

THE NEW SOUTH.



Vol. 3, No. 34.

Port Royal, S. C., Saturday, June 3, 1865.

Whole No. 138.

The New South.

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY MORNING BY
J. H. SEARS, Editor and Proprietor.

PRICE:
ONE COPY..... Five Cents.
PER HUNDRED..... \$3 50.
THREE MONTHS..... 10 50.
ONE YEAR..... 20 00.

IN ADVANCE.
ADVERTISEMENTS.—Twenty cents a line for first
insertion; fifteen cents for second, and ten cents
for each subsequent insertion.

TERMS CASH.
Office, Phoenix Building, Union Square adjoining
Post Office.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

Its Soil, Climate, Diseases &c.

The following interesting and valuable extracts from "Ramsey's Sketch of the Soil, Weather, and Diseases of South Carolina," a pamphlet published at Charleston in 1796, were furnished us by "D. A. R.," of Beaufort, S. C., who has our thanks.

"South Carolina nearly resembles a triangle. It is bounded on the east by the Atlantic Ocean and extends thereon about two hundred miles; on the south and partly on the west, by the river Savannah; and on the north and partly on the west, by North Carolina. These two last mentioned boundary lines approximate to each other about three hundred miles from the sea coast, and in the vicinity of the Alleghany Mountains."

"In treating of South Carolina, the philosopher, as well as the politician, must consider it as divided into upper and lower country. Nature has marked this distinction in many particulars. Along the sea-coast, and for one hundred miles westward, the country is generally low and flat; from thence, to its western extremity, it is diversified with hills, rising higher and higher, till they terminate in the Alleghany Mountains, which are the partage ground of the eastern and western waters. In the vallies between these hills a black and deep loam is found. This has been formed by abrasion from the hills and from rotten trees and other vegetables which have been collecting for centuries.

"The Rivers of the upper country originate in the mountains and are an assemblage of streams. After these have passed into the low country they move slowly and in a serpentine course till they empty into the ocean. The rivers of the low country are, properly, arms of the sea, extending but a few miles till they head in swamps and marshes."

"The Climate of South Carolina is in a medium between that of tropical countries and of cold temperate latitudes. It resembles the former in the degree and duration of its summer heat, and the latter in its variableness. In tropical countries the warmest and coolest days do not, in the course of a twelve-month, vary more from each other than sixteen degrees of Fahrenheit; there is, consequently, but little distinction between their summer and winter. But a variation of 83 degrees between the heat and cold of different days in the same year, and of 46 degrees in the different hours of the same day, in South Carolina, is to be found in its historical records. The difference between our coolest and warmest summers, range between 89 and 96; and the difference between our mildest and severest winters ranges between 31 and 28. Our greatest heat is sometimes less, and never much more, than what takes place in the same season in

Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York; but their warm weather does not on an average, continue above six weeks, while ours lasts from three to four months. Our nights are also warmer than theirs. The days in Charleston are moderated by two causes which do not exist in an equal degree to the northward of it. Our situation, open and near the sea, almost surrounded by water; and not far distant from the torrid zone, gives us a small proportion of the trade winds which, blowing from the south-east, are pleasantly cool. These generally set in about 10 A. M. and continue for the remainder of the day. A second reason may be assigned from the almost daily showers of rain that fall in the hottest of our summer months."

"April, May and June are, in common, our healthiest months; August and September the most sickly; April and May the driest; June, July and August the wettest; November the pleasantest. In some years January, and in others February is the coldest month."

"In the spring, when the sun begins to be powerful, a languor and drowsiness is generally felt, respiration is accelerated, and the pulse becomes quicker and softer. Strangers are apt to be alarmed at these feelings and anticipate an increase of them with the increasing heat of the season, but they find themselves agreeably disappointed. The human frame so readily accommodates itself to its situation that the heat of June and July is, to most people, less distressing than the comparatively milder weather of April and May. On the other hand, though September is cooler than the preceding months, it is more sickly and the heat of it more oppressive. Perspiration is diminished and frequently interrupted; hence the system, debilitated by the severe weather of July and August, feels more sensibly, and more frequently, a sense of languor and lassitude. Besides, the coolness of the evenings in September, and the heavy dews that then fall, multiply the chances of getting cold. It is, on the whole, the most disagreeable month in the year."

"The evils that every year take place, more or less, in Philadelphia from drinking cold water, are unknown in this city. Our water lies so near the surface of the earth that the difference of its temperature from that of the common air is not so great as to create danger. Instead of sudden deaths from cold water, we have to lament the same event from the immoderate use of spirituous liquor. The stimulus of ardent spirits, added to the stimulus of excessive heat, drives the blood forcibly to the brain and produces fatal consequences."

"It is a glorious exploit in a country whose maladies chiefly arise from heat and moisture to redeem its metropolis from moisture, which, of the two, is the most plentiful source of disease. Whoever builds a house, fills a pond, or drains a bog, deserve well of a country."

"It is no small advantage to the inhabitants of Charleston, that they can, in the space of two hours, parry the heat of summer, by going to Sullivan's Island, where many invalids, especially children, have found a speedy restoration to health and strength."

