishes that he may find in the repose of retirement, the health and happiness he so eminently deserves.

I transmit various documents from our sister State, for all which I invite your consideration.

In conclusion, permit me, Gentlemen, to express a hope, that your deliberations may conduce to the advancement and prosperity of that State, which we are all so much bound to love and honor, and that guided by that Supreme Intelligence, which governs and controls the universe all your acts may be such, as not only to secure to you the approbation of your own consciences, but may bring down upon your heads the gratitude of the present and future generations, and the smiles of an approving heaven.

WILLIAM AIKEN

The subjoined Orders from Col. P. M. Butler have just been placed in our hands by the gentleman to whom they are addressed.

It will be perceived that the present organization of the Regiment is ardently desired by His Excellency the Governor as well as by the commanding Colonel. The honor of the State is pledged, that she will furnish her quota of men for the service of our common country. The last Order from the War Department is in truth a new requisition—so essentially different in its terms from the requisition made in June last, as honorably to absolve every Volunteer who declines going for a longer period than was at first stipulated. But some of us must go, our State must respond—and by every consideration of patriotism, of State pride, of honor and of glory, let the response be promptly made. And where sooner than in Old Edgefield, the scene of so many gallant deeds of heroism on the part of our ancestors, and the nurse, as she has long been, of every noble impulse and generous sentiment of honor and chivalry?

Any reluctance or flinching on the part of our young men will throw much difficulty and retard, if it does not altogether prevent the raising of the necessary force to represent our State, on the common-battle field.

After all our boast of "Chivalry" and devotion to the common cause, what an everlasting shame and disgrace, will attach to our State if the Palmetto Banner should be missing from the field, where duty calls, where glory invites it, and where brethren from other States are yielding up their blood and their lives, under the common standard of the Stars and Stripes!

To the soldier at heart, the post of danger is the post of honor, and we feel assured that there will be the "Old '96 Boys" be found.

Regimental Orders, No. 1.

REGIMENTAL HEAD QUARTERS,
Columbia, (S. C.) Nov. 22, 1816.

CAPT. P. S. BROOKS:

Sir—The enclosed order has been sent to me by His Excellency, Gov. Aiken. The requisition on South Carolina has been made under an assumption, that the Regiment has been already organized—and ready for a campaign. The application of the Officers to be called into service has been recognized at the War Department. The present occasion offers an opportunity for a prompt and patriotic willingness on the part of the Regiment to fulfill its pledges to the Government, and it is no time for hesitation or debate. In appearance only, the Department has changed its terms. For if its plans are sustained in having an overwhelming force called out, no one doubts but they will result in a speedy termination of the War, and to suppose that it will last longer than twelve months, is to suppose that the Troops of the Republic, and the constituted authorities of the Government will not do their duty; at any rate it is our duty to give our plighted support at this crisis.

Since the enrollment of your men, there may be instances in which some members from disease or other causes, cannot comply with their engagement. But there are young men of gallantry and military ambition who will no doubt take their places. I hope they will be no reluctant disposition to forward the service, for which I feel the honor of our State is pledged. Our declining will only throw the action of the State, in contrast with others who are anxious to send their soldiers to maintain the honor and glory of our common country. Celerity and promptness are the elements of military movements. I wish therefore an early answer—call your Companies together, and ascertain their determination immediately; and according to that must be the future course that will be pursued.

P. M. BUTLER,
Col. Com'd S. C. V.

The Commander in Chief cordially approves the orders and suggestions of Col. Butler made above, and hopes that the old organization will be maintained, and that a prompt response be given to the order for the call of the Regiment from S. Carolina.

J. W. CANTEY,
Adj. and Insp. Gen.

REGIMENTAL ORDERS, No. 3.

REGIMENTAL HEAD QUARTERS,
Columbia, (S. C.) Nov. 23, 1816.

CAPT. P. S. BROOKS:

Sir—In addition to the late requisition of the Secretary of War, and my general

instructions under it, as approved by the Executive Department of the State, which I herewith send you, I would earnestly insist upon the following further details.

