

**Genius.**

What we call genius may perhaps, with more strict propriety be described as the spirit of discovery. Genius is the very eye of intellect and the wing of thought. It is always in advance of its time. It is the pioneer for the generation which it precedes. For this reason, it is called a seer—and hence, its songs have been prophecies. Its promptness of discernment, its courage for adventure, its energy in pursuit, and its unselfish surrender, to others, of the quarry which it strikes, are the great indications of its character. Genius is largely endowed with what may be described as the imaginative judgment—a faculty which enables it to fly to its conclusions, long in advance of the slower processes of reasoning. While ordinary minds attain their results, step by step, by laborious diligence and doubtful thinking, it reaches its conclusions by a flight equally swift and certain. Columbus-like it penetrates and passes those wastes which other men tremble to survey. Its province is new empire always, and still conquest rather than possession. The way once opened, it yields the path to other footsteps, and is never so much at home as when it leaves the traveled thoroughfare behind it.

**Will and Mood.**

Our will is not always superior to our moods. The heart is a fine instrument, which the atmosphere easily deranges. Ordinarily, the natural instinct is to struggle fearlessly in the face of death; yet there are moments when the feeblest courage feels how easy it would be to die, and resign itself, without a will, to any fortune. To struggle at all, at such moments, would be something worse than death. Such moments are, however, of very brief duration. They are adverse to our most precious instincts; indeed, it is in the temporary sleep of our instincts that we indulge in moods of this erring and debasing character. Life is a duty, involving many strifes and embarrassments; the fear to encounter, and the effort to escape from which is quite as little creditable to our manhood as our religion.

**Columbia.**

Mr. Edron: Our duty—that is, the duty of the old citizens—is to shake off the lethargy that has enfolded them so closely for the last four months, and bestir themselves into something like action, and prepare for the business of life. Do not despair. Lift yourselves out of it. Help yourselves and others will then assist you. Your beautiful city is to be rebuilt, and to resume her place once again among her sisters in the march of progress and improvement. Some there are who have done wonders already. There is nothing like trying, if it is on ever so small a scale; it will encourage further and renewed efforts, and finally end in gaining the desired object. Do not let strangers take this great work off your hands. If you longer pause and wait, it will be done before you are aware of it. There are great and trying impediments in the way; but they will melt into thin air, before energy and perseverance.

The want of a market place is beginning to be felt. The people are bringing their meats, vegetables, &c., to the corners of the streets, and dropping down their commodities and exposing them for sale. Let us have a market, if it is only a temporary affair; and let the city authorities select some wide street, building the market house—a nice, light, airy structure, with some attractions about it—in the centre; a market that is a market. Let the city fathers commence action as soon as circumstances will permit; for the question of a suitable place for the above desirable object has been in contemplation for a long time. AN OLD CITIZEN.

**Bogus.**—The word "Bogus," we believe, is a corruption of the name of one "Borghese," a very corrupt individual, who, twenty years ago or more, did a tremendous business in the way of supplying the great West, and portions of the Southwest, with a vast amount of counterfeit bills and bills on fictitious banks, which never had an existence outside of the "forgive brain" of him, the said Boghese. The Western people, who are rather rapid in their talk when excited, soon fell into the habit of shortening the Norman name of Boghese to the more handy one of "Bogus," and his bills, and all other bills of like character, were universally styled by them "Bogus currency." By an easy and not very unnatural process of transition, or metaphorical tendency, the word is now occasionally applied to other fraudulent papers, such as sham mortgages, bills of sale, conveyances, &c. We believe it has not been inserted in any dictionary; at least, we do not find it either in Webster's or Worcester's.

