

THE WAR ON CHARLESTON.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA RAILROAD COMPANY.

The Annual Meeting of the stockholders of the South Carolina Railroad Company and of the Southwestern Railroad Bank was held yesterday morning, at eleven o'clock, in the bank hall, on Broad street.

On motion of W. J. Magrath, Esq., president of the railroad, the Hon. H. D. Lesesne was called to the chair, and Messrs. J. T. Welman and Edward H. Barwell were requested to act as secretaries.

The chairman having briefly expressed his thanks for the honor conferred upon him, the reports of President W. J. Magrath and Vice-President Alfred L. Tyler were read, both of which were printed in full in THE NEWS of yesterday.

The chairman stated that at the last annual meeting a committee of five had been appointed to consider the next annual report of the president and directors, to whom a copy of the said reports were to be furnished at least two weeks before the regular meeting; the said committee having also the power to send for persons and papers, and being charged to report on the first day of the meeting.

Mr. C. L. Burckmyer rose and said that of the committee appointed, two (Messrs. Seibels and Cothran) had been absent, one (Mr. Leiby) parted with his interest in the road and declined to serve, and the other two (Mr. B. S. Bruns and himself) had not felt authorized to make so exhaustive a report as the resolution appeared to contemplate.

The report having been called for was read as follows: The undersigned, from the committee appointed at the last annual meeting of the stockholders to examine the reports of the president and directors of the South Carolina Railroad Company and of the Southwestern Railroad Bank, and to report thereon to the meeting of the stockholders on the first day of the meeting of the year 1871, respectfully report:

That they have given to the report and the accompanying documents the attention and consideration which the importance of the subject demands, and that they have found the reports of the president and directors to be satisfactory in all respects, and that they have no objection to their being adopted as the report of the committee.

It is a matter of much regret to your committee, as it doubtless will be to the stockholders, that the report of the president of the road for the last year, but the causes assigned for this decrease are so reasonable, and the American and foreign trade, and the construction of new roads, which do not seem to be required by the business of the country, and that it will be necessary for the administration to take active and energetic steps to increase the business of the road, and to make connections for the supply of new business.

The arrangement of the past due sterling debt of the road, and the exchange of a large proportion of those bonds for the new bonds, are matters which have been the subject of special mention in this report. For several years this outstanding debt has been a source of anxiety and annoyance to all who have felt an interest in the road, and it has been arranged that it should be paid in full, and that it should be within the control of the board cannot fail to afford us the greatest satisfaction.

With reference to the Southwestern Railroad Bank it appears that the board of directors passed by the stockholders at their meeting in February, 1871, and your committee are informed that in the course of a few months the bank will be closed and its affairs wound up.

The considerations which have influenced the board in declining to continue the payment of dividends for the present, seem to your committee to be reasonable. It is to be hoped, however, that the time will soon arrive when these shall cease to have weight, and when the stockholders shall receive some return upon the property which has been for so long a time unproductive.

All which is respectfully submitted. C. L. BURCKMYER, R. S. BRUNS.

The report was received as follows: The report and directors of the Southwestern Railroad Bank ask leave to report: That with a view of carrying out the resolutions of the stockholders, passed at their last meeting, a schedule of the assets of the bank has been placed in the hands of the stockholders for the purpose of making the necessary transfer of the same to the liquidation, and that the bank has been placed in liquidation, and a portion of its assets returned to the road.

The bank has continued to receive its circulation, now reduced to \$42,195, and perform such other duties as were required, until the transfer is made, which will be effected as soon as possible, consistent with the welfare of the company.

I have to report three vacancies in the board. Respectfully submitted. JOHN C. COCHRAN, President. February 13, 1872.

No further business being presented, Mr. DeLeon moved an adjournment until noon on Wednesday, which was withdrawn at the instance of Mr. W. C. Cubbage, who offered the following preamble and resolution: Whereas, It is reported that an offer has been made of the South Carolina Railroad Bank for the purpose of raising the sum of \$1,000,000 per annum; and whereas the stockholders are desirous of getting some return for their investment. Be it therefore, Resolved, That if an offer of five per cent.

JOHN VS. JONATHAN.

LATEST ASPECT OF THE ALABAMA CLAIMS CONTROVERSY.

The British Note to the State Department—The American Case Criticized at Washington—Opinion of Hon. Reverdy Johnson on the Decision Left to the Arbitrators.

WASHINGTON, February 13. On Tuesday last, at eleven o'clock, the State Department received a telegram, in cipher, from our Minister to England, General Schenck, which included a copy of the Queen's communication to the United States Government, mentioned in her speech in Parliament, relative to the claim for consequential damages in our case before the General Arbitrators.

