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NO. 19.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

THE WORK DONE IN THE SECOND WEEK OF THE SESSION.

The Lawmakers Settle Down to Hard Work—Many Measures Introduced and Considered.

The second week of the session of 1886 was marked by the introduction of the usual number of bills, some important, some needless—some that will pass, many that will suffer the defeat they deserve.

The General Assembly has settled down to actual work, and the fruit of its labors will ere long be visible to the people. We give below a synopsis of the proceedings, condensed from the daily papers.

The Senate's short session was a very busy one. Many bills were introduced, a large number of reports were made and the Calendar was cleared of all measures except those provocative of speech-making. There was objection to the consideration of the Charleston and Summerville re-assessment bill, and it went over until to-morrow. When the came up for its second reading Senator Hemphill made the objection that the printed bill had not been on the desks of members for twenty-four hours as required by the rules. Senator McMaster laid it on the Calendar for Friday at 1 p. m.

Senator Edwards' South Carolina College tuition bill, with its unfavorable report, was made the special order for Thursday at 1 o'clock.

The bill in relation to burning or cutting untenanted houses having been reported upon unfavorably, was recommitted.

Several minor bills were passed and sent to the House.

The following bills received their second reading: Amending the General Statutes in relation to quantity; limiting the number of trial justices in York county; amending the law in regard to the wooden buildings in the city of Charleston; amending the charter of the Eutawville Railroad Company.

Senator Smythe introduced the following concurrent resolution:

"That the committee on printing of the two Houses be instructed to inquire and report as to early a day as possible whether the method of printing the official reports of the State officers and of the Acts of the General Assembly can not be so altered that much of the blank space now appearing therein shall be hereafter saved. Also, whether the printing of so much duplicate matter cannot be avoided. Also, as to the propriety of requiring each several department of the State Government to report annually the expense of printing incurred by such department. Also, as to the propriety of omitting any part of the matter now annually printed at a great expense to the State Government."

The following new measures were introduced: Bill to regulate the public printing. This bill is designed to prevent the allowance of unnecessary "fat" in publishing the annual reports of State officers, and is of a general reformatory nature. Bill to amend Section 1,028 of the General Statutes, fixing the trustees of the University. The bill provides that the trustees shall consist of the Governor, ex-officio, and two members from each Congressional district, to be elected by the General Assembly, one from each district for a term of two years, and one for a term of four years. After the first election the term of office shall be four years. No professor or judicial officer of the State shall be eligible to election.

Bill to regulate the sentence of prisoners to the penitentiary. This bill provides that all persons sentenced to imprisonment for a term not longer than one year shall be confined in the county jails and required to do such work in the counties as may be required by law; bill repealing certain persons sentenced to imprisonment in county jails to work on roads, streets or other public works, and punishing the escapes of prisoners sentenced to imprisonment in county jails; bill amending the charter of Kingstree; proposing an amendment to Article IV of the Constitution. This provides for a Court of Probate in each county, with jurisdiction in all matters testamentary and of administration in business appertaining to minors and the allotment of dower in cases of idioecy and insanity; abolishing the office of jury commissioners; amending the charter of the town of Hampton; providing for the taxation of dogs and bitches. The tax is one dollar a head and the money is to go to the county treasury; to strike out Sections 595 and 596 of the General Statutes, relating to the privilege tax on fertilizers, and substitute others in lieu thereof. This bill is designed to prevent frauds in fertilizers; joint resolution to ratify the census amendment to the Constitution; to provide for transporting convicts to the penitentiary by the penitentiary guards.

At 1 o'clock on Tuesday, 30th ult., the Senate, accepting the invitation of the House, proceeded to the Hall of Representatives and joined in the Legislative procession to the Opera House to participate in the inauguration ceremonies.