While the pledged honor of the State, always to bear her portion of the public burthens, whether of blood or treasure, demands that the present organization of the Regiment be maintained, as promising the most speedy means of obeying this call; and while the advantages in the services, as it respects rank, convenience, and other considerations of like nature secured by our present organization, should be strong motives for preserving it, it will be fair to state to your company that it is not bound by its original tender to obey the present call. Assemble your company as soon as possible, and ascertain whether a majority of them are willing to adopt these new terms; if so, proceed at once by the most active and efficient measures to raise your number of privates at least as high as eighty effective men. You will perceive by reference to the requisition itself, that I use the term of *effective* advisedly. When you have obtained a sufficient number of men to constitute the minimum strength of the company allowable, (which is sixty four privates), notify me here by express, of the fact, and put your company immediately in motion for Charleston, the place of rendezvous, where clothing, arms, camp equipage, &c., will be furnished by the War Department.

Those companies not immediately on the line of Rail Road, will reach the most convenient point upon the line with the assistance of wagons, for the transportation of their most necessary baggage. All ordinary necessary expenses of transportation and subsistence, incurred after the complete organization of the company, as well as of the expenses herein contemplated, will be defrayed by the Executive Department of the State—but express contracts must be made, and in every case in which money is paid out under them, vouchers of such payments must be preserved.

In the event that you will maintain the existing organization of your company, which it is most ardently hoped you will not, and which it is desirable should be ascertained as soon as possible, notify me at this place, by express; if it can be thus done more expeditiously than by the mails, and let it be publicly and fully understood that the door is again open for the patriotic and spirited citizens of our old State, to step forward at her call to vindicate her ancient honor, and discharge their obligations to our common country.

By order of
P. M. BUTLER,
Col. Commanding S. C. Volunteers.
CAMPELLE R. BRUCE, Adjutant.

MISCELLANEOUS.

From the N. O. Picayune, Nov. 20.

LATER FROM MEXICO.

We have received by the schooner Mitis papers from Vera Cruz to the 8th inst., being eight days later than our advices by way of Havana. Their intelligence is interesting and not without importance.

We miss the papers of the 1st inst., which contained Santa Anna's address from San Luis, in which he endeavors to heal the dissensions of parties in the capital, and renounces forever for himself political office. Judging from the tone of the papers, this will not do. Parties are so embittered against each other that he only can stay their excesses and unite the country. All appeal to him, especially the extreme federalists, to assume power. In the end he will be constrained to do so, or civil war ensue. The tone of the Mexican papers is as embittered against us as ever. Nothing is talked of in the Provinces but the war; and in the capital, but the war and the political divisions. But let us first bring up the news as to the expedition of Tabasco.

When Com. Perry left the anchorage near Vera Cruz for Tabasco, the Mexicans supposed that Alvarado was again to be attacked. It was only some days after that they learned his real destination. Their first accounts of the result were published on the 21st inst. They treat it as a wretched, predatory expedition, prompted only by the defenceless state of Tabasco, and they want us with our two repulses from Alvarado, and defy us to renew the attempt.

The Indicator of the 2d inst. says that the evening previous they were insulted by an American merchant vessel, which passed the city for Sacrificios so close in that she might readily have been seized by boats and launches from the port, the blockading ship being at quite a distance at the time. The blame is thrown upon the government for not providing money and other resources to improve such opportunities.

The same paper of the 4th says that there was then ashore on the reef near Anton Lizaola a North American merchant brig, which had arrived there with provisions and stores for the squadron. The steamers and launches of the squadron were busily engaged taking out her cargo, in hopes to save it by this means; but the editor says that those who are acquainted with the coast say her loss is inevitable. Her name is not given.

The same day the look-out on the Casite signaled a vessel ashore towards the South. We find no further mention of her.

The Indicator says that the Captain General at Vera Cruz received despatches on the 5th instant, covering another from the Secretary of State of the United States to the Mexican Secretary of Foreign Affairs. The purport was unknown to the editor, but he presumes it to be another proposal on our part for peace—Mr. Polk presuming that the fall of Monterey will dispose the Mexicans to submission.

