

Items.

A New York correspondent says, A. T. Stewart has lost this season \$2,000,000. H. Claflin ditto.

Western letters speak confidently of General Sherman's nomination for the Presidency.

It has been decided in the United States Court at New York that chickens are not live stock.

The Tennessee Senate has passed a bill appropriating \$3,500,000 in aid of State railroads.

England makes fifty thousand tons of cheese annually, and imports thirty thousand tons more from America.

Vermont has rejected a bill allowing parties to agree on a higher rate of interest than six per cent.

Dr. Livingston has been heard from. He is known to have been safe in the middle of Africa in April last.

Most extensive military preparations are being made for the execution of the Fenians in Manchester.

The Jacksonville (Fla.) Mercury says that oranges are the most profitable crop grown in that State.

Mecklenburg, Germany, has lost 12 per cent of its population in ten years by emigration to the United States.

Indications seem strong that Judge Thurman (Democrat) will be the next United States Senator chosen from Ohio.

John Mitchell, it is stated, intends to prosecute General John A. Dix for "false imprisonment" during the war.

The New York Tribune says that half a million of dollars was lost and won on the late election in the city of New York.

The Impeachers expect to make their strong point against the President from circumstances connected with the transfer of rolling stock to the Southern Railroads.

Brigadier-General Buchanan has been assigned to the command of the Department of Louisiana, vice General Mower. Colonel Buchanan is a Marylander by birth, and an old soldier.

Suppose the cotton tax to be repealed; suppose cotton, thereupon, decline 2 1/2 cents per pound, will not all the fuss about the tax be made about nothing? The best way to repeal the cotton tax is to stop planting the cotton.

When the news of Garibaldi's movement reached France, the young Duke de Chevrouse, who had but a few months since received a commission in the Papal army, returned to Rome and rejoined the Zouaves as a private. He is one of the richest noblemen in France.

The Monticello (Fla.) Gazette has the following: "A number of negroes came to town on Wednesday last and tried to find Captain Knight, who they said was to meet them here to-day for the purpose of distributing to the freedmen, who had voted right, their share of mules, land, etc. The Captain, however, was not on hand."

DAMAGES BY CONFEDERATE PRIVATEERS. The statements forwarded to Mr. Adams by Secretary Seward, in the matter of the claims by the United States against England for damages done by Confederate privateers fitted out in English ports, exhibit the following aggregates:

Destroyed by the Alabama, \$3,665,289.67
Destroyed by the Shenandoah, 3,169,291.19
Destroyed by the Florida, 2,133,576.51

Grand total, \$8,968,157.37

Mrs. Lincoln's brothers, as is known, were in the Confederate army. The youngest of them started in April, 1861, from New Orleans, as a private in the Chasseurs a Pied, and being discharged for sickness at Richmond, in October of the same year, returned to his home; but, though still suffering in health he left a wife and two babes to join the Crescent regiment, in response to Beauregard's call, and full at Shiloh. Another, Captain Dave Todd, started with Col. Tom Taylor of the First Kentucky Volunteers, and was also killed towards the end of the war. And the third, Dr. Todd, served throughout as a distinguished surgeon.

A Washington dispatch says the prospect of an immediate repeal of the Cotton Tax are not so promising. The true friends of the measure, fearful of a spontaneous opposition to movements originating on their side of the House, are holding off, and so far every bill introduced, looking to a repeal, has a rider which will kill it or provoke weeks of discussion. A favorable action before Christmas is highly improbable. The Committee of Ways and Means have agreed unanimously, in its session this morning, to report a bill for the repeal of the Cotton Tax.

Trial of Mr. Davis.