**Interesting Statement of the Position of Davis and the Confederate Government.**

The Charleston Courier says that the following letter was written by a gentleman who occupied the position of private secretary to one of the most influential members of Jeff. Davis' Cabinet throughout the rebellion. It comes, therefore, from one well qualified to set forth the actual condition of affairs in the rebel capital during the latter days of the rebellion. It gives an interior view of the movements and sentiments of the rebel Government, such as it has not been possible to obtain hitherto:

Richmond, Monday, May 16, 1865.—Owing to the mystery of secret sessions and the reticence observed by the journals, much of the real history of the great struggle remains to be written. It is known to the world that Mr. Davis wielded to the last the full powers of the South, and that the Southern Congress granted nearly all his requests for power, insatiable as he seemed to be in this respect. But it is not well known that he was unpopular with the leading statesmen of the South. They thought lightly of his capacity, and deemed him an incubus upon their cause. Some opposed him openly, but the majority, while deploring his errors, did not think it a fit period for opposition. Among the former class were Orr, Toombs, Wigfall, Graham. Among the latter were Messrs. Campbell, Cobb, Hunter and many others. On the other hand, Mr. Davis had a cordial hatred for Congress, and took no pains to conceal it. One of his last proceedings was to send in a special message, which, when analyzed, was found to be nothing less than a carefully prepared bill of indictment, and designed to throw upon the Congress all the odium in the event of failure. This document elicited a severe reply from the Senate, at which body it was supposed to be specially aimed.

No person, perhaps, ever occupied a prominent position who availed himself so little of the wisdom or experience of others as Mr. Davis. He was rudely intolerant of any difference of opinion, and seemed to rejoice in isolation from those who were likely to express an independent judgment. His despotism over his Cabinet was supreme. He admitted that he knew nothing of finance, but upon all other subjects made no pretence of modesty.

When the Southern Congress met in November last, Mr. Davis sent in a message, which was, upon the whole, of a confident tone. He seemed to take no account of the waning resources and spirit of the South, or the diminished numbers of her armies, and still less of the constancy, determination and power of the North. The members of Congress were not disposed to accept as gospel this cheerful manifesto, and accordingly a resolution was offered by Mr. Caperton for a joint committee to look into the condition of public affairs. The necessary effect of this was to compel the Administration to look into its own hand, and this motion Mr. Davis regarded and resented as a hostile proceeding. This investigation lasted a month or more, and the resolutions it provoked produced a marked effect upon the temper and spirit of the Southern Congress, which, some weeks after the informal conferences at Fortress Monroe, ripened into action. A movement was organized, of which Senators Hunter, of Virginia, Graham, of North Carolina, and Orr, of South Carolina, were the leading spirits, to induce the President to negotiate for peace, and secure the best terms possible for the South. Judge Campbell, the Assistant Secretary of War, labored earnestly and constantly to this end, and it is understood that Mallory, of the Cabinet, was anxious for the adoption of this policy. It was perfectly obvious to the reflecting men of the Confederacy that to continue the contest for independence was a hopeless pursuit—that when the spring weather permitted the immense masses of Grant and Sherman to be precipitated upon them, the Southern armies would be utterly insufficient to resist the shock. To go on was simply to cause a useless effusion of blood, only to be followed in the end by ruin and subjugation. It was believed that while the Southerners had two large armies in the field, possession of their capital and an organized Government, they could, with this show of strength, secure liberal terms upon the basis of a restoration of the Union. It was believed that Mr. Lincoln and Mr. Seward would favor a policy of conciliation. In a word, these men held that reconstruction was infinitely preferable to subjugation. Continue the contest, and the upshot would be that no terms whatever could be obtained.

Views of this sort were pressed by Mr. Hunter and others upon Mr. Davis, and for a long while it seemed with some prospect of securing his assent. But the Richmond Enquirer, Sentinel and Whig were furious in their denunciations of any reconstruction. In a little while, Mr. Davis began to be jealous of Hunter, and he, his clique and organs, spared no pains to break him down. Feeling that his effort to save his State from fresh calamity was unavailing, Mr. Hunter, at the close of the session, retired to his home in Essex County. The breach between him and President Davis was complete and final. The majority of both Houses of the Confederate Congress were ready for peace negotiations, but nothing could be done without the co-operation of the Executive. The war men and presses denounced an who thought there was danger ahead as "croakers" and "whipped men." The masses of the people knew little of the actual situa-

tion, and were ready and anxious to fight as long as there was a reasonable prospect of success. There can be no doubt, however, that they were greatly exhausted and wearied of the war, and if their rulers had sought an honorable pacification, they would have sustained them.