At 2 o'clock, the inauguration being over, the Senate chamber was again filled. Lieutenant Governor Mauldin and President pro tempore Izlar occupied seats at the President's desk. Governor Richardson and ex-Governor Sheppard sat somewhat behind them. At 2:03 President Izlar called the Senate to order and said:

"Gentlemen of the Senate, I take pleasure in introducing to you Lieutenant Governor Mauldin, who has qualified by taking the oath of office, and is now ready to assume the duties of President of the Senate."

A recess was taken from adjournment until Tuesday 7th inst., at 7 P. M.

A bill to amend the law fixing the Trustees of the South Carolina College was made the special order for Thursday 9th inst., at 12 M.

A bill to regulate the public printing was passed to a third reading, with amendments providing that the Agricultural Department and the Board of Health shall pay for their own printing; all departments to report the cost of their printing to the Comptroller General, to be embraced in his report.

House of Representatives.

Among the new bills introduced are the following: Bill to amend the Act dividing the State into seven Congressional districts. The plan proposed is to take Beaufort county from the 7th and tack it on to the 3rd (Uncle George Orangeburg) district. That portion of Orangeburg county now in the 7th district is to be tacked on to the 1st (Dibble's) district, and that portion of Richland now in the 7th district on to the 4th (Perry's) district.

Bill to create two new voting precincts in Kershaw county; bill to provide for taxation of dogs in this State and to direct the application of said tax; bill in relation to the bond of Probate Judge of Williamsburg county; joint resolution authorizing the county commissioners of Greenville county to borrow a sufficient sum to pay off the jurors and witnesses; bill to abolish the lien law; a Constitutional amendment abolishing the homestead exemption; bill to reduce the salaries of school commissioners to \$100; bill to abolish auditor and require the treasurer to perform the duties; bill to repeal the office of register of mesne conveyance in Greenville, and devolve the duties thereof on the clerk of the court; bill to change the name and amend the charter of the Chester, Greenwood and Abbeville Railroad Company; Mr. Harper, bill to regulate the costs of dictating prisoners in county jails; bill to regulate and fix the salaries of school commissioners.

Among the bills reported by the judiciary committee was one to amend Section 1,771 of the General Statutes, relating to the selling of intoxicating liquors, &c. The report was unfavorable, and in the general rush of routine work the bill was rejected. Mr. Dantzler, of Orangeburg, the author of the bill, moved a reconsideration of the bill, with permission to take the floor and make a few remarks. Mr. Dantzler stated that under the law as it is now written an insignificant small community could organize, get a charter and sell spirits under a local option law. The amendment proposed to limit the sale of liquors to towns of not less than 500 inhabitants. The bill was placed on the Calendar.

The last bill passed before adjourning for the inauguration was one to limit the number of trial justices in York county. During the passage of the bill Mr. Ready, of Edgefield, offered an amendment requiring official bonds of \$500 from the justices and constables. In support of his amendment Mr. Ready took occasion to say that it was a notorious fact that many trial justices in the State had collected public funds and had never accounted for them. He thought that by bonding these officials the State would be protected and a better class of men secured for the service.

Mr. Wilson, the author, explained that the bill threw sufficient safeguards around the officials, and besides it was a purely local measure.

The amendment was voted down and the bill ordered for a third reading.

The only measure that has been directed from the Farmers' Convention is a bill of which Mr. Tindal, of Clarendon, gave notice some days ago. It was prepared by the committee of the Farmers' Association appointed for the purpose, and is intended to give to the Farmers' Association the control and management of the bureau of agriculture. The bill is very long and its details elaborate.

The following is a brief outline of its general features:

Section 1. A board of agriculture is created to be known as "the South Carolina Board of Agriculture" to consist of ten members, five of whom are to be elected annually. Term of office two years. Vacancies to be filled by the board itself. The president of the board is to serve for one year.

Section 2. Names as the first board the gentlemen selected by the recent Farmers' Convention, viz: D. K. Norris, Johnson Hagood, E. T. Stackhouse, R. A. Love, E. L. Rivers, Allan Johnston, B. K. Tillman, A. E. Davis, M. L. Donaldson and D. P. Duncan. These are to meet and select five of their number to serve for one year the remaining five two years.

