

The Genus Loci.

The first step is all. They tell us of one of the prophets who walked a mile or two after his head was off. Scepticism readily admitted that, to prove that he had walked only a single step, under the circumstances, would suffice for his conviction, and the saint need not trouble himself to make so long a progress with his head inconveniently under his arms. We have our heads very awkwardly situated, no doubt, but certainly we are not reduced to the straits of the headless prophet. We can take our first step with less discomfort. But that first step must needs be taken before we can walk at all. Are we to walk or not? If yes, then the beginning is the thing first essential. We must each make a beginning, and take our first steps heedfully, even as one who, somewhat lame from his wounds, goes forth at dawn or dusk, over an unknown way, in a broken country, full of rocks and pit-falls. Feel your way and take the first step. No doubt that a world of courage is implied in the voluntary assumption of a laborious enterprise, at the outset of a career, especially when you have lost not only all your former resources, but all your ancient landmarks; and hence it was, that in the first dawns of a race, God always endowed the people with an inspired leader—a prophet and guide, as well as master. Such, in our day, in the absence of any direct inspiration, and in the absence of all miraculous interposition, are the Master of the Lamp and Ring—those geni of oriental fiction who symbolize art and labor. These, blending their offices for a people, become the Genus Loci, and but have faith in him and follow him reverently and with duty, he will lead you where the waters flow in secret—conduct you to hills of treasure—and by the use of the divining wand, which he will carry in your hands, he will compensate your toils with all the treasures of your region. He will show to the nation what is lying at its feet; declare and direct the uses of its otherwise purposeless object, and unscathe the domestic vision. In this day of embarrassment and deficient resource, we are really in the condition of a people just beginning to colonize in a strange land, whose resources we do not know, and which we cannot discover, unless by concentrating every faculty of thought and vision upon the little round of earth immediately about our feet. In seeking and finding out its resources, we develop our own, and this is the great object of man's existence—the very secret of all manhood. For this we need to circumscribe narrowly the range of thought, and resolutely abridge our survey to the immediate precinct. There is a moral, no less than a physical, near-sightedness, which is one of the truest sources of a people's genius. And while there is no quality so genial, so general, so surely catholic and cosmopolitan as genius, there is nothing so sectional, so exclusive, so homely, so resolute to make its empire out of the little domain of home. How Homer subjected the possessions of the world, to illustrate and make glorious his own tribes of island fishermen! How Shakespeare makes English everything that he touches! What tributes have Burns and Scott drawn from the surrounding nations, with which to crown with verdure, the bald, bleak hills of their own petty domain! And how natural that this should be so! Our affections and sympathies are of little use, scattered over all the dominions of mankind. We better prove our sympathies with the rest, when we attach ourselves to one of its sections, and expend our strength, our art, our affection upon that. Let the Genus Loci do thus always, and what region will remain without its tutelary god and crowning altars! It is in this very moral near-sightedness that we find the seeds of all true patriotism; all other is counterfeit and hollow. Without the representative genius which possesses it, and which asserts the right of a people to position, one race is simply the shadow of another. It is servile because purposeless—the creature of a foreign enemy—feeble with all its numbers; and flinging its misdirected arms in air, while its head is down, muffled, beneath the arms of a superior.

Never go where all the world goes, and you will escape a great deal of bad company.

What a selfish lesson is taught us in the child's doggerel of Jack Horner, who sets in a corner, and as he swallows the plums from his pie, congratulates himself with the notion that he is a good boy. This proper moral lesson should be that no pleasure is grateful which you do not share with another. In the enjoyment of a fine landscape, the higher nature is always dissatisfied, unless there be other eyes than his own to enjoy it also. We wish some dear one nigh to partake our delight—some one into whose eyes we can look and say, "How beautiful!" Blessings upon those painters who wander about the sterile and unknown regions, and bring home to us pictures of their hidden charms.

Kirby Smith's Order on the Surrender.
HEADQUARTERS, TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEP'T.
Houston, May 30, 1865.

SOLDIERS: The day after I refused the demand of the Federal Government to surrender this department, I left Shreveport for Houston. I ordered the Missouri, Arkansas and Louisiana troops to follow. My purpose was to concentrate the entire strength of the department, await negotiations, and, if possible, secure terms alike honorable to soldier and citizen. Failing in this, I intended to struggle to the last, and with an army united in purpose, firm in resolve, and battling for the right, I believed that God would yet give us the victory. I reached here to find the Texas troops disbanded and hastening to their homes. They had forsaken their colors and commanders; had abandoned the cause for which we were struggling, and appropriated the public property to their personal use. Soldiers, I am left a commander without an army, a general without troops. You have made your choice. It was unwise and unpatriotic, but it is final. I pray you may not live to regret it. The enemy will now possess your country, and dictate his own laws. You have voluntarily destroyed your organization, and thrown away all means of resistance. Your present duty is plain. Return to your families. Resume the occupations of peace. Yield obedience to the laws. Labor to restore order. Strive both by counsel and example to give security to life and property. And may God in His mercy direct you aright, and heal the wounds of our distracted country.