Government received despatches on the 1st inst. from Santa Anna with a statement of what measures for defence he had taken, and expressing a hope that he should be able to repair the honor of the nation. Santa Anna also wrote that Gen. Taylor had received from Washington a million of dollars, and reinforcements which carried the number of his troops to 24,000.

The Monitor says that Gen. Taylor had contracted for 25,000 sacks of corn at \$5 a sack. A Mexican to whom the contract was tendered, had refused to execute it. So says the Monitor.

The poor courier shot by Amputia was the one on whom they found Mr. Marcy's letter of Sept. 21 to Gen. Taylor. Thus it appears that he was not faithful.

A paper of the 22d of October from Durango, says that Gen. Canales had had a fight with a party of volunteers, killing fifty of them and taking fourteen wagons. Encouraged by his example, the Durango paper says the whole country was in insurrection. Canales pretended that he did not know of the capitulation, not having signed it; and besides, it did not, he contended, extend to volunteers. These volunteers had been sent away by Gen. Taylor, as some said because their term of service had expired; others said they were in pursuit of Canales; and yet others, that they were on their way to Tampico. It was also reported that they were terrified by the manner in which the Mexicans fought at Monterey.

The papers still complain of the excesses committed by the Americans at Monterey. Families continued to leave for Saltillo, and from the neighborhood of the latter city, even, they were going south to escape the visitation of our troops.

A letter written from San Luis Potosi on the 28th of October says there were then 18,000 troops there, and that in fifteen days more there would probably be 30,000. There was no room for people in the city and provisions were excessively scarce.

Gen. Santa Anna had ordered a number of officers to leave their commands in the army and repair to the village of Pozos for trial on the charge of cowardice at Monterey.

Gen. Santa Anna has declined to receive pay for his services.

The Government of the State of San Luis Potosi has passed a decree expelling from its limits every Anglo-American living there, giving them three days, counting from the 21st of October, to take their departure.

Various important subjects are to be brought before Congress; among other things the disposition of the money received for the sale of the two steamers. The treasury is said not to have received a cent from said sale.

Sr. Don Manuel Baranda has been appointed superintendent of the mint, in place of Sr. Gonzalez Angulo, resigned. The appointment excited much remark.

We find in the papers a letter from Chihuahua dated the 10th Oct., from which it appears that Gov. Frias at last learned of the advance of an army of North Americans. The Mexican spies set down the number at 2,000 perhaps more, with one or perhaps two pieces of cannon. The officer who makes the report to Gov. Frias infers that they are North Americans, or at least under the command of North American officers, from the order in which they march, their mode of encampment, stationing pickets and the like. They were seen in the vicinity of San Carlos, and it was supposed were about to fall upon Ramada or Guaymas. This last town is laid down on the best maps which we have, as being nearly south of Chihuahua and a little east of the main road to the south. We infer from this that the Mexicans have discovered the advance of Gen. Wool's command.

In regard to Chihuahua, we believe we have before said that Gen. Reyes had been ordered thither, and a thousand muskets granted for the defence of the people. Since then both the General and the guns have been countermanded. Why this was done, to one appears to know, but we suspect Sant Anna knew full well that to send a thousand muskets there was but to throw them into Gen. Wool's way. A strong appeal is made to Santa Anna not to abandon Chihuahua.

A large number of Indians, said to reach 2000, had passed from Chihuahua into Durango, and it was feared they would enter Zacatecas. Five hundred mounted troops left Zacatecas on the 23d October, to repel them, and Gen. Reyes was to leave on the 1st November and march against them, in order to restore confidence to the frightened people. We have some accounts in detail of the ravages committed by the Indians, but have not room for them.

Advices from Mazatlan to the 11th of October have been received in Mexico. An English vessel had arrived there, having touched at the various ports of both California. She reports that the American possession of the country is not peaceful; that the greater part of the people ["We would that we could say all," says the editor.] are disgusted; several times insurrections had been attempted, and with a little support they would be successful.

In Los Angeles there was in September an insurrection against the Americans. The insurgents fortified themselves in a house, but were attacked by the Yankees, and in leaving it an action took place, in which the chief of the insurgents and several others were killed, and many were wounded.

The Squadron of Occupation was much weakened, having so many ports to blockade, and so few men who could be spared to disembark. It followed that different points were but slightly guarded—some by only eight or ten men.

