

COLUMBIA PHOENIX.

Daily Paper \$20 a Month.
Payable in Advance.

"Let our just censure
Attend the true event."—Shakespeare.

Tri-Weekly \$10 a Month.
Payable in Advance.

BY J. A. SELBY.

COLUMBIA, S. C., MONDAY, APRIL 10, 1865.

VOL. 1.—NO. 10.

THE COLUMBIA PHOENIX

IS PUBLISHED DAILY AND TRI-WEEKLY.

BY JULIAN A. SELBY.

The Daily is issued every morning, except Sunday, at \$20 a month. Tri-Weekly, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, at \$10 a month, invariably in advance. Single copies \$1.

Advertisements inserted at \$5 per square (ten lines) for each insertion.

THE COLUMBIA PHOENIX.

PUBLISHED

DAILY AND TRI-WEEKLY.

THE undersigned begs to inform the citizens of Columbia and of the State of South Carolina at large, that he has commenced the daily publication of the COLUMBIA PHOENIX, and trusts that this additional contribution to the sources of public interest will be as grateful to his readers, as he trusts to make it valuable both to them and to himself. The telegrams of the Associated Press will be regularly published each morning, as will be, also, all matters of interest received by the mails. The paper will be delivered regularly to city subscribers by faithful carriers. Terms \$20 per month, in advance.

The TRI-WEEKLY PHOENIX—published every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday—will be mailed to subscribers in the country at \$10 a month, in advance. No subscription received for a longer period than three months.

Postmasters are authorized to act as agents, and will reserve ten per cent. as commissions.

JULIAN A. SELBY,
Publisher and Proprietor.

COLUMBIA, S. C., April 10, 1865.

Proclamation.

I, T. J. GOODWYN, Mayor of the city of Columbia, S. C., call earnestly upon the citizens to aid the municipal authorities in the preservation of order, peace and law. The laws made and provided for their maintenance will be strictly enforced. It is, therefore, earnestly requested that any and every encroachment be promptly reported to the proper officers. It is a source of deep regret to the executive that a laxity of morals exists among some portions of our inhabitants, inasmuch as they are daily trespassing on the rights of others, whose enclosures are not secure, by proper fencing; also, on the shade trees on the public streets. The law in these instances, as well as all laws for the protection of public and private property, will be enforced.

It has also been reported that parties are bringing into the city spirituous liquors for sale. It is much to be deprecated that this source of traffic should exist at such a time, when our inhabitants stand in daily want of food. Severe measures against the retailing of liquors must be resorted to, in order to stop the spread of this grievous evil; trusting on an All-wise Providence to sustain me in this our time of affliction, and relying on all good citizens to assist the authorities in maintaining order in our city.

Given under my hand, this fourth day of April, 1865. T. J. GOODWYN.

April 6

COLUMBIA.

Monday Morning, April 10, 1865.

Conflagration of Columbia.

The reader will have seen that we have brought to a close our narrative of the most conspicuous events, in the "capture, sack, and burning of the city of Columbia." We have been at great pains to make the statements ample, and to justify them by reference to the best authorities and witnesses to be found. We believe that the facts are substantially complete, and so, true in all respects. There are no doubt many omissions of interesting incidents, which, as they are reported to us, we may supply hereafter in a supplement. The incidents given are selected as typical of large groups of facts, representative anecdotes, uniform in their variety, and quite too numerous for separate consideration. But the very uniformity, amidst such a numerous collection, is in confirmation of the general authenticity of the whole; and we repeat the conviction that the narrative is wholly true withal, and to be relied on as a history.

We have seen, with some surprise, some attempts, in sundry quarters, to account for the destruction of Columbia, by ascribing it to accident, to the drunkenness of straggling parties, to our negroes, and, indeed, to any but the proper cause. It is evidently the design of these writers, without inquiring into the motives by which they were governed, to relieve the Yankee General and his army from the imputation. If it could be shown that one-half of Sherman's army were not actually engaged in firing the houses in twenty places at once, while the other half were not quiet spectators indifferently looking on, there might be some shrewdness in this suggestion. If it could be shown that the whiskey found its way out of stores and cellars, grappled with the innocent Yankees, and poured itself down their throats, then the Yankees are relieved of the responsibility. If it can be proved that the negroes were not terrified by the presence of these infuriate enemies, in such large numbers, and did not, (as they almost invariably did,) on the night of the fire, skulk away into their cabins, lying quite low, and keeping as dark as possible; we might listen to this suggestion, and perhaps admit its plausibility. But why did the Yankees prevent the firemen from extinguishing the fire in its first outbreak, as they strove to do? Why did they cut the hose, as soon as it was brought into the streets? Why did they not assist in extinguishing the flames? Why, with 20,000 men encamped in the streets, did they suffer the stragglers to

succeed in a work of such extensive and diabolical mischief? Why did they suffer the same wretches to break into the stores and drink the liquor wherever it was found? And what shall we say to the universal plundering, which was a part of the object attained through the means of fire? Why, above all, did they, with their guards massed at every corner, suffer the negroes to do this work? These questions answered, it will be seen that all these suggestions are sheer nonsense. To give them plausibility, we have been told, among other falsehoods, that General Sherman himself was burned out of his own selected quarters, no less than four times! This is simply false. He was burned out in no single instance. None of his Generals was burned out. The houses chosen for their abodes, were carefully selected, and the fire was studiously kept from approaching them in any single instance.

But we have pursued our narrative very imperfectly, if our array of facts be not such as conclusively to show that the destruction of the city was a deliberately designed thing, inflexibly fixed from the beginning, and its fate sufficiently well known to be conceived and comprehended by all the army.

Long before the enemy left Savannah, a lady inquired of one of the Yankee Generals in that city, whether she should retire—mentioning her preference of Columbia. His reply was significant—"Go anywhere but to Columbia." We have stated the conference between the lady superior of the Ursuline Convent, and a certain Major of the Yankees, who originally belonged to the press gang of Detroit. He warned her at 11 o'clock of Friday, "that she would need all the guard he had brought, as Columbia was a doomed city."

A lady in one of our upper districts, expressing surprise at the treatment of Columbia in this nineteenth, or boasted century of civilization, was answered: "South Carolina has been long since the promised boon of Sherman's army." And it is well known that an order was issued to his troops before they crossed the river, giving them license to sack, plunder and destroy for the space of thirty-six hours.

Masonic brethren told others in the city, that this order had been issued, and that Columbia was destined to destruction. A sick Yankee soldier, who had been fed, nursed and kindly treated by a city lady, told her, on Friday morning, that the place would be destroyed that night; and the fact already glimpsed at, that the officers quartered themselves in the suburbs, and could not be found when the fire commenced, is sufficiently significant of the well understood design. The simultaneous