Section 3. A meeting of the board is to be held every year in the city of Columbia, on the second Tuesday of November; together with the board there shall be a Convention of five delegates from each County Farmers' Association, who are made, for the time being, ex-officio members of the board, for the purpose of deliberation and consultation as to the wants, prospects and condition of the agricultural interests throughout the State, and to fill all vacancies in the board.

Section 4. Grants the usual corporate rights to the board.

Section 5. Fixes the compensation of the members at three dollars per diem while engaged in the performance of their duties (not exceeding fifty days in a year) and five cents per mile traveling expenses.

Section 6. Provides that the members of the board elected at these annual Conventions shall be submitted to the General Assembly for confirmation, with the right on the part of the Legislature to reject any of them and elect others in their places.

Section 7. Prescribes the duties of the board to make annual reports to the Legislature, a general review of the condition of agriculture, &c., estimates of money required, no money to be drawn from the treasury except under specific appropriation by the General Assembly and warrants drawn by the secretary and countersigned by the president of the board.

Section 8. Provides for the election by the board of a secretary or "executive officer" of the board, compensation. The board may also elect a clerk or clerks to assist him, salaries—dollars. Secretary's bond, \$5,000.

Section 9. Prescribes the general duties of the secretary, which are about the same as those performed by the present commissioner.

Section 10. Provides for the distribution, by the secretary, of all seeds, plants, trees and shrubbery received by him, &c.

Section 11. Relates to the collection of statistics, &c., and provides that the secretary shall "assist and co-operate with the State Agricultural Society to make the State Fair a success, and render all

the encouragement in his power to the county fair associations."

Section 12 gives the secretary, under instructions of the board, the power to quarantine in cases of contagious diseases among stock, animals, &c.

Section 13 directs the secretary to collect 25 cents per ton on commercial fertilizers sold or offered for sale in the State; the money to be paid into the State treasury to the credit of the board. Railroad companies and other common carriers are prohibited from delivering any fertilizer that does not bear the prescribed tag. Railroads and other common carriers are required to keep a record of all fertilizers transported by them, and report to the secretary the names of shippers, consignees and dates of delivery. Said report to be made on the 15th of July annually, under a penalty of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500, or imprisonment.

Section 14 requires tags to be affixed to each package of fertilizer showing the net pounds, name of manufacturer, and a chemical analysis showing "the percentage of nitrogen or its equivalent in ammonia in any available form of potash soluble in water, and of phosphoric acid in an available form soluble or reverted, as well as the total phosphoric acid."

Section 15 requires manufacturers and sellers of fertilizers to deposit samples of their goods with the secretary.

Section 16. The secretary is constituted the State inspector of fertilizers, and he or his deputy are authorized to open and analyze samples of all fertilizers exposed for sale.

Section 17 provides for the appointment by the board of a State chemist, and he or she has the duty of analyzing and reporting on all fertilizers sold or offered for sale "and analyzed leather, raw, steamed, roasted, or in any form as a fertilizer or as an ingredient" without attaching to every package of it a certificate of that fact.

Section 19 provides the penalties for violating these provisions; fine from \$100 to \$500, or imprisonment from thirty days to six months.

Section 20. The powers and duties heretofore exercised by the State board of agriculture in connection with the collection of phosphate royalty are, by this section, transferred to the comptroller-general.

Section 21. Sixty days after the passage of this Act the commissioner of agriculture be directed to turn over to the new board all the property, &c.

Section 22 appropriates the sum of \$15,000 to defray the expenses of the new board for the current fiscal year.

Section 23 gives the board supervision of the fish interests of the State.