Mr. Everts, for the Government, said the intention of the Government was, to try the Davis case some day this term. One consideration in fixing the day was the time when Chase would attend here, and the Government proposed to name a day, after the adjournment of the Supreme Court, for this trial, when Chase could sit with Underwood. Everts suggested the fourth Monday in March. O'Connor said the personal convenience of Mr. Davis would have been promoted if that had taken place in May last, and it would be very convenient now, but his counsel would agree to the proposition of Everts. He thought the presence of Chase would be beneficial, not alone to the interests of the accused, but to all interests. Judge Underwood said the arrangement proposed by the Government was agreeable to the Court, and particularly because the Court earnestly desired that Judge Chase should sit upon the case. It was due to the defendant that two Judges should sit in the case, in order that an appeal might be taken on disputed questions, and the case carried up by defendant to a higher Court. The Judge agreed to fix the 20th of March for the trial; and, on application of Mr. O'Connor, to extend Mr. Davis' bail bond until that time; and further agreed, if Judge Chase could not precede then, to extend the leave of absence till the term following. The order of extension of leave of absence for Mr. Davis, and fixing the 22d March for the trial, was entered by order of the Judge, and Mr. Davis' trial ended for this term. Mr. Davis did not appear in Court. Three witnesses, who came into Court, Ex-Secretary Seddon, Ex-Governor Letcher and General Wickham, were recognized to appear at the next term.

Seddon, Letcher, and several other witnesses for the Government, were before the Grand Jury to-day, which shows that Mr. Davis will be tried on a new indictment at the next term in March.

Mr. Davis will remain in Richmond several days. He will not spend the winter in Canada.

THE ORANGEBURG NEWS.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1867.

While we reserve to ourselves the right of defining our own political position by means of our editorial columns, we will be pleased to publish contributions from our fellow-citizens upon the grave questions which now agitate the public mind, whether their opinions coincide with ours or not. A district newspaper, we consider, should be an index of the various shades of popular sentiment in the section of a country in which it circulates. Our columns are open, therefore, for any communications properly written, accompanied by a responsible name, not personal in their character, nor absolutely injurious in their tendency.

Negro Bonds.

Our esteemed contributor "Paysan" has, with his usual acumen, and in his fluent and graceful style, advocated in our present issue the "Reputation of Negro debts." We disagree in opinion with Paysan on this subject, in toto. The sacred obligation of a contract does not depend merely on "honor," (if it did, that would be a good foundation) but it rests upon the sure basis of justice. Calamity to the debtor cannot free him from his duty to his creditor, even if it be by the act of God, and not of man. Suppose a strong case: A man purchases on credit a home for his family, and in that home collects articles of comfort for his wife and children. A stroke of lightning falls upon it, and it is reduced to ashes—as it were—by fire from Heaven. There is the act of God, by which that man has been reduced in fortune. Shall his remaining property be taken by his creditor to pay for that house and its furniture, and the unfortunate debtor be reduced to penury! It is a hard case; but our friend Paysan would say with us, that the destruction of the thing purchased is no abatement of the debt. THE RISK IS IN THE OWNER. Suppose again: A and B, two brothers, receive each a legacy of five thousand dollars, gold. Each buys negro property before the war to the amount of five thousand dollars. A pays for his purchase in full; B buys his negroes on credit, and purchases a fine plantation with his legacy, giving his bond for the negroes. Now, repudiate negro debts, and where is the equal justice in the case? A has lost his negroes, and his legacy: while B has lost nothing, having actually made the value of the services of the negroes until their emancipation.

Again: as to guardians and trustees. If the guardian or trustee uses that fund for his own purposes, (which he has no right to do), he must suffer the consequence of his own fault. If in the course of his duty, he makes investments for the actual use and benefit of his cestui-que-trust and which were proper at the time, but afterwards turn out badly, the guardian or trustee is only authorized by law to make certain kinds of investments; and if he makes others, he does it at his peril.

We hasten on, and find that Paysan wishes to change the Constitution. We would say, this is dangerous ground. The argument of Paysan is the very argument of the extreme

Radicals; and if his theory be correct, the Radicals have a right to establish Negro Supremacy in the South. A constitution is the sacred bulwark which in times of political excitement is to protect minorities from the encroachments of triumphant majorities. It makes no difference whether that majority be a party of rampant Radicals, or a party of unfortunate debtors,—the principle is the same.

We wish we had time to enlarge on this subject. It is one of great interest, and we sympathize deeply with the unfortunate debtors in our community. But there is nobility; there is sound philosophy, there is honor (real, and not merely so-called) in the maxim—FIAT JUSTITIA, COELUM RUAT.

The Gauss.

The long looked for ship, containing the first band of German Immigrants to our shores, arrived in Charleston on Thursday last.