One of the men whose hatred to Davis was most intense and bitter was Wigfall, of Texas. He declared that success with Jefferson Davis at the helm was impossible—that his incapacity and obstinacy would ruin any cause in the world, and he favored a counter revolution to depose him. He proposed publicly to coerce Davis and Stephens to resign, and it is probable that the President's jealousy of Hunter, who would thus have succeeded, excited by this project, had no small share in defeating the scheme of the latter to open negotiations for peace.

If Mr. Davis were to succeed in making his way to Europe, he would then pass into history as an incompetent who had brought ruin on the cause he aspired to lead. Hardly any of the public men of the South have any liking for him, and every one would then have his story to tell of blunders and mismanagement. As it is, however, Mr. Davis is a hunted fugitive, fleeing for life, with a price set on his head. The Southerners all feel that the North desires to punish him because he was their chosen leader and representative, and as such they desire his escape. At this moment, Mr. Davis rallies around him the sympathies of every Southern man or woman, and nowhere more than in this city, where thousands have been beggared by the incendiary proceedings which attended his departure. The Southerners say that there is no more reason why Mr. Davis should be punished than themselves for rebellion. They put him in his position, and kept him, and approved his opposition, to the national authority.

Again, while all Southerners look with horror and detestation upon the crime by which Mr. Lincoln lost his life, they all repudiate the idea that their Government had ought to do with it. Even those among them most bitter upon Mr. Davis affirm that he would never for one moment have countenanced so infamous a resort as assassination. It is not believed that Mr. Davis cherished any personal hostility for the late President or for the members of his Cabinet. His hatreds were for the leaders of the South, those whom he feared might outstrip him in popularity, or who ventured to question his infallibility. He hated Joe Johnston and Beauregard. He was jealous of Hunter and Lee; but those in the South who most appreciated and suffered by his resentments would be among the first to acquit him of an imputation of a thirst for blood. Like Mr. Lincoln, it was almost impossible to obtain his consent to an execution, and thus the discipline of the Southern armies was lost, never afterward to be regained.

At one time throughout the South, there was a clamor for retaliation for alleged outrages by the Union armies. Mr. Davis, Gen. Lee, Mr. Hunter and others steadily resisted this demand, and no light share of blame fell in consequence upon the Confederate Government. Even Gen. Lee, the idol of the South during this war, did not escape censure. It is well known in Richmond that Dahlgren's command would have been executed a year ago but for the interposition of Mr. Davis and Gen. Lee.

It is well that these facts should be known in forming an estimate of one whose character all are now discussing. The same Southern gentlemen who repudiate as absurd the idea that Mr. Davis could have stooped to so infamous a crime as that of procuring the assassination of Mr. Lincoln and Mr. Seward, will tell you that he was obstinate, narrow, self-willed, domineering and selfish—a man whose faults of temper and intellect would have ruined a far stronger cause than that of the South. As they speak from this point of view, their testimony is entitled to the more weight. It is a verdict of acquittal from a hostile jury.

The amount of specie taken hence by the Confederate Government has been greatly over-rated. It did not much exceed half a million of dollars; but a large proportion—say half—was in silver, and hence the bulk would give the idea of a great value. The Richmond banks took away their specie, and this amount may have reached several millions of dollars. It is an error to suppose that Mr. Davis took away this or any amount of specie with the idea of providing for himself in Europe. The balances of the Confederate Government in foreign countries, constantly kept up to procure supplies, &c., are subject to the checks of Mr. Davis and his Cabinet, and are ample to meet their wants if they get abroad. Besides, it is well known that, when Mr. Davis left here, he, of all men in the world, had the least idea that the Confederacy was about to tumble. The coin was to provide funds for a war in America—to buy food and munitions of war. He thought, in his folly, he could give up the capital and the great State of Virginia, and, with the cotton States, keep up the contest until the North should be wearied out. At the beginning of the war, the seven cotton States thought that, by their staple, they could coerce Christendom, the North included; and of this folly of standing alone their leaders had not been fully cured. Mr. Davis halted at Danville, with the intention of locating his government there. He stayed just one week. On hearing of Lee's capitulation, and that there was no organized body of troops between him and Grant, he set out for Charlotte, N. C., intending to fix his capital there. Even after