Section 21 contains the usual repeating clause of all Acts inconsistent with the following are among the new bills introduced: Bill to regulate the sale of liquor by prescription in towns where the local option law prevails; bill to require persons fishing with seines to register their names in the clerk's office, and to give bond not to violate the fish laws; bill to devolve the duties of supervisor of registration upon jury commissioners; bill to amend Section 1,771 of Chapter 2, of the General Statutes, relating to the compensation of members of the General Assembly; bill to make slander a criminal offense; bill to charter the Chester and Newberry Railroad; bill to punish the stealing of melons, fruits, potatoes or turnips, whether severed from the freehold or not; bill to reduce the salary of the trial justice at the town of Manning; bill to limit the number of trial justices in Edgefield county; bill to authorize the county commissioners of Clarendon to borrow money.

The bill to abolish the salary of the office of Lieutenant Governor was passed to its third reading. The bill provides that that officer shall receive only \$10 per diem and mileage during the session of the General Assembly. A motion was made to reduce the per diem to \$5, but this was voted down. Under the present law the Lieutenant Governor gets \$1,000 per annum in addition to his per diem during the session of the Legislature. Future Lieutenant Governors will receive only about \$300 per annum all told.

The bill to amend Section 2,629 of the General Statutes, relating to drawing and terms of service of grand jurors was passed to its third reading. In effect it makes a thorough change in the jury system so far as it relates to grand jurors. As explained by its author it is a perpetual body, constituted on the same plan as the State Senate, to be organized December, 1888, two reviews of 9 men each, thus making 18 grand jurors. Nine of these are to serve for one year and 9 for two years. After the expiration of one year only 9 jurors are drawn every year, so that there will be 9 old jurors and 9 new jurors on every grand jury. The judiciary committee had reported the bill unfavorably, and designated Mr. S. P. Hamilton to "conduct the case" as it were. Mr. Hamilton, therefore, moved to strike out the enacting clause. The motion was lost, and the bill passed, as before stated.

The bill authorizing the foremen of grand juries to administer oaths to witnesses summoned by the solicitor was passed to a third reading.

The committees, in their reports, set down upon quite a number of bills, among them the following: Bill to limit the rate of interest to 7 per cent; bill providing for a "horizontal" reduction in the salaries of all the State officers; bill to abolish the office of registrar of mesne conveyance in Greenville county; (this bill was rejected and killed "out of hand"); bill to regulate the sale of liquors by druggists; bill to make slander a criminal offense, (this bill was also killed); bill to reduce the salaries of Supreme and Circuit Judges. All these, with the exception of the two specified, go on the Calendar for discussion.

Favorable reports were submitted on the Farmers' Agricultural Bureau bill, the text of which has already been published.

A resolution was adopted prohibiting the introduction of bills in the House after the 15th instant.

MORE NEW BILLS.

Bill to regulate the license for circus and traveling shows; bill to amend the law in relation to tuition fee in the University; in relation to trial justices in Fairfield county; to reduce the salaries of mundry officers in Pickens county; to regulate the weighing of haled cotton; to repeal Section 2 of the Act to establish the priorities of certain statutory

liens; to amend Section 2,338, General Statutes, in relation to the enforcement of agricultural liens; to exempt certain portions of Colleton county from the operation of the stock law; to amend Section 2,518, General Statutes, in relation to the trade in cotton seed; to repeal the law requiring the publication of the annual reports of the county commissioners and school commissioners; bill to ratify the constitutional amendment relative to the census; bill to prohibit the mortgaging of crops in South Carolina; bill to have a reassessment of the realty of the State made; bill to prohibit corporations from charging more for weighing cotton than is actually necessary to pay the weigher; bill to allow all Confederate soldiers who have lost a limb or are otherwise unable to earn a living in consequence of wounds received in the service of their country, and who have resided within the State for ten years and have received no pay from any other State, to receive and receive the same assistance as South Carolina soldiers are allowed.

The bill to repeal the Prohibitory Law in Barnwell county was passed without debate.

The bill to allow witnesses in criminal cases to be examined by commission was amended and passed to a third reading.

Several bills of local interest were introduced, and a few of like character were passed to a third reading.

