

Local Items.

We are indebted to Col. Rudler and Mr. W. T. Walter for late Augusta papers.

DOMESTIC HINTS.—The season is at hand for preserving fruits and vegetables, for making vinegar and pickles out of vegetables generally, and wines or brandies out of fruits and berries. You may preserve nearly all the vegetables in cans, bottles or jars. It requires only painstaking to preserve them. Okra, cut, dried and kept from insects, will last you through the next winter. So will tomato, as a vegetable and as catsup. Boil well for both, strain for the latter, fill your vessels to the brim, cork tightly, seal with rosin, and turn the vessels upside down. Cherry and blackberry and raspberry wines or brandies are better beverages than "bald face," "rot gut," or any of the abominations which are sold, to the disorder of the intestines and the derangement of the brain. Fill a demijohn with cherries, cover with the simplest corn whiskey, place the vessel in the sun for three days, then draw off. Add to every gallon of the liquor one quart of a strained syrup, which it may be well to unite to the brandy while the syrup is still warm. This gives you cherry bounce. Every farmer's wife knows how to prepare blackberry wine, without spirits, and this will keep throughout the year; that is, if the tastes of the family and its friends will suffer it to do so. Nearly all vegetables will serve for pickles. Vinegar of the best quality, equal to white wine, may be made thus: To three bushels of the pulp of persimmons, add twenty-seven gallons of water and three gallons of whiskey. An inferior article may be made out of the persimmons without the use of whiskey; so, too, of the May apple, apple skins, pears, blackberries and almost all fruits.

EX-GOV. WM. AIKEN.—Letters from ex-Gov. Aiken, from Charleston, deny that he has accepted the office of Mayor in Charleston, or that he holds any office in that city under the enemy, as has been reported several times by the press. We have already intimated to our brethren of the public journals that it would be better, where persons are the subject of gossip, that we should be chary how we give credence to the rumor; still more slow in giving publication to the report.

THE LAST FIGHT AT PETERSBURG.—According to the supposed programme of the Federal generals at the council of war held by them at General Grant's quarters, the whole force was hurled upon our lines near Petersburg. The assaulting columns were repulsed most disastrously fifteen times, but finally, after a loss computed to reach in killed and wounded the fearful number of 60,000, the enemy broke through our lines. When this occurred, owing to the great exhaustion of our gallant soldiers, General Lee telegraphed to Richmond the fact, and ordered the evacuation at once. In the meantime, the gallant Gordon, rallying the troops, advanced upon the enemy and re-established our lines, but too late to stop the effect of the despatch of General Lee.

Our loss behind the lines, during the fight, including the sick and wounded in Richmond, will not number over 15,000. The withdrawal was accomplished without much loss.

We regret to announce that Gen. A. P. Hill was killed during the engagements, as were many other gallant officers.

It is reported that the Confederate Government will be temporarily located at Greenville, S. C., for the transaction of public business.

The Bells of St. Michael.

These bells have had a curious fortune. The o'ime consisted, we believe, of seven bells, and they were decidedly among the sweetest in tone of any in America. The influence of our warm, humid atmosphere on the sea-coast of the South produced upon them the same effect which a like influence undoubtedly possesses over the human voice. Their melodious sweetness has become a part of the precious memories of all whose ears were attuned to them from daily and nightly experience. The bells were taken down by the British more than eighty years ago, and sent to England, as a part of the *spolia opima* of the enemy. Sold at auction, according to tradition, they were bought by friends of the American cause, especially among the merchants, and sent back to the church. Early in the present war, in consequence of an appeal from Gen. Beauregard, they were taken down, and sent to Columbia, in order to be cast into cannon. And here they have lain, unused, unemployed for this or any other sacred purpose. The neglect to use them, after they were called for, was only of a piece with that almost universal neglect of all our public interests—that sluggishness, selfishness, indifference, and terrible worthlessness among officials, which, to this hour, endangers all our securities and defeats the best plans of those who are still willing and able to conceive a good purpose or a wise design. And now they lie upon Capitol Hill in Columbia, broken and burned, but still, we suppose, susceptible of use, for their material, in the casting of cannon. How long will they be permitted to remain there, a spectacle of discredit to our energies, and of grievous reproach equally to our wisdom and patriotism! Alas! poor bells! poor country!