The whole number of immigrants is 152, and ample accommodations had been arranged for their reception.

We clip from the Charleston Daily News, the following appropriate words of WELCOME.

Cordially, heartily and earnestly does the State of Carolina give greeting to her German children. She has known,—in war and peace,—the thrift, the courage, the patience and the solid strength of those whose fortunes have long been united with her own; and now she welcomes others of the same race and blood as warmly as she has cherished those who have already been trusted, tried and proved. Carolina rejoices in this new accession to her strength, and wishes to each and every one a heartfelt God-speed!

COURT OF APPEALS.—The Court of Appeals, says the Charleston News, resumed its sittings in Columbia, on Wednesday. Present—Hons. Benj. F. Dunkin, Chief Justice D. L. Wardlaw and John A. Inglis, Associates. Pursuant to previous order, the examination of applicants for admission to practice in the Law Equity Courts of this State was held, and the following gentlemen were ordered to be enrolled:

Attorneys.—T. S. Arthur, M. J. Browning, A. J. Green, William H. Johnson, A. G. Magrath, Jr., W. Gilmore Simms, Jr. A. D. Simons, John W. Smith.

Solicitors in Equity.—Robert Aldrich, C. P. Bolton, S. R. Chapman, H. Covington, S. C. Inglis, B. M. Jones, W. W. Legare, P. J. Malone, J. G. McKissick.

Attorneys and Solicitors.—George D. Bryan, Robert Chisolm, Jr., B. E. Christberg, Thomas W. Clawson, W. C. Coker, Henry Deas, Jr., John Grimbald, McMillan King, W. S. Monteith, Charles P. Porcher.

On Tuesday on order was read by the Court for holding extra courts for the following Districts to wit: Edgefield, Barnwell, Beaufort, Colleton and Orangeburg, to commence at Edgefield on the second Monday in January next, and to continue in session for one week each.

The Court adjourned over until Friday.

[FOR THE ORANGEBURG NEWS.]

Reputation of Negro Debts.

MR. EDITOR:—I do not desire to write anything that would have a tendency to create demoralization, nor would I hope to encourage a spirit of insubordination by presenting plainly and openly before the readers of your enterprising journal a few remarks upon the indebtedness of our citizens, which though humble in style, nevertheless, I think to be true. Of the same opinion with yourself, that a district newspaper should be an index of the shade of sentiment of the people among whom it circulates, and that anything properly written and accompanied by a responsible name should not be suppressed unless productive of evil, therefore I have concluded to venture a few sentiments, which I think are typical of those entertained by a large class of our citizens. Now, I do not wish to be understood in the premises as offering an excuse or begging license for any and everything that I may see fit to indite, for if what I write is not fact, the subject is open for discussion and refutation. I know, that there are many whose conscientious scruples and high sense of honor have been cultivated to such a nice degree of discrimination, that such sentiments as I may advance in the following space will be condemned at once as the creation of a depravity of soul.

But Mr. Editor, there is no use in trying to conceal the fact. You may talk about your honor—this is indeed a very pretty and convenient term—it covers a multitude of sins. I do not mean to reflect lightly on this term, for its principles are as sacred to me as any other man on earth. The idea I mean to convey is the enormity of abuse that has been made of it. It is very easy for some people to "strain at a gnat and swallow a camel." Abstract ideas concerning certain principles, have a pretty theoretical bearing with some, but do not work so well in the machinery of practical application. Well! what of all this? Nothing

at all, further than to show the inconsistency between interested and theoretical and practical honor, and to try to disabuse the minds of some people of the idea that "all that glitters is not gold" and that preachers do not at all times practice what they preach."