The Queen's communication is very brief, and expresses unbounded friendship, and mentions several unimportant errors or irregularities in connection with the arbitration, and then, without seemingly attaching great importance to the subject, calls attention to the fact that in the case our agent has made a claim for indirect or consequential damages. The communication is exceedingly diplomatic, and in its character cautious to a degree.

No appeal is made for reformation of the treaty of the case. No appeal is made for any remedy, but the object of the communication is evidently simply to command a reply from the United States Government.

This copy was telegraphed as a matter of expediency by Minister Schenck, before mailing the written original communication from the Queen, the latter being delivered to Minister Schenck a few hours before the Queen's speech, which took place on Tuesday. No action will be taken on this communication by the administration until the original arrives by steamer.

The case made out on our side has been thoroughly discussed here, and the general verdict is that it is inartificially drawn, inexcusably redundant, and full two-thirds of it irrelevant or uncalculated.

The document was prepared by Bancroft Davis, an agent for the United States, and before its final adoption was read and referred to several prominent citizens and statesmen for their criticism and suggestions. Among those to whom it was thus submitted was the Hon. Reverdy Johnson, whose details to Mr. Davis was that the tone of the argument as it then stood was too acrimonious; that there was too much in it as argument and statement of history that was merely cumulative, and might be dispensed with.

General Tyler here rose, and inquired of President Magrath if any offer had officially been made to lease the South Carolina Road. The president stated that no such offer had been made.

General Tyler then moved to lay the preamble and resolution offered by Mr. Cubbage on the table. The vote was taken, and the preamble and resolution were laid on the table, with two dissenting votes—those of the mover and the seconder.

Mr. DeLeon here renewed his motion, and the meeting adjourned until twelve o'clock to-day.

THE SUCCESSOR OF ARCHBISHOP SPALDING—The War Fever—The Great Radical Scandal, &c., &c.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT. NEW YORK, February 10. The death of the Archbishop of Baltimore raises a question which is not uninteresting to the people of Charleston—who shall succeed here? There is a strong opinion prevalent here that one of two men, not unknown in Charleston, will be promoted to this high dignity, Bishop Lynch or Dr. Corcoran.

The Anglo-American Association have resolved not to discuss the Alabama question while the hope of a friendly settlement remains.

THE OLD WORLD'S NEWS. LONDON, February 13. The Anglo-American Association have resolved not to discuss the Alabama question while the hope of a friendly settlement remains.

AN EXAMPLE FOR COLUMBIA. TALLAHASSEE, February 13. The resolution impeaching Governor Reed passed the House, and the Lieutenant-Governor to-day assumes the governorship.

NEWS FROM WASHINGTON. WASHINGTON, February 13. The British and American commissions rejected the claim of Thomas Sterling for property taken by the United States army in King and Queen County, Virginia, and then adjourned to the 4th of March.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

THE NEW BLUE RIDGE PLUNDER BILL PASSED BY THE HOUSE.

Wesley with his Stock-Jobbing Scheme Turns Up Again—Eighty-two New York Speculators on the Anxious Bench—Two Villages Incorporated, &c., &c.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE NEWS.] COLUMBIA, February 13. Mr. E. B. Wesley, of the Union Trust Company, of New York, is again in Columbia with a petition signed by eighty-two of the New York bondholders, proposing to scale their bonds, upon certain conditions, at the rate of seventy-five cents on the dollar. The petition was presented in the Senate to-day, and referred to the committee on finance.

The Senate Railroad committee reported against the bill to aid in the construction of the Georgetown and Charlotte Railroad. The election committee made a report, in the contested election case from Lancaster, against Clinton, the Radical incumbent, and in favor of Tompkins, the contestant.

The House passed the bill to incorporate the Village of Little Rock, in Marion County, and to renew and amend the charter of the Village of Rock Hill, in York County.

The House then took up the new Blue Ridge Railroad bill, and passed it to a third reading. The following is the bill: A BILL to relieve the State of South Carolina of all liability for its guarantee of the bonds of the Blue Ridge Railroad Company, by providing for the securing and destruction of the same.