The French consul at Monterey, Mr. Gasquet, having been put under arrest for having protested against the occupation of California, remained still under surveillance. An English vessel had accordingly proceeded to the Marqueses to communicate the news. We shall see, adds the Mexicans, how these audacious Yankees will get out of this new difficulty, in which they are involved by their own excesses.

A sloop of war of the enemy had arrived at Guaymas with a view to take possession of that port (in Sinaloa on the Gulf of California); but the captain of the port, named Spenser, with two or three guns and the volunteers which he collected, fired upon the vessel and compelled her to retire. Some of the crew were killed and many wounded, but the number is not given. Such is one Mexican account; another sets down our loss at twenty-five killed and wounded.

Since writing the above, we have found another account of this affair. It is to the effect that the United States sloop of war Cyano arrived at Guaymas and sent four boats, carrying 80 men, to seize the brig Caudoc, which was anchored in the bay. The brig having notice of the intention,

prepared to give a warm reception to the expedition and with one piece of artillery mounted on a favorable point, and with two gun boats, opened a vigorous fire upon the North Americans and compelled them to return to Cyano, which was all the while bombarding the town, but without doing much harm. The news was communicated by the captain of the English brig Frolic, who learned the particulars from the officers of the Cyano. He reported that the Cyano had more than 20 wounded.

At Mazatlan there was on the 18th October, but one of our vessels of war, but the inhabitants were expecting strong reinforcements bringing 2,500 men with which to land. Business men were accordingly moving out their property.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

SENATE.
On Privileges and Elections. Messrs. Moses, Evis, Gist, Hanna, Perrin.
On Federal Relations. Messrs. Ashe, Dargan, Witherspoon, Allston, Hennegan.
On Finance and Banks. Messrs. B. F. Perry, Felder, Boyce, Fickling, Ellerbee.
On the Judiciary. Messrs. Dargan, Moses, Gist, Rhett, DeTrville.
On Accounts and Vacant Offices. Messrs. Black, Walker, Skipper, Neel, Cooper.
On Claims and Grievances. Messrs. Perrin, Blake, Williams, Goodwyn, Cannon.
On the Military and Pensions. Messrs. Buchanan, Hanna, Huey, Mellard.
On Incorporations and Engrossed Acts. Messrs. Griffin, Gist, Irby, Rivers.
On the College, Education and Religion. Messrs. Alston, Eaves, Grimbald, Manning.
On Agriculture and Internal Improvements. Messrs. Boozer, Ward, Huger, Taylor, Palmer.
On Roads and Buildings. Messrs. Witherspoon, Gourdin, Benjamin Perry, Johnson.
On the Lunatic Asylum and Medical Accounts. Messrs. Fickling, Hennegan, Appleby, Evans.
On the Legislative Library. Messrs. DeTrville, Ashe, Black.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

