

The Herald and News

THE MEETING AT DONALD'S.

A PREMATURE OPENING OF THE STATE CAMPAIGN.

The Meeting was Attended by Some Two Thousand People and Nearly All the Candidates Were Present—All the Speakers Were Listened to Attentively and all had Friends in Audience.

[Special to News and Courier.]

Anderson, June 14.—The political meeting at Donald's today was attended by a large crowd, probably by two thousand persons, and by nearly every candidate for State, Congressional and Senatorial offices. The regular State campaign will not open until Tuesday, the opening meetings of which will be held at Columbia and Sumter, and the meeting yesterday was a prelude, a kind of dress parade, so to speak. It had been arranged for the convenience of the people in the corners of Abbeville, Anderson, Greenville, Laurens and Greenwood Counties. It was attended by a larger crowd probably than will attend any meeting this summer, and for that reason was a most important one.

All of the candidates for governor, four of the candidates for the United States Senate, all the congressional candidates in the 3d district, and a great many of the candidates for the minor State offices were on hand. The crowd was a good natured one, and the day passed off pleasantly and harmoniously. A barbecue was given by private persons and a very creditable colored brass band from Laurens County furnished music for the occasion. The principal interest seemed to be centered in the speeches of the candidates for governor and these spoke first. All of the candidates had friends in the crowd and the speeches were well received. Messrs. Ansel, Talbert, Timmerman and Tillman were well known to the people of the up-country, but Capt. Heyward was almost an entire stranger to the greater part of the crowd and this was his first formal appearance on the stump in this section. He spoke well and made a good impression. He had a number of active friends present, who did hard work for him all day, and he will get a big vote in that section as a result.

There was a remarkable sameness about the speeches of the first four. They spoke mainly about the necessity for better common schools and better public roads in the State, and agreed on all essential points; their references to each other were complimentary and pitched on high ground.

Dr. Timmerman declared that the gravest evil now facing the State was the exodus of the white people from the farms to the cities. The only way to stop this is by making farm life more attractive, and this can be done by providing better school facilities and better highways.

COL. JAMES H. TILLMAN. Lieutenant Governor and a candidate for Governor, came next. It had been announced that on this occasion Col. Tillman would answer the charges made against him by Editor Gonzales, of the State newspaper, and there was more interest attached to his speech than to any of the others. During the last session of the Senate, Tillman, as a presiding officer, made a ruling on a parliamentary that was not satisfactory to the body and the ruling of the Chair was reversed by the committee on rules. Tillman in private communications with members of the Senate and newspaper reporters stated that he had telegraphed the facts to Speaker Henderson and Senator Frye, President of the United States Senate, and that both of these had sustained him. Tillman also inserted in the Senate Journal a statement explaining his reasons for making the ruling in which he stated the parliamentarians were not all agreed on the questions at issue, but that he had been sustained by the two highest parliamentarians in the country, giving the impression that it was Frye and Speaker Henderson who had sustained him. Editor Gonzales was not satisfied with Tillman's statement and wrote to Senator Frye and Speaker Henderson and received replies from them stating that the answers they had sent Tillman were directly opposite to what he had stated them to be. Tillman in his speech did not reply to

charged that Gonzales in his printed attack in the State had not quoted Tillman's personal statement in the Senate Journal which gave his grounds for making the ruling under dispute. He then read this statement from the Journal which had nothing whatever to do with Editor Gonzales's charge that Tillman had inserted a falsehood in that statement and had uttered from his chair as presiding officer of the Senate an untruth in regard to the Frye and Henderson telegrams: "This man Gonzales is actuated by spite and malice," he exclaimed dramatically. He is a modern Ishmael, whose hand is against every man and every man's hand is against him. Only a few days ago he made a vile attack on the Rev. E. O. Watson, a consecrated minister of the Methodist Church, and had assailed the entire Methodist Conference of South Carolina for wanting to move its College from Columbia. And since he has done that, why I don't suppose I can be surprised at his attack on me. The only explanation that I can offer for his enmity toward me is that I bear the name that I do." Col. Tillman evidently forgot that his father, the late Col. George D. Tillman, never had a more loyal or devoted friend than this same Editor Gonzales. This part of his speech was adroit and artful and was a most skillful play, but it did not deceive any body. He did not answer, or attempt to answer, Editor Gonzales's specific charges about the Frye and Henderson telegrams and, as such, his speech was a distinct disappointment to his friends, and he had some resent. Tillman then took up

THE JENKINS SWORD INCIDENT.

He said in substance: "Jenkins is a gallant young South Carolinian. I thought his splendid services deserved recognition at the hands of the people of this State, and I raised a sword to present him with a sword, and invited the President to deliver it. I was not as familiar then as I am now with Roosevelt's public utterances, but I say now that if I had known that he had branded Jefferson Davis as an arch traitor and had compared him to Benedict Arnold, that invitation never would have been extended. But I did not know it. Well, after that invitation had been issued you know what happened. An important incident occurred in the Senate, and as a result of it, Roosevelt withdrew an invitation he had extended to Senator Tillman to an official dinner at the White House. That was an insult to a South Carolina Senator, to my own blood, and I have no apologies to offer for what I did. I would have withdrawn that invitation to deliver the sword if Roosevelt had been a king. I have no apology to offer to anybody for having with drawn the invitation to Roosevelt to deliver the Jenkins sword."