Whereas, the State of South Carolina has, by and in pursuance of the provisions of an act, approved the 15th day of September, A. D. 1868, entitled "An act to authorize additional aid to the Blue Ridge Railroad Company in South Carolina," endorsed a guarantee of the faith and credit of the State on four millions of dollars of bonds, issued by the said Blue Ridge Railroad Company, comprehending the Blue Ridge Railroad Company, in South Carolina; the Blue Ridge Railroad Company, in Georgia; the Tennessee River Railroad Company, in North Carolina; the Knoxville and Charleston Railroad Company, in Tennessee; and the Pendleton Railroad Company, in South Carolina, for the purpose of aiding the speedy completion of the said railroad, which bonds are liable for the debts of the said railroad companies; and whereas the present condition of the finances of the State, and of said companies is such as to make the further continuance of said bonds on the market inexpedient and unadvisable, and a serious injury and prejudice to the credit of the State; and whereas the existence of the said four million of dollars of bonds, so guaranteed, creates a large liability upon the part of the State, which the treasury may be required to meet at unforeseen and inopportune times; and whereas the liability of the State, on account of such guarantee, should be faithfully met and discharged; therefore, in order to secure the recovery and destruction of the bonds and coupons of the said company, issued under and in pursuance of the provisions of the aforesaid act, now pledged in the City of New York and elsewhere, and to relieve the State of all liabilities whatsoever, by reason of its endorsement and guarantee of said bonds, Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of South Carolina, now met and sitting in General Assembly, and by the authority of the same:

SECTION 1. That the State treasurer is hereby directed, with the consent, in writing, of the president of the Blue Ridge Railroad Company, in South Carolina, to require the financial agent of the State, in the City of New York, immediately to deliver to the State treasury all the bonds of the Blue Ridge Railroad Company, endorsed and guaranteed by the State of South Carolina, which are now in his possession, and held by him as collateral security for advances made by the said financial agent, by the order of the financial board, to the Blue Ridge Railroad Company; and upon the delivery of said bonds, the treasurer is hereby required to cancel the same, in the manner hereinafter directed; and the said Blue Ridge Railroad Company shall thereupon be discharged from all liability to the State on account of such advances.

SECTION 2. That upon the surrender by the said company to the State treasury of the balance of the said four millions of dollars of bonds, issued by the said Blue Ridge Railroad Company, and guaranteed by the State, the State treasurer is hereby authorized and required to deliver to the president of the Blue Ridge Railroad Company, in South Carolina, treasury certificates of indebtedness (styled revenue bond scrip) to the amount of one million eight hundred thousand dollars, the said certificates to be executed in the manner hereinafter directed; and if the said company shall not be able to deliver all of said bonds at one time, the treasurer is authorized and required to deliver to the said president such amount of such treasury certificates as shall be proportional to the amount of bonds delivered.

SECTION 3. That to carry out the purposes of this act, the State treasurer is hereby authorized and required to have printed or engraved on steel, as soon as practicable, treasury certificates of indebtedness, to be known and designated as revenue bond scrip of the State of South Carolina, in such form and of such denomination as may be determined on by the State treasurer, and the president of the Blue Ridge Railroad Company, in South Carolina, to the amount of one million eight hundred thousand dollars, which revenue bond scrip shall be signed by the State treasurer, and shall express that the sum mentioned therein is due by the State of South Carolina to the bearer thereof, and that the same will be received in payment of taxes and other dues to the State, except special tax levied to pay interest on the public debt.

SECTION 4. That the faith and funds of the State are hereby pledged for the ultimate redemption of said revenue bond scrip, and the county treasurers are hereby required to receive the same in payment of all taxes levied by the State, except in payment of special tax levied to pay interest on the public debt; and the State treasurer and all other public officers are hereby required to receive the same in payment of all dues to the State, and still further to provide for the redemption of said revenue bond scrip, an annual tax of three mills on the dollar, in addition to all other taxes, on the assessed value of all taxable property in the State, is hereby levied, to be collected in the same manner and at the same time as may be provided by law for the levy and collection of the regular annual taxes of the State; and the State treasurer is hereby required to retire, at the end of each year from their date, one-fourth of the amount of the treasury scrip hereby authorized to be issued, until all of it shall be retired, and to

apply to such purpose exclusively the taxes hereby required to be levied.

SECTION 5. That if any such revenue bond scrip is received in the treasury, for payment of taxes, the treasurer be, and he is hereby, authorized to pay out such revenue bond scrip in satisfaction of any claims against the treasury, except for interest that may be due on the public debt.

SECTION 6. That upon the delivery to the State treasurer of the said guaranteed bonds of the Blue Ridge Railroad Company, or any part of them, the treasurer is hereby required to cause the same to be cancelled and destroyed in the presence of the president of the Blue Ridge Railroad Company, in South Carolina, and in the presence of a joint committee of the Senate and House of Representatives of this State, to be for that purpose appointed.