The people of South Carolina are sufferers—a calamity has befallen them from which it will probably take a century to recover. The pen and the sword have reduced them to a condition, which compared to the position they occupied before the war might be placed in the ratio of one to fifty. For this comparison we can have no exact and tangible method by which to arrive at the correctness of its truth. But everything considered we do not believe it an exaggeration. The federals destroyed our dwellings, our granaries, corn houses, gins, mills, plantation fences, burned our cotton, carried off our mules and horses, also our hogs and cattle or shot them down in our yards and pastures, and by its final achievement reduced our currency to naught. By the North, our slaves have been emancipated, which resulted in the loss to South Carolina of two hundred million dollars. Many of these emancipated slaves have died since the war, many have emigrated to other countries, and those left behind are so completely in the hands of party power as to be rendered of very little benefit as an element of labor. The only property left us is our land. This without the means to work it has reduced in value from an average of ten dollars an acre to three dollars and even as low as ten cents an acre. The people who could have paid their debts when they owned property, and money was plentiful but were prevented by the existence of a stay law, which strange to say, was allowed to remain in force as constitutional theft, but which since that time has been adjudged of a different nature, are now more deeply involved than ever by the accumulation of interest, with not the one-tenth part of the means for satisfying the demands against them. Since the war they have made every exertion to pay out. But instead of accomplishing this object they have only got farther from it. Generally they have been barely able to make enough to subsist on. But what are they to do? It would not do to fold their arms to their situations, and yet every effort seems only to increase their embarrassments. Were they out of debt, they could make enough by their own labor to the exclusion of the negro to subsist on. But how are they to get out? Would that some wiser head than mine could suggest. Probably you who know nothing of the character of the labor with which we have to contend will say, work out. We have tried it, the plan don't succeed under existing circumstances. It is as impossible for the land owners of this State to pay their old debts as it is for them to change the course of the Sun. I do not make this assertion to discourage those who have any desire to make the attempt nor to promote my own interests as I do not owe a single old debt in the world. Talk about paying old debts—it is absurd. There is no use in trying to conceal the fact—it is impossible and the people know it. "Blood cannot be extracted from a turnip." You may throw open the courts and sell their property, but this will not pay the debts. It may be a satisfaction for Mr. Creditor to bid in Mr. Debtor's land and thereby gain an addition of a thousand or two acres to his already large and unwieldy body. C is very little better off by this change of ownership, while D is rendered penniless.

Suppose he had invested the property in Confederate bonds? The law provides in this case that the minors and wards shall be the losers. The same power that destroyed the validity of the bonds destroyed the validity of a bill of sale for the negro. Then why exempt him in the one case and not in the other. The same right that applies to hold him responsible for investment in negroes applies with equal force in the case of investment in Confederate bonds. But neither the one nor the other are just, therefore why not abrogate both? But how can we arrive at this? Any act that "impairs the obligation of contracts" is contrary to the Constitution of the State and of the United States.

Constitutions are framed in order to "establish justice to promote the general welfare" and to suit the exigencies of the times at which they are made. What would promote the welfare of a people to-day, fifty or a hundred years hence would possibly be productive of evil and opposed to its best interests. A law that works for the general good at the time of its enactment does not guarantee that it will do so always and under all circumstances. If adhering to set principles in the nature of our Constitution is inimical to our best interests why not change that Constitution, and adapt it to suit the circumstances of the people, whose welfare it is intended to promote? When this instrument is an impediment in deciding a question of moment that concerns the general good why not submit the desire for its change to the test of the people? True, the Constitution of the United States says, "no State shall pass any act impairing the obligation of contracts. Then let the State call a Convention and memorialize Congress for an amendment to the Constitution. It is a matter of little concern to Congress, whether the citizens of South Carolina pay their individual debts or not. Of course all obligations contracted with citizens residing beyond the limits of the State will have to be met. Then say you, that every man will transfer his claims to citizens residing beyond the limits of the State. We think not. Every community knows very well the extent of the indebtedness, and to whom of each member who composes it. Beside when it could be proved that the party transferred his claim out side of the limits of the State to avoid having it repudiated, let such transfer be illegal and void. This would prevent foreigners from abetting or accepting claims of doubtful tendency upon citizens of the State.

These remarks have been advanced in the attempt to show the general evil that will result to the country at large from the collection of all old debts. To correct this evil entirely may be impracticable. Repudiation of all old debts would, no doubt, strike a heavy blow to a great many persons, but on the other hand, we believe its consummation would ward off a great many more that will occur if it does not take place. (Leaving general repudiation out of the question, however, we believe that the people of South Carolina would be doing themselves and their posterity an injustice not to repudiate, at least, negro debts, if such lies within the range of practicability.)