On Privileges and Elections. F. W. Davie, W. D. Porter, B. B. Foster, A. R. Taylor, J. J. Wilson, J. W. Harrington, G. J. Cooper, Oliver Towles, Joseph F. Gist, R. G. McCaw, D. S. Taylor.
On Ways and Means. C. G. Memminger, E. G. Palmer, Daniel Wallace, G. F. Towns, P. Della Torre, Joel Smith, James S. Pope, Samuel Otterson, A. H. Boykin.
On Federal Relations. W. F. DeSaussure, James M. Walker, James E. Henry, Nelson Mitchell, William Sloan, D. F. Jamison, Arthur Simkins, B. Y. Martin, F. D. Richardson.
On the Judiciary. Benjamin F. Hunt, W. D. Porter, James Simons, W. W. Boyce, J. W. Harrison, John Phillips, R. L. Tillinghast, C. P. Sullivan, B. C. Yancey.
On Internal Improvements. J. Izard Middleton, John E. Carew, J. J. Harley, J. C. Oswald, M. M. Benbow, E. G. Palmer, William Giles, Jacob Swygert, W. M. Sargent, P. C. Porcher.
On Claims. J. W. Blakenev, John T. Broyles, S. R. Chandler, P. E. Duncan, R. G. McCaw, James L. Orr, J. J. Wilson, A. Durkin, Oliver Towles.
On the Military. D. F. Jamison, Daniel Wallace, T. Edwin Ware, William Evans, Samuel H. Owens, James Simons, W. Jas. Whaley, J. Harleston Read, Jr., I. D. Wilson.
On Roads, Bridges and Ferries. M. E. Carn, Charles Williams, Joseph F. Gist, C. J. Crawford, T. S. Gillison, White W. Hardee, Elihu H. Griffin, John M. Allen, Thomas W. P. reber.
On Public Buildings. Thos. J. Wright, Dixon Barnes, James S. Shingler, E. Alex. Under, Jr., F. Mosely, Joseph F. Gist, H. Holbeck, H. B. Rice, J. B. Holmes.
On Incorporations. W. Harlee, G. W. Pressley, E. P. Smith, Walter Ferrandus, Matthew Hall, S. R. Chandler, John C. Geiger, James Cauley, John Boyle.
On Education. C. B. Northrop, John Harleston, R. S. Bedon, S. T. Atkinson, W. Alston Pringle, James L. Orr, A. P. Vinson, E. P. Jones, Alfred M. Martin.
On Accounts. James R. Aiken, Daniel Holland, D. S. Taylor, J. C. Oswald, F. H. Kennedy, John Gibbs, J. W. McCutchen, J. B. McCully, B. B. Rogers.
On Colored Population. J. Harleston Read, Jr., P. Della Torre, Daniel Holland, Thomas Pye, Thomas W. Porcher, P. L. Calhoun, L. E. Cooner, R. A. Springs, E. M. Seabrook.
On District Officers. James E. Henry, J. M. Walker, Thomas Thompson, Nelson Mitchell, E. P. Jones, W. James Whaley, Henry Sumner, J. D. Tradewell, A. M. Martin.
On Agriculture. William I. Bull, Joe Smith, Warren Du Pre, E. M. Seabrook, A. H. Boykin, John Harleston, A. R. Taylor, J. B. Holmes, William Sloan.
On Grievances. James S. Shingler, Charles Williams, Matthew Hall, Jacob Swygert, B. B. Rogers, E. Alexander, Jr., W. McCutchen, A. P. Vinson, E. A. Griffin.
On the Lunatic Asylum. J. D. Tradewell, John P. Zimmerman, J. B. Poyas, J. J. Harney, J. T. Broyles, George W. Pressley, R. S. Bedon, J. P. Miller, Benj. Waldo.
On Pensions. G. W. Williams, J. B. Poyas, J. B. McCully, P. L. Calhoun, Murrell P. E. Duncan, B. B. Foster, John Giles, James Cauley.
On Public Printing. W. W. Boyce, W. F. DeSaussure, S. T. Atkinson, J. W. Harrison, J. E. Carew, Dixon Barnes, G. F. Towns.
Medical Committee. Thomas R. Gary, John P. Zimmerman, J. P. Miller, M. M. Benbow, J. B. Witherspoon, Benjamin Waldo, J. W. Harrington.
On Engrossed Acts. C. P. Sullivan, Thomas Thompson, F. D. Richardson, Jas. R. Aiken, R. A. Springs.
On the Legislative Library. J. Phillips, Henry Sumner, A. H. Dunbar, J. B. Witherspoon, W. A. Pringle.
Cashier. Alfred M. Martin.
Deputy Cashier. E. P. Jones.

Pork and Bacon.—Many of our readers (says an exchange) will be astonished to learn that the annual "hog crop" of the United States is worth three times as much as the entire cotton crop. In the year 1815, the value of hogs raised in the Union was one hundred and sixty-six millions of Dol-

lars!—The hog census in 1838, gave the sum total of porkers as 26,301,293, or something like seven millions more than the whole population of the country. Tennessee had the largest number; Kentucky next, and Ohio the next; the latter having a little over two millions. This "stunning army" of swine it is estimated, consumes annually two hundred millions of bushels of corn.



The Advertiser.