SECTION 7. That whenever the whole number of the said guaranteed bonds shall have been delivered to the treasurer and cancelled, as required by the provisions of this act, the title of the State of South Carolina, upon the said Blue Ridge Railroad Company in this State, and of the other associated companies in the States of Georgia, North Carolina and Tennessee, as secured by the provisions of an act entitled "An act to authorize additional aid to the Blue Ridge Railroad Company in South Carolina," passed on the fifteenth day of September, Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and sixty-eight, and all other claims or liens which are held by the State, against said company or companies, on account of said guarantee, shall, from thenceforth, be forever discharged and released; and should the said company be unable, from any cause, to deliver all of said bonds, such liens shall be discharged and released to an extent which shall be proportional to the amount of such bonds actually delivered.

SECTION 8. That if the said company shall accept the provisions of this act, it shall be authorized, if the board of directors may desire, to change the corporate name of the company to that of the "Knoxville and South Carolina Railroad Company," and shall have power to extend its railroad, or to construct branches thereof, to any points or places in the State, with all the powers and privileges with which the said company is now vested by the provisions of its charter, and the said company shall also have power to issue bonds, and to secure the same by a mortgage, to such amount, and in such manner as the board of directors may direct. And all sales of stock in the said Blue Ridge Railroad Company, in South Carolina, and its associate companies, formerly held by the State and sold by the commissioners of the sinking fund, be, and they are hereby, confirmed.

SECTION 9. That if any person shall forge or counterfeit the treasury scrip hereby authorized to be issued, or shall, directly or indirectly, aid or assist in the forging or counterfeiting of such scrip, or shall issue or in any manner use any such forged or counterfeited scrip, he shall, on conviction thereof, be fined in the discretion of the court, and shall be imprisoned in the penitentiary for a term not exceeding ten years.

THE RECALTRANT SENATORS.

Hauling Messrs. Sawyer and Robertson Over the Coals—Details of Legislation.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.] COLUMBIA, February 13. The House amused itself to-day during a considerable portion of its session with one of its characteristic debates upon the question of race, or, as Mr. Sumner calls it in one of his two hundred dollar lectures, "Caste." The text was found in that silver-tongued Bostonian's amendment to the amnesty bill, and the provocation was furnished by the alleged recalcitrance of the Hon. Messrs. Sawyer and Robertson, in speaking and voting against that measure. It may be remembered that a few days ago the Assembly passed a resolution requesting the South Carolina representatives in Congress to give their influence and votes toward the passage of Sumner's supplementary "civil rights bill," which aimed to do away with "ridiculous distinctions on account of color," and this resolution was duly certified and sent to Senators Robertson and Sawyer, and also to the members from this State in the United States Congress. Now, how came when a square vote comes to be had upon Mr. Sumner's measure, Mr. Robertson is found to vote against it, because, as he says, its adoption would jeopardize the amnesty bill?

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THE WEATHER THIS DAY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEWS.

A letter from Mr. N. G. Taylor, of Morristown, Tennessee, informs me that during the winter of 1863 the bodies of two Confederate soldiers were buried on his farm. One of these was named E. West, and belonged to Company H, First South Carolina Volunteers. Of the other, only the initials are known, W. F. S. of Company E, First South Carolina Volunteers. As no attention has been paid to their graves, Mr. Taylor infers that their friends know nothing of their place of interment. He can identify each, and is willing to grant the privilege of removal or entombment, or will make any disposition of the remains which surviving friends may deem proper.

As the regiment to which these soldiers belonged was raised in and around Charleston, it is thought that Mr. Taylor's notice published in your paper, Respectfully, E. T. WINKLER.

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MARRIED.

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MARRIED.—On the 6th instant, at St. Peter's Church, Fernandina, Florida, by the Rev. O. P. Thackeray, E. P. McLean and Rosalie Francis, youngest daughter of the late C. Carr, both of this city.

MARRIED.—On Sunday evening, February 4, 1872, at the residence of the bridegroom, by the Rev. John Moore, D. D., Mr. James P. Cahill to Miss Ellen Cahill, all of this city. No cards.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

CONSIGNEES PER STEAMSHIP. V I G I N I A, from Philadelphia, are hereby notified that she will discharge cargo THIS DAY, the 14th instant, at Brown's Wharf. Goods unclaimed for at sunset will remain on the wharf at owners' risk and expense. feb13-1

NOTICE.—CENTRAL POSTOFFICE BOX.—By permission of Stanley G. Trott, Postmaster, a POSTOFFICE BOX has been placed in my Grocery Store, No. 275 King street, nearly opposite Hazel street, for the accommodation of the public. All Letters deposited will be delivered at the principal Postoffice in time for the regular mail. E. VERT E. BEDFORD, Successor to W. S. Corwin & Co., No. 275 King street. feb14-6