"Intermittent fevers are common to those who inhabit in or near to the banks of our rivers. On the other hand, by removing into the high and dry land, three or four miles from the rivers, ponds, and

mill-dams, fevers may, for the most part be avoided. Of this a remarkable instance has lately occurred (1795) in St. Stephens, the inhabitants of which by quitting the swamps in summer and fixing themselves in a new settlement, called by them Pine-Ville, have, for two years past, in a great measure, escaped the diseases which are common in the most sickly season of the year."

"The swamps of South Carolina terminate about one hundred and ten miles from the sea-coast; from thence westward the country becomes more hilly; the inhabitants are more ruddy and, in general, more healthy."

"Were it possible exactly to contrast the consumptions of New England with the fevers of South Carolina, the inhabitants of both would have nearly equal reason to be satisfied with the place of their nativity. As to long life our Eastern brethren have the advantage of us.—In proportion to numbers, as far as history and observation warrant a comparison, there are as many of their inhabitants reach 85, as of ours attain to 70."

Extreme old age, though not common, is sometimes attained by our citizens, especially by those who, in middle or early life, have migrated from the cold northern latitudes of Europe.

A native of Charleston now (1796) resides in it, who is supposed by herself and acquaintances to be a hundred years old. I have been well informed of seven or eight others in different parts of the State who have reached, and in some cases exceeded that period. A particular census of the aged inhabitants of this city was taken by Captain Jacob Milligan, in the year 1790, at the request of a worthy citizen, since dead, from which it appeared that there were then in Charleston 198 white persons who were sixty years of age, 100 of these were upwards of 70, and one 108. The white population, at that period, was about 8,000."

THE REGENERATED SOUTH.—Our readers will have observed that since the return of the Editor and Proprietor of this paper from the North, we have expressed very decided opinions on the questions of re-construction, the treatment of traitors, the policy to be pursued with the freedmen, and other subjects of equal and pressing importance. Although THE NEW SOUTH is but a small and apparently insignificant sheet, the standpoint from which we write gives us, we think, a clearness of view and facilities to arrive at just conclusions which our cotemporaries at Savannah, on the one side, and Charleston on the other, do not possess in an equal degree; or, it may be that, under the pressure of present surroundings—a medley of Union soldiers and civilians, and Confederates, some repentant, others still unsubdued, our neighbors find it difficult to suit all their customers by enunciating a clearly defined policy to be pursued towards this Southern country.

This has not escaped the observation of many thinking men among our numerous readers, and we are therefore in constant receipt of communications from prominent and influential citizens both North and South. Our limits are too narrow to notice many of these as we have determined to devote ourselves

more to matters of directly local interest, such as the building up of THE NEW CITY OF THE SOUTH on the shores of this magnificent bay of Port Royal. In order, however, to show the great advance in the right direction already made by some of the most influential former residents of this section we propose from time to time to give extracts from the best letters we receive.

The following indicates the change of sentiment and disposition to yield quickly to the altered condition of society here. It is a sure step in the right direction. It cannot be long before harmonious action between North and South must be the result of such sentiments:

"We are now at the beginning of a new era. Society, after the subversion of many of its former principal elements, is just commencing to mould itself in new forms, and to assume new phases. Nothing hereafter, either politically or socially, can be exclusively Southern, while at the same time no moral forces, set in motion by mere conquest, can so entirely obliterate ancient prejudices as to make everything exclusively Northern."

"We will boldly and honestly recognize the fixed political fact of the abolition of slavery, together with its numerous trains of important consequences, such as the destruction of the preponderance of the large planters, while, on the other hand, we will consistently avoid and oppose the extreme radicalism of that class who would elevate the negro, to his own detriment and the ruin of the country, above his normal condition as the working class under the new system of hired labor. We will consider the extreme Calhoun doctrine of State Rights, with its logical consequences—Nullification and Secession, as forever decided against by the issue of the present conflict. We will avoid the bitter and malignant spirit which at present distinguishes the press in dealing with errors whose magnitude at least should make them respectable; and we will assume a tone of kindness and moderation, so as to heal as soon as possible the wounds which have been inflicted in the long and terrible strife now so fortunately ended."

ARRIVAL OF THE 9TH CONN. REG.—A portion of this regiment arrived here a few days since from Savannah, where they have been doing guard duty for a long time, but were recently relieved by the 6th Regulars. The 9th Conn. is a fine regiment, under command of Lt. Col. Healy—a gallant and dashing young officer. It was very popular at Savannah with all classes, and is distinguished for its soldiery bearing and discipline. It is probable that this regiment will remain here permanently. One or two other companies are expected to arrive soon.

The following is a list of the officers already here:

- Lieut. Col. John G. Healy.
- Surgeon R. McNeill.
- Captain G. T. Scott, Comd'g Co. A.
- Captain Wm. A. Lee, " " C.
- Lieut. J. H. Lawlor, Act'g Qt. Mas.
- Lieut. John Balger, Act'g Adjt.
- 2nd Lieut. William Gleason, Co. A.
- 2nd Lieut. Edmund Downing, Co. C.
- 2nd Lieut. C. Streit, Band.