EDGEFIELD C. D.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1816

We were present, on Monday last, at the convocation of the "Old '96 Boys," the Volunteers for the Mexican War, in our Public Square, and no sooner was the war note sounded from the spirit stirring drum and life, than the Bo'ys were to their posts—for the War, the whole War, and nothing but the War. If the Palmetto Regiment shall be found wanting when her country calls to arms, Old Edgefield will not bear the blame. Her Flag presented on Monday last, by the fair hands of one of the beautiful daughters of a Revolutionary Warrior, whose blood, though flowing in female veins, still showed the soldier how to bear it to the breeze of battle, is unfurled for an honorable peace.

Twice then we parted to throw down our quill and grasp the sword and die with her beautiful banner floating o'er us. The spirit of '76 is still amongst us, and there can be no doubt, that the full number of men will soon be made up, nay is now, and the Bo'ys soon in Charleston.

We are glad also to state, that the liberality of the old Trees of Liberty have been touched, and are showering down on the Volunteers a fall of yellow leaves, to cheer the boys in the way of change, while the maidens are smiling glory and honor—enough for one day.

Mr. McDuffie's Resignation.—The following letter from Mr. McDuffie to Gov. Aiken, announcing his determination to return to private life, shows a love of country rarely to be found now-a-days. Mr. McDuffie has been laboring under severe indisposition for some years, but for the sake of the doctrine of "Free Trade," he has borne all. My his successor, be he whom he may, bear in mind that he steps into the shoes of one of South Carolina's choicest sons, who has taken a part in every great measure of politics for the last twenty five years, and imitate him in all his great deeds.

CHERRY HILL, Nov. 18, 1816.

His Excellency William Aiken:

"Sir—I must ask the favor of you, to communicate to the Legislature, this, my resignation of the high trust of Senator in Congress with which I have been favored by that body. In taking this step, I can not but express to the Legislature and to the people of the State, my personal sense of the obligations under which they have placed me, by the manifold honors they have conferred upon me, and the uniform confidence and liberality with which they have sustained me, amidst all the political vicissitudes of the twenty five years, during which with a brief interval I have been in the service of the State.

"And I trust the reasons which now induce me to withdraw from that service, will be viewed with the same indulgence that I have heretofore experienced, when I accepted the place I now hold, in a state of health that hardly justified it, my sole inducement was the hope which the state of political parties then created, that I might be able to render the State some service" in restoring the compromise of 1833 by remodeling the tariff of 1842, more unjust and oppressive than any of its predecessors, and which totally subverted that compromise. I never intended to remain in the Senate after that great question should be adjusted upon principles of equal and constitutional taxation. Believing that object to have been substantially accomplished, by the revenue act of the last session, and that the increasing blessings of free trade which we now see in progress, from the almost contemporaneous acts of the two greatest commercial nations in the world, will render it impossible for any party changes to reverse what has been so wisely and fortunately accomplished, I feel that I may claim the privilege of "departing in peace" from the turmoil of political life without violating any duty of patriotism, and leaving the country, I trust in the midst of a long career of prosperity.

I am, with great respect,
Your obt' serv't,
GEORGE McDUFFIE."

[From our Columbia Correspondent.]

Agreeably to the Constitution, the Legislature of South Carolina assembled at Columbia, on Monday 23d November.—The Hon. Angus Patterson was elected President of the Senate, and the Hon. W. F. Colcock Speaker of the House of Representatives. The following officers of the Senate, were also elected: W. E. Martin Clerk, T. G. Goodwyn Reading Clerk, J. B. Fulton Door Keeper, and J. D. Gailard Messenger. In the House, Thomas W. Glover was also elected Clerk, and W. B. Ioor Reading Clerk, in the place of A. C. Spain. James McIlhenny was elected Door Keeper and E. S. J. Hays Messenger. At 12 o'clock, on Tuesday 24th, the Governor transmitted his Annual Message. It was referred to the appropriate Committees to act upon. The Message is a plain, sensible paper, and contains many suggestions of great importance. It is to be hoped, that the Legislature will give them that careful consideration which they deserve. His Excellency

transmitted the letter of resignation of the Hon. George McDuffie, as U. S. Senator. He took occasion to pay him a tribute of respect, to which all the citizens of the State will most heartily respond. Mr. J. D. Tradewell, of Richland, introduced resolutions upon the subject of the resignation of Mr. McDuffie. (These resolutions were ultimately passed unanimously.)