The war was a general calamity. The losses and misfortunes it entailed upon us were unavoidable and we should not be held responsible to make them good. Nearly every one in the State are involved in debts contracted during and before the war. I owe B, C, owes D and D, E, &c. In order for me to pay B what I owe him I must "sue A C," in order to pay D, I must sue B, &c., probably the suing continuing down to the seventh or eighth man. When the last man has been sued the probability is that not more than one dollar out of every seven or eight of G's claim is satisfied. Thus A, B, C, &c., are all sold out to satisfy the claims of G, who is very little better off than he was before. The same is true in regard to securities. Two or three or more men are all sold out to satisfy the demands of one man. But say you, what will become of the minors and wards? Without wishing in the least to reflect upon these wards of public sympathy, we would state that since the war, these too, have been very convenient tools in the hands of those who wishing to plead up their own interests have done so in behalf of minors.

We confess that we breach the subject of minors with some degree of delicacy, for we know that we have only to touch any point relating to their interests, to touch the chord of public sympathy. We will venture a little way, however, *couste que couste*. Guardians, who have invested the property of minors or wards in lands or other property (excepting negroes and Confederate bonds,) should of

course, be held responsible. This, though not exactly fair, the advantage being in favor of the minors, could not probably be arrived at any nearer, except that in case of investment in lands, instead of holding the Guardian responsible for what the lands sold for before the war, let the same revert back to minors. But suppose the minors' property was all invested in negroes? Let them be the losers of course? For if the Guardian is held responsible (it is a double loss on him. He has lost the negroes, and then has to make good their emancipation, which is equivalent to holding him responsible for what the United States did and which it is impossible for him to undo.

TO RENT.—On Saturday, 14th of December next, at Orangeburg C. H., the lands of the Estate of L. E. Cooner, will be Rented in parcels for the year 1868. For terms and information apply to J. D. CLECKLEY, Esq., nov 20—24\*

WANTED 5000 BUSHELS ROUGH RICE. 2000 bushels COW PEAS. 1000 bushels CORN. For which the highest price will be paid in cash. Apply to T. A. JEFFORDS & CO., nov 23—24

ONIONS.—If you want them Large Plant Early. EZEKIEL & KOHN have some nov 16—17

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PAYSAN.

JUST RECEIVED A FRESH SUPPLY OF DRY GOODS, SHOES, HATS, GROCERIES. Also 60 bunches of YARN below the market price, at T. D. WOLFE'S, nov 10

CHEAPEST Cheating and Smoking TOBACCO offered since the war, at T. D. WOLFE'S, nov 16

FRUITS AND FLOWERS.—The above celebrated Brand of Smoking Tobacco, also other brands of Smoking and Chewing Tobacco for sale at EZEKIEL & KOHN, oct 26

WORSTED HOODS, Children's Worsteds Sacks and Fancy Goods, &c., just received at MRS. M. E. HALL'S, nov 2

WINTER MILLINERY GOODS of all qualities, just received at MRS. M. E. HALL'S, nov 2

CHAS. BULL & CO. GROCERIES, DRY GOODS, &c. No. 18 MAIN STREET. sept. 23

Orangeburg Drug Store.

DR. E. J. OLIVEROS. JUST RECEIVED, THE LARGEST assortment of Perfumery and Toilet Articles ever offered in Orangeburg, consisting in part as follows: Lubin's Perfumery, Rose, Violet, Musk, Ess. Bouquet, Rose Geranium, Diamond Pomade, Cepharinony Powder, &c., Florida Ess. Ass'd, Op. Marrow Pomade, Trip Pomade, Pencil Soap, Gumbo Soap, N. B. Cure, Ess. Opponax, Lower Windsor Soap, &c., Tooth, Shaving, Hair Brushes, of unsurpassed quality. Receiving monthly supplies of Corn Starch, Malacca, Barley, Bago, Broom Gelatine and Irish Moss. I am appointed Agent at this place for Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup, Brown's Bronchial Troches and Worm Combs, Dr. Radway's Pain Expeller, and Dr. Ayer's Medicine, &c., &c. All Medicines, both Patent and Unpatented, to be found at E. J. OLIVEROS, M. D., Druggist and Apothecary, Orangeburg Drug Store. nov 2

ORANGEBURG HOTEL

The Proprietor of this HOUSE, formerly known as TREADWELL'S HOTEL, having rented the same for a term of years, deems it necessary to inform the

Traveling Public, both LADIES and GENTLEMEN, that he has thoroughly refitted the premises, and will keep a FIRST CLASS HOTEL.