CONSIGNEES PER STEAMSHIP. Blue Schooner M. A. TYLER, Master, from New York, are hereby notified that she is THIS DAY discharging at Pier No. 1 Central Wharf. All goods on the wharf at sunset will be stored at owners' expense and risk. No claims allowed after goods leave the wharf. H. F. BAKER & CO., Agents. feb13

FRESH VACCINE MATTER, TAKEN FROM THE ARM, FOR SALE AT BURNHAM'S DRUG STORE, No. 421 KING STREET, CHARLESTON, S. C. feb13-1mo

THE CHARLESTON CHARITABLE ASSOCIATION, FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE FREE SCHOOL FUND.—OFFICIAL RAFFLED NUMBERS. CLASS NO. 247.—MORNING. 39-43-67-2-43-64-63-93-78-19-22-29 62-32-65-19-22-66-53-91-49-10-68-41 As witness our hand at Charleston this 13th day of February, 1872. JAMES GILLILAND, Sworn Commissioners. feb13-1mo

ST. JOSEPH AND DENVER CITY RAILROAD COMPANY. EXECUTIVE OFFICE, No. 21 NASSAU STREET, New York, February 1, 1872. The Coupons and registered interest due February 15, 1872, on the First Mortgage Eight Per Cent. (8 p. c.) Gold Bonds (E. D.) and the Eight Per Cent. (8 p. c.) Gold First Mortgage Sinking Fund Loan Bonds (W. D.), of the St. Joseph and Denver City Railroad Company will be paid at the office of the Farmers' Loan and Trust Company of the City of New York, upon presentation and demand on and after that date, free of Tax. FRANCIS A. COFFIN, Asst. Treasurer, feb12-12

NOTICE.—THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE SAILORS' HOME, CHARLESTON PORT SOCIETY, will proceed, at their next meeting, to elect a Superintendent of said Institution. Applicants will hand in their letters on or before the 15th instant to the undersigned, from whom all information may be obtained with reference to the regulations and restrictions by which they will be governed. WM. J. MIDDLETON, Chairman Board of Trustees. feb13-mw3

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC LAND.—The Board of Commissioners of Public Land will, at its next Meeting to be held February 14, 1872, receive Contracts for Supplying the various Institutions under their charge with Oak and Pine Wood, until the first day of May 1872. Parties applying for the contract will hand in the same on or before that day. By order of the Board. J. M. F. DEBEEF, Secretary. C. P. L. feb13-mw3

MUNICIPAL NOTICES. TAXES.—THE TAXPAYERS OF THE SEVENTH DISTRICT of Charleston County, comprising Edisto, Johns, Wadmalaw, James Island and St. Andrew's Parish, are hereby notified that the Tax Books will be in the city, at the Fire-proof Building, February 13, for the Collection of State, County, Poll and School Taxes, for the year 1871, and will remain open 15th, 17th, 20th and 21st, closing 22d. N. B.—The delinquent Taxpayers of 1866 will have no further time allowed from that date. WM. H. W. GRAY, Deputy Treasurer. feb12-6

CITY TAX NOTICE.—OFFICE OF CITY APPRAISER, CITY HALL, CHARLESTON, S. C., FEBRUARY 5, 1872.—Notice is hereby given to all concerned that Returns for all Real and Personal Property within the limits of the City of Charleston shall be made and delivered at this office, on or before the 21st of February, instant, for the year 1872, verified by the oath of the person whose duty it is to return said property, as principal, agent, trustee, or otherwise. By Act of the Legislature, passed March 1, 1870, it is made the duty of the Appraiser to add Five Per Cent. and One Dollar as penalty for failure or neglect to make returns of property within the time prescribed. The following must be returned for taxation as Personal Property, viz: Horses and Mules, neat Cattle, Gold and Silver Watches, Gold and Silver Plate, Piano Fortes, Melodeons and Cabinet Organs, Carriages, Wagons, Drays, Carts and other vehicles. Average value of Goods, Merchandise or other commodities pertaining to any business as Merchant, Agent, or otherwise, between the 1st of January, 1871, and 1st of January, 1872. Average value of all materials used, or provided for use, as a Manufacturer, or otherwise, between 1st of January, 1871, and 1st of January, 1872. Value of all Machinery, Engines, Tools, Fixtures and Implements used, or provided, or all manufactured articles on hand on January 1st, 1872. Value of all Moneys—including bank bills and circulating notes on hand