A CURIOSITY.—We were lately shown, at the quarters of the gallant colonel of the 33rd Virginia, one of the "curiosities of war," produced by the collision of two Minie balls in full flight. The two bullets had met point to point, and were moving, though in opposite directions, yet so identically upon the same straight line, that there was no evasion by either of the full force of the other stroke. The result was a complete fusion or welding of the two into one mass, so thoroughly united that the line of junction could not be discovered, except for the little ridge that runs around.

It is not uncommon in musketry engagements for the flying bullets to impinge on each other, as is shown by the balls picked up on the battle-field. But to meet so squarely, and with such effects, as in the case to which we have referred, must be exceedingly rare. The welded bullets were picked up on the picket line, near the Howlett House; and it would seem that each of the men who fired them escaped death only by firing just when he did, and thus stopping the ball that was coming directly to him.—*Richmond Sentinel.*

R. H. May, Esq., has been re-elected Mayor of Augusta by a large majority.

Married.

At Cokesbury, S. C., on Thursday morning, 30th March, at 9 o'clock, by the Rev. Mr. Mounson, JAMES C. KENNETH, to Miss SALLIE C. NEUFFER, all of this city.

Wanted to Hire,

A LIKELY GIRL, to do house work. Apply on Bull street, East side between Blanding and Laurel. April 15 2*

AUCTION SALES.

By Jacob Cohen.

WILL be sold, on MONDAY, 17th inst., at 11 o'clock, on Lincoln street, opposite the South Carolina Depot,
1 Mahogany Bedstead, 1 Trundel Bedstead, 2 Mattresses, Bolster, 2 pair Pillows, Mantle Glass, 2 pair Andirons, 1 Wardrobe, 1 Work Table, 1 Safe, 2 Wash-tubs, large Iron Boiler, small Iron Boiler, Kitchen Furniture, a lot of Barrels and Tierces, &c. April 15 2*

Furniture Sale.

By Francis Lance.

ON MONDAY MORNING, 17th, at 10 o'clock, at the residence corner Bridge street, below the Gas House, I will sell, without the least reserve,

A large collection of fine FURNITURE, such as

- Sofa, Centre Table, Card Table.
 - Chairs, Rocking Chairs.
 - Looking Glass.
 - Pair Fire Dogs and Fender.
 - Large Pictures, Bookcase.
 - Sideboard, Work Table, Bedstead.
 - Spring Bed and Mattress, Wardrobe,
 - Marble-top Washstand, Bureau.
 - Pillows, Bolster.
 - Cottage Set, Mattresses.
 - Set of China.
 - Set of Curtains and Cornices.
 - Wardrobe, Dishes.
- Terms cash. April 15 2*

Furniture Sale.

By F. Lance.

I WILL sell, on TUESDAY MORNING, at 10 o'clock, at C. A. Godel's lot.

A fine assortment of HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE—parties leaving the city—such as:

- Hair Seat Chairs, What-Net.
- Walters, Wardrobe, Bureau.
- Washstand, Goblet and Basin.
- Black Walnut Dining Table.
- Pair Pitchers, pair Decanters.
- China Set, Stove Pan.
- Griddle, Waffle Iron.
- Pair Vases, Bedsteads.

All of the above articles will be sold without the least reserve. Terms cash. April 15

To Rent,

FOUR ROOMS and KITCHEN. Inquire at corner of Richland and Sumter streets. April 15 1*

To Rent,

THREE PLEASANT ROOMS, with the use of the kitchen. Also, a fine PIANO for sale. Apply at this office. April 15 2*

FOR SALE

BY

H. SOLOMON,
SUGAR, COFFEE, CANDLES and BACON.
S. AND 15 2*

Notice.

THE Stores will be opened on WEDNESDAY, the 19th inst., for the sale of provisions for cash, in proportion to the number in the family and the quantity on hand.

The resident poor of the city will be under the direction of the City Council, which will issue to them tickets for provisions.

The poor living beyond the limits of the city will be supplied with tickets by the State Executive Committee.

Persons will take notice of the above; and a Joint Committee of the State and city will meet daily, at Mr. Baskin's house, the corner of Plain and Pickens street—commencing MONDAY next, 17th inst., at 9 o'clock a. m., for the purpose of issuing new tickets.

E. L. KERRISON,
April 15 Chairman Joint Committee.