On the 24th, some members gave notice that they would bring forward certain bills before the House. One was in reference to the Free Schools, calling for a large appropriation. This is exceedingly desirable, and it is to be hoped, that the Legislature will make some modification or amendment of the system of public schools. I think it probable, that a competent Superintendent, at least, will be appointed. This officer, if faithful in the discharge of his duties, might do a vast amount of good. He could make inquiries about the present Schools in the different Districts, and at the next session could lay many important facts and useful suggestions before the Legislature. There is a great deal of conversation about the successor of Mr. McDuffie. Several gentlemen are spoken of, Col. F. H. Etmore, Governor Hammond, Judge A. P. Butler, and others.—From present circumstances, Col. Etmore if he desires the office, will be the Senator. Judge David Johnson will be our next Governor. There are several candidates for the vacant Judgeship. Wm. F. DeSaussure and General Caldwell are the most prominent.—During the present week, the Legislature went into several elections An Assessor and Register of Mease Conveyances for Charleston, and Commissioners in Equity for different Districts were elected. The Hon. Richard Packenham, Minister Plenipotentiary of Great Britain, was introduced to the Legislature. He was the lion of the day. He is a hearty, stout looking Englishman, and was sufficiently plain for us Republicans. Professor Ellet of the South Carolina College, has been delighting us all, with his experiments in gun or explosive cotton. The Legislature and a number of citizens assembled on the 25th November, in the College Chapel, and heard a clear and satisfactory lecture from him on the subject, and witnessed some beautiful experiments. A gentleman fired a rifle and pistol, loaded with the gun cotton, at a target placed against the monument in the campus, and the wonderful power of this new preparation was fully tested. Its superiority over gun powder, is established beyond all doubt. On Monday, by invitation from Professor Ellet, in company with several gentlemen, witnessed some experiments with the cotton in the yard of Professor Ellet. The following is the result of my observations. A pistol loaded with 6 grains of the explosive cotton was fired at some planks three and half inches thick, at the distance of 20 feet, and the ball passed entirely through. A rifle loaded with ten grains of the cotton, was fired at the distance of 25 yards, and the ball passed through four planks, more than one inch thick, and rebounded from a brick wall. Ten grains of the best powder, were put in a rifle, and when it was discharged, the bullet was only buried in the first plank. The distance at which it was fired was the same. This cotton will not produce any flame from the muzzle of the gun, and leaves it clean. When perfectly dry, it leaves no stain upon white paper, if fire be applied to it, and will not burn the paper. I saw some gun cotton placed over some powder in a gentleman's hand, and when fire was applied, the powder did not explode. Professor E. is making experiments every day, with satisfactory results.

I went a day or two since, to see West's celebrated picture of "Christ healing the sick." It is a beautiful picture and fills the beholder with delight.

On Thursday evening last, I attended the meeting of the State Agricultural Society in the House of Representatives.—The anniversary oration was delivered by Mitchell King, Esq. It was an exceedingly able and classical essay. In the commencement, the orator paid a very high complement to the Hon. John C. Calhoun. He spoke at considerable length, upon the Olive tree, and recommended in the strongest terms, its substitution as a staple, in the place of cotton, in the maritime districts of the State. He proved by facts, that the Olive would add greatly to the prosperity, and the facility of making a support by the planters of the lower country. His essay will be published. Among other things, a specimen of the Mastodon Cotton; and a model of a Cotton Press were exhibited before the Society.

Several bills of importance are before the Legislature. In the Senate, a bill giving the election of Presidential Electors to the people, is made the special order of the day, for Monday, the 30th. In the House, Mr. Holland, of Edgefield, has introduced a bill amending the License laws.

Elections for Commissioners in Equity, for several Districts took place on the 27th inst. The incumbents were re-elected.—H. A. Jones is the Commissioner of Abbeville District.

I attended a meeting of the State Temperance Convention on the evening of the 27th inst. Several able speeches were delivered by Mr. Hemphill, B. C. Pressley,