RATES OF BOARD: Board per Day, \$2.00 Board per Week, 7.00 Permanent boarders on the most reasonable terms, by special contract.

ALSO STOCK DROVERS will find comfortable Stables and Lots for Stock. JOHN WILLIAMSON, Proprietor. nov 2—17

FOR SALE.—543 Acres of Cotton and PROVISION LAND, 3 miles from Lewisville Depot, with Mansion of 8 rooms and the necessary Out Buildings, also a fine House, Barn, and Quarters for 24 Laborers. The place is healthy and the Water excellent. Apply at this Office. nov 23

NOTICE.—I will SELL TO THE Highest bidder, at the Residence of the late Geo. H. Hooser, on Thursday, the 5th of December next, if not disposed of before, a Pair of Mules, with other Stock, Timber, Cart, a small lot of Farming Implements. Also interest in a Lease on Mill and Timber for four years. Terms Cash. J. B. HUMBERT, nov 23

SELLING OFF AT REDUCED RATES.—Being about to rebuild and not wishing to move our Goods to another location, we have determined to close out our entire Stock by the 1st of January next. We will offer a large lot of Dry Goods, Groceries, Shoes, &c., as will make it to the advantage of all buyers to give us a call. F. H. W. BRIGGMAN & CO., June 8

PUBLIC SALE.—By Permission of the Ordinary, we will sell on Monday, the 23rd day of December next, at the Plantation known as White Hill, all of the personal Estate of the late Dr. Jenkins, consisting of a fine lot of Mules, 8 head Horses, about 30 head of Cattle, about 25 head of Pigs, 1000 bushels Potatoes and Slips, Wagons, Carts and Gear, a large lot of Plantation Tools and Farming Implements, the Seed of about 600 bushels of Cotton. On the same day will be sold the said Plantation for 12 months to the highest bidder. Conditions made known on day of Sale. W. A. O'CAIN, Adm'r. E. M. A. JENKINS, Adm'r. nov 23—1d

FOR LEASE.

THE FINE ESTATE known as KEPT PLACE, situated in Ed. Matfield Parish, The Estate consists of three separate Tracts. The Keppel Place has 400 acres cleared and 200 uncleared. The Darby Place has 300 cleared and 200 uncleared—all fine Cotton Lands. The Keitt Place consists of 2,400 acres, one half cleared and in the state of Cultivation. The Estate is watered by a large creek, which affords good Range for Cattle. Soil Rich and Clay. The Estate would be leased as a one-porch, or in small Tracts of 60 or 100 acres, to suit small farmers. Fine Mules sold with the Place on credit. The Keppel and Darby Places would be sold if desired. For Terms apply to J. J. WOODARD, St. Matthews P. O., Orangeburg District, S. D. nov 2—17

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CHAS. BULL & CO. GROCERIES, DRY GOODS, &c. No. 18 MAIN STREET. sept. 23

FOR SALE, LEASE OR RENT.—A Valuable PLANTATION situated on Snake Swamp. All applicants must be made previous to the 1st day of December next to E. M. Marchant, or C. S. Bull, Orangeburg, by whom all necessary information will be given. sept 28

NOTICE.—All Persons Indebted to Miss Marchant by Note, or otherwise contracted since the war, are requested to settle the same before the 1st day of December next, at which time, all remaining unpaid will be placed in the hands of an Attorney for collection. sept 28

FOR SALE.

AMBER CART. 1 FOUR HORSE WAGON. 1 MULE. Apply to J. B. WHITE, nov 23—24

7 HEAD CHOICE STOCK CATTLE.—4 Cows capable of giving over two gallons milk per day, each 3 Yearling—all fat. Also 1 good two Horse Wagon and Harness, Iron axle and City made. 1 second hand Carriage and Harness. Apply to W. OAKMAN, Near Easterlin's Mills, Orangeburg District. nov 2—1me