When the bill prohibiting licenses to be issued in a town of less than five hundred inhabitants was reached, the debates became lively. Messrs. John C. Haskell and John C. Seeger taking an active part.

A motion to take out the enacting clause was lost, by 55 to 53; about 15.

An amendment to strike out 500 and insert 250 was lost.

A motion to postpone was lost, by 62 to 46.

The temper of the House was to finish the second reading and pass the bill to a third reading, which was assented by the vote to strike out the enacting clause.

LEES' BOYHOOD DAYS.

Some Interesting Facts About the Youth of the Southern Hero.

I have to-day, says a correspondent of the Philadelphia Bulletin, writing from Rome, Italy, seen at Mr. Eckel's studio the clay model of General Lee as a boy of 14, which, it is hoped, will be erected in marble in front of the house of Lee's childhood in Westmoreland county, Va., on the site of the tomb of many of his followers who fell in the war. The figure is exceedingly characteristic and full of life, and the face rejuvenated by Mr. Eckel from his own bronze portrait model of the General in later life gives eloquently the promise of what was to come. "The boy is father to the man" here in very truth. The right hand, holding a little, simple cap, rests on the small stump of an oak tree, while the left, brought up to about the level of the waist, clasps a Bible, with one finger between the leaves. The youthful figure is slightly turned from right to left, and the head is erect and thrown back a little, as if to catch the light breeze which blows and reveals in a part of the figure the promise of strength and compactness in the future. The small feet for which the Lee family are famous, are finely modeled, as also the slim, boyish leg, in its neat stocking and breeches buttoning below the knee. I had, by a mere chance, an interesting opportunity of judging the faithfulness of the likeness as a more likeness, if hereditary resemblance are to count for anything. While I was in the studio in a lady's tail there came into the studio a lady with three pretty daughters, who was introduced to me as Mrs. Cooper, daughter of General Lee's first cousin. One of the young ladies, aged about 15, bore so striking a resemblance to the boyish portrait of her illustrious relative as to make it certain even to a stranger's eye that they were of the same stock; and, indeed, Mrs. Cooper (who is usually called "the niece" of General Lee, though really the cousin once removed, and was on terms of the greatest affection and confidence with him) declared that any member of the family must be satisfied with the striking likeness, apart from the artistic merit of the work.

Florida Oranges.

The Florida orange crop is the earliest in the market, and although the heaviest shipments are made later, the receipts up to the present time, together with the reports from owners of groves in Florida, show that this year's crop will be at least one-half, and possibly two-thirds as large as that of any year. The first oranges received in Boston were unripe and sour, but they have improved during the last two or three weeks, and the latest consignments are sweet and heavy. The fact that the price ranges from three dollars to three and a quarter a box—about the same as last year—is an indication that the principal dealers do not anticipate a special scarcity. The Florida oranges, when at their best, are superior to any others in the market, and the demand for them has now increased, that, while few shipments were made ten years ago, they are now sold in large quantities. The best of the Florida crop is received about Christmas or a little later, and the great golden globes filled with the sweetest of fruit juices, are as delicious and wholesome as any fruit to be found—nourishing to the sick, and equally inviting to the healthful appetite.—Boston Transcript.

When People Weigh Most.

According to experiments carried out by the Belgian savant Quetelet, says a recent Paris letter, a man at the height of his maximum weight toward his 40th year, and begins to lose it sensibly toward his 60th year. A woman, however, does not attain her maximum weight until her 50th year. The age at which people attain their maximum weight and the weight itself differ in the different classes of society. In the affluent classes the average maximum weight is 172 pounds, and is attained at 50 years of age. In the artisan class it is 154 pounds, attained at 40. Among farm laborers it is 171 pounds, attained at 60. In general classes it is 164 pounds, and is reached between 40 and 50 years of age.

The saw mill of Luther Aull, in Edgefield county, was destroyed by fire last week. His cotton press, a considerable quantity of cotton, lumber and a barn were destroyed.

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