Heretofore Col. Tillman has all ways claimed that he withdrew the invitation to President Roosevelt, "at the request of subscribers to the Jenkins fund," but on this occasion he assumed full responsibility for his action, and did not say anything about any "subscribers" or anyone else having asked him to take the step. Tillman's reference to the sword incident was not altogether unfavorably received, but the other parts of his speech were disappointing and damaging, and, on the whole, he made an unfavorably impression. He had a number of friends in the crowd and they were ready to make a demonstration in his favor, but his speech was so lame and futile that they could not do so. He received a few scattering hand claps, and there was one solitary little whooplet as he concluded. That's all. This is not commenting on the event, it is simply stating the facts.

After the gubernatorial candidates had been exhausted the CANDIDATES FOR CONGRESS in the Third district were presented and made brief addresses. Messrs. McCalla and Smith spoke before dinner and Messrs. Prince, Rucker, Graydon and Aiken spoke after dinner. Mr. Stribling was present in the forenoon, but left on the afternoon train and was not present when his name was called. In the crowd at Donald's Mr. Prince was the favorite candidate. He did not have a majority of the voters present, but he had more friends and supporters than any other candidate had. But each candidate had friends and the meeting was a good natured one.

THIS SPECIFIC CHARGE, but dodged it very adroitly. He

and Hemphill were present, and each made a speech after the congressional candidates had retired. As there was no enemy present, in the shape of a Commercial Democrat, or a Melantrite, the candidates contented themselves by firing blank cartridges to the entertainment of the crowd and their own delight. The nearest approach to old time fireworks was the reference of Mr. Latimer "to the fact that men who had gone into the primary had pledged themselves to support him had gone to Washington and sought to destroy his usefulness, branding him as a Populist." This sally was not noticed by the other candidates. Mr. Latimer had a majority of the crowd of course, as this section is one of his strongholds and near his home.

It was late in the afternoon when the speech making was finished and the crowd had commenced to disperse. Late in the afternoon this section was visited by a fine rain, the first in weeks. The crops needed it badly.

For Railroad Commissioner.

[Fairfield News and Herald of March 12th.]

To the Editor of The News and Herald:

In view of the peculiarly perplexing problems of government presenting themselves on every hand it is more than ever necessary for the people of South Carolina to exercise careful scrutiny in the selection of public officials. They cannot afford to base their choice on any consideration save fitness, and fitness consists both in integrity to do right and in intelligence to know what is right so that the scales of justice may be evenly balanced in the determination of issues arising from conflicting interests. Serious injury may be inflicted by honest error. The problem of transportation is exceedingly complex. When properly conducted railways are a great potent factor in furthering the public welfare. Their great usefulness, however, clothes them with great power for evil as well as good. It is the duty of the State to see that the rights of the public and the railways are alike carefully guarded and that there shall be no encroachment from either side. This is a simple proposition, but its application is no easy task, not only because of the delicate adjustment of relations between shippers and carriers, but also because of the conflict between the interstate commerce jurisdiction of the United States and the police power of the State. The exact line of de-

marcation between the two has not yet been drawn, and new issues will constantly present themselves demanding the exercise of enlightened judgment. The railroad commission, therefore, is a department of government of great importance.

Recognizing this, many citizens desire to nominate for Railroad Commissioner Mr. John G. Mobley, of Fairfield. Besides possessing a legal training he has for a number of years been engaged in farming and daily husbandry. For twelve years a director of the State Agricultural Society, he has done as much for the improvement and development of the dairy breeds of cattle as any one in South Carolina. He is a practical farmer—thoroughly identified with the agricultural interests of the State, and has also favored the development of our resources along lines of industry.

Mr. Mobley has ever been conspicuous for his public spirit and untiring energy. He has always taken an active part in politics and has always regarded the interest of a friend as his own. In the legislature his ability and fairness were well displayed. He was fearless in presenting his own cause, but always courteous to his opponents. In recognition of his worth the legislature made him a director of the penitentiary by an almost unanimous vote. As Railroad Commissioner he would carefully study the problem of transportation and do justice without fear or favor. Affable in manner and pleasant in speech Mr. Mobley would be a popular as well as a capable official. For all these reasons he is placed in nomination and it is believed that he will be elected.

The above is respectfully submitted for the consideration of the State by citizens who know him.

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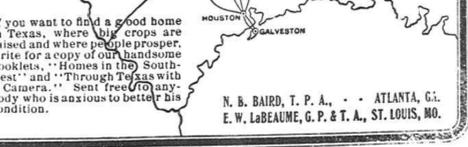
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FEBRUARY 10, 1902.

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Atlantic Coast Line! FAST LINE

Between Charleston and Columbia Upper South Carolina and North Carolina.

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FEBRUARY 10, 1902.

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