

GEORGIA.

Campbell's Negro Gang Arming in McIntosh County and Causing Great Excitement—The Darien Colored Councillors—Overriding the Legislature and Threatening the Criminal Judges.

SAVANNAH, Ga., Jan. 13, 1872.

Accounts received in this city state that the negroes of McIntosh county, headed by one Tunis G. Campbell, a negro official, are in a most excited condition, and owing to their threatening attitude the whites are arming and organizing themselves for the purpose of peace and protection.

Last year Darien, the county seat of McIntosh, had a white Mayor and a negro board of eight Councillors, who not only ruled Darien but attempted to exercise control over a large portion of McIntosh county. Among other illegal acts resorted to by this board to perpetuate their influence was the passage by them of an order imposing an inordinate tax on the owners of property, by which they partially succeeded in raising the sum of \$3,000, and would have raised the whole amount had not the white people, some of them Northern men, obtained an injunction restraining the Board in the illegal exercise of authority.

Since that time Campbell has had no friendly feelings for the "white trash" of McIntosh county, and has endeavored, by assembling armed negroes, to intimidate the judges of the inferior courts in that vicinity. On one occasion, when he was arrested and brought before one of the judges, he had summoned three hundred blacks, who, with guns, pistols and clubs, surrounded the Court House. The Judge, however, gave a decision adverse to Campbell, and stated that the prisoner might apply for a writ of habeas corpus. The armed negroes then advanced with their weapons toward the Judge, who would have been killed, but Campbell waived them back and said, "Not yet, not yet. This is not the time." Campbell obtained a writ of habeas corpus, and the case was finally disposed of by a mulatto official and tool of Campbell.

At the recent meeting of the Georgia Legislature a law was passed appointing seven white Commissioners from McIntosh county to take charge of the official books and papers held by Campbell and his coadjutors, and to exercise the functions of inferior judge.

Last week and the week previous Campbell held mass meetings of negroes throughout McIntosh county, and he counselled them to resist, by force of arms, the authority of the Commissioners.

The law appointing the white Commissioners was not signed by Conley, the Acting Governor of the State, who at the time was refusing to recognize the action of the Legislature, with a view to keep his executive seat.

The excitement is on the increase, but no violence has so far been attempted.