Lee's capitulation, he seemed utterly unable to grasp the situation. He still thought himself able to make war or peace, as he pleased; and it is reported that he even hesitated at accepting the terms granted by Sherman, and subsequently set aside by President Johnson. After spending three or four days at Greensboro, he left for Charlotte, where he proceeded to locate his capital, open up Government offices, confer promotions, appoint generals, &c. Nothing could exceed his infatuation. He wasted time which, for his escape, was invaluable, in keeping up the forms of a Government which had no existence. The train of Government and bank specie had already started for the South. Of his own safety, Mr. Davis seemed to take little thought. He fancied himself at the head of a powerful people, able to marshal armies and offer battle to the North. He did not realize that his fortunes were desperate.

In the midst of all this delusion came the intelligence that the negotiations were at an end; and then Mr. Davis and his Cabinet set out for Georgia. Their subsequent movements and rate of progress are probably not known in Richmond. Upon the great mass of the Southerners, the crash of their Confederacy has fallen as suddenly and unexpectedly as an avalanche. They were confident the struggle would last another year, and many hoped for final success. It is hard to realize the infatuation of the Confederate Administration. Confederate paper was not worth two cents to the dollar, and was kept up to this figure solely by the sale of Government specie—which Mr. Trenholm put in the market at sixty for one. The Confederate armies had wasted away by losses and straggling. Joe Johnston had some 25,000 men, Lee 35,000, and in all there were not as many as 100,000 men in arms East of the Mississippi River. Kirby Smith and Magruder might, perhaps, have together 25,000 men in all. These troops were tolerably clothed, but the equipment of the army was inferior. The horses of the cavalry and artillery were inferior, and the former were so greatly reduced in numbers that they were utterly insufficient to protect the Confederate communications. How Mr. Davis could shut his eyes to all this, is perfectly marvelous; but he did, and when people spoke to him of negotiation, he doubted and arraigned their patriotism. Gen. Lee had, beyond all, the most gloomy forebodings. As early as the 9th of March, he wrote a letter to Mr. Davis, stating that he could neither hold his lines nor withdraw his army with the small number of troops at his command. And yet it is said that, in a speech at Charlotte, Mr. Davis spoke of his inability to understand why a force of 12,000 men should surrender. Judge Campbell constantly pressed upon the attention of the Government the fact that the war could not be carried on, in the vain hope that, unable to dispute the statement, they would draw the necessary inference, and consent to negotiations upon the basis of reconstruction. But he counted without his host.

**A CONVERSATION WITH A. H. STEPHENS.**  
A friend who saw and conversed with Alex. H. Stephens, on board the steamer at Port Royal, writes as follows in a private letter: He looks much older than when I saw him in the House in '57. He converses freely and does not appear at all like a prisoner of war. He says he never saw so marked a change in four years, in any two men, as in Abraham Lincoln and Jefferson Davis. He expressed great regret at the President's assassination, admitted the Confederacy was played out, and seemed anxious to have peace declared and the matter settled as speedily as possible. His idea is to have the different rebel States repeal the ordinances of secession and accept the Constitution of the United States and vote on the constitutional amendment. He expresses the opinion that the seceding States will not pass it. He acknowledged that his Millidgeville speech was almost prophetic, and that he went with the popular current to prevent any clash between himself and Toombs. He appears to have no concern for himself; says he is only anxious to secure as honorable terms as possible for his State and people, the majority of whom, he says, never were secessionists. He is bent over very much, his hair is nearly white, his voice is lower and not so shrill as formerly, and his hand trembles when he uses it; but he talks as smoothly as ever, and his eyes flash as in days gone by.

**Persons Traveling**

TO any point can be accommodated with a TWO HORSE SPRING WAGON, at liberal terms, by inquiring at this office. June 7 3

**Mrs. Henry**

HAS opened a DAY SCHOOL in the College Campus. She will also teach her pupils the rudiments of MUSIC and SINGING free of charge. June 7 2

**TINWARE.**

J. W. SMITH is prepared to furnish TINWARE at wholesale or retail. All orders promptly attended to, at his residence, Taylor street, opposite Sidney Park. REPAIRING done at shortest notice. June 7 4\*

**RICE! RICE!**

THE undersigned has for sale a small quantity of prime whole RICE, and offers it in lots to suit purchasers. WM. SHEPHERD, Winn street, near Charlotte Depot. June 7 2\*

**Local Items.**

The office of the Columbia Phoenix is on Gates street, second door from Plain.

Our readers are referred to the advertisement of Messrs. James P. M. Stetson & Co. Their stock of groceries, wines, etc., is said to be very large, and their prices reasonable. These gentlemen are also in charge of the Charleston Hotel, and, we learn, are keeping up the old and deserved reputation of that hotel.

Paroled prisoners have not been allowed to take the oath of allegiance during the last few days, from the fact that President Johnson has issued an amnesty proclamation, in which another oath is prescribed. We hope to be able to publish this important document in our next issue.

**PERSONAL.**—All subscribers to the Phoenix whose subscriptions have expired, will please come forward and renew, in specie or provisions; otherwise their papers will be stopped.

We wish it distinctly understood that our terms are cash. No advertisements will, therefore, be inserted unless paid for in advance.

The Board of Directors of the Columbia Mutual Supply Association will meet THIS DAY, at 12 o'clock m., at the Guard House, on special business. A full and prompt attendance is requested.

JOSIAH E. SMITH,

June 7 1 Secretary and Treasurer.

**Mrs. Pelot's Class**

FOR the instruction of Young Ladies in the beautiful art of PENMANSHIP, will meet at 9 o'clock a. m., at her residence, South side of the College Campus, next door to Headquarters. Class for Young Men will meet at 4 o'clock p. m. Terms moderate. June 7 3

**MILLINERY.**

MRS. S. A. SMITH would inform the ladies of Columbia that she is prepared to attend to all orders in the MILLINERY line, and has also for sale White STRAW BONNETS, White STRAW JOCKEYS, SPRING RIBBONS, LACES, &c., at her residence on Taylor street, one door from Assembly. June 7 4\*

**JUST RECEIVED**

AND FOR SALE AT RETAIL BY **R. L. DAVID,** Richardson Street, Mr. Fuller's Place. PIECES CALICO. Dozen Gent's SUMMER UNDER-SHIRTS. June 7 3\*

**WM. INGLISS, Barber,**

MOST respectfully informs his old customers, and the public generally, that he has removed from the Arsenal Hill to the Campus of the S. C. College, where, by strict attention to his business, he solicits a continuance of his former patronage. Barbering in all its branches promptly attended to. June 7 42\*

**Lost,**

BETWEEN a point three miles the other side of the river and the residence of Mr. Wm. Simons, Bull, corner of Blanding street, a GREY UNIFORM JACKET, containing sundry letters in the pocket, addressed to persons in Columbia. Any information which may lead to its recovery will be thankfully received and a suitable reward given if desired. June 7 1\* JAMES S. SIMONS.

**The Misses T. W. Mordecai,**

BEING desirous of taking a limited number of pupils, will open a school for young ladies and children of both sexes. All the branches of an English education will be taught; also, French and Music. Penmanship strictly attended to. This class will meet three times a week. Terms for writing, 25 cents a lesson, payable weekly in advance. Apply at Mr. R. Keenan's residence, corner Richland and Sumter streets. June 7 3

**A. F. M.**

A REGULAR communication of the Richland Lodge No. 23, will be held THIS (Wednesday) AFTERNOON, at 4 o'clock, in the Hall in the College Campus. By order of the W. M. June 7 R. TOZER, Secretary.

**CHEAP FOR CASH.**

**JAMES P. M. STETSON & CO.,**

252 KING ST., IN THE BEND, Charleston, S. C.,

CALL the attention of dealers visiting Charleston to their large assorted stock of GROCERIES, WINES, ALES, SEGARS, CHEWING TOBACCO, SMOKING TOBACCO, CROCKERY, TINWARE, YANKEE NOTIONS, &c., &c. They are also receiving, per each steamer from New York, fresh supplies of BUTTER, CHEESE, LARD, FLOUR, &c., &c., which they offer at the LOWEST MARKET PRICE for cash. June 7 6\*