E. KIRBY SMITH, General.

A Letter from the Hon. J. L. M. Curry.

To the Editor of the New York Tribune.
Sir: A Mobile paper, of the 23d inst. contains, I am informed, a telegram based on an article in your paper, to the effect that while in the Confederate Congress, I introduced a bill "which was concocted for the purpose of vindicating the starvation of prisoners of war, the murder of black soldiers, the burning of Northern cities, and, finally, the assassination of the President of the United States and his Cabinet." Where I am personally known, a denial of this "startling development" is wholly unnecessary; but as the particularity of the statement may mislead some who have no acquaintance with me, I desire, as an act of justice to myself, that you would publish this emphatic denial of the allegations contained in the despatch. There is no just foundation for the slanderous charge. No such bill or series of bills was ever "introduced" by me, or thought of by me. While doing all in my power, legitimately, as a Representative and a soldier, to sustain the Confederacy, there is no man in the United or Confederate States who regards with more abhorrence the starvation or ill treatment of prisoners, arson or assassination. The only measure introduced by me, as now remembered, (it has been over fifteen months since I was a member of the Congress,) on the subject of negro soldiers, was to obtain a modification of what I regarded as an extreme and untenable position taken by the Congress in reference to that class of soldiers so as to make a distinction, clearly recognized by international law, between slaves and colored citizens.

My character is valuable to me and my children, and not without interest to many friends, and I defy the most searching investigation into my public or private life. Yours respectfully, J. L. M. CURRY.
TALLADEGA, ALA., May 30, 1865.

THE TREATMENT OF FREEDMEN IN SOUTH CAROLINA.—Gen. O. O. Howard, commanding Bureau of Refugees and Freedmen, has received a very important letter from Gen. Saxton, Commissioner of the South Carolina Freedmen's Bureau. Very satisfactory reports have been received as regards the islands along the coast. Some 9,000 colored children attend school regularly. Some 40,000 freedmen are industriously at work cultivating promising crops—sea island cotton being cultivated in considerable quantity. From the "main," the reports are not so favorable. Not far from Summerville, S. C., the freedmen are terribly oppressed—worse than in a state of slavery. They have been sent to work in chain-gangs, and often shot down without provocation. Bodies of murdered freedmen have been found in the woods, butchered by guerrillas, who have banded together, under oath, to kill every able bodied freedman found off his plantation.—Washington Chronicle.

The war correspondence of the N. Y. Herald during the war cost \$500,000.

Local Items.

Brevet Maj. Gen. J. P. Hatch, commanding Northern District Department of the South, arrived in this city yesterday. He will return to Orangeburg in a few days.

The attention of parents and guardians is called to the school notice of Prof. Jas. Wood Davidson, who is generally understood to rank high as a classical scholar.

OURSELVES.—Our selections from late Northern papers must needs be copious, and must needs continue, while they embody matters of equal interest and public importance. These selections must accordingly preclude the free use of editorial comment; and we have no reason to doubt that our readers will readily forgive the absence of the one in consideration of the importance of the other. Nevertheless, we shall strive to make our sheet as diversified as possible. With its enlargement—which we trust will take place before many days—we shall find ample space for original as well as selected matter. We have reason to believe that our publisher is making ample provision for the establishment of the Phoenix on a scale which will forbid the notion of rivalry in any section of the State. He will also prepare to take due advantage of the opening of our railroad communications, so as to satisfy the wishes and expectations of our friends and subscribers in remote districts. The Phoenix, he is resolved, shall be worthy of the capital of South Carolina.

THE FIRE COMPANIES.—We are told that the fire companies of Columbia are very strong, and that there are several of them. We learn that there is but a single engine left to the city, and this we hear spoken of as in tolerable repair. We confess to a wish that the companies would get together, and have a perfect organization and an exercise, and, if necessary, a sort of celebration. The esprit du corps may possibly need revival; the engine may need repair—something may prove out of order in the event of danger; and, all things considered, it seems to us only proper to suggest to our brave firemen that, just now, and as soon as possible, the engine, hose and material may deserve and demand examination, while their own organization, as an efficient body, may be perfected. It may be that all these things have been already attended to, but, somehow, we have been smitten with a scent of fire, which makes us a little uneasy. A jet from the sky will do no harm when the day star begins his rages.

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

The New York Tribune states that the Hon. Thomas Connolly, M. P. for Donegal, Ireland, has tendered to Gen. Lee a home for himself and family in any part of Great Britain he may select. The offer has been declined.

A letter from Wurtzburg, Bavaria, gives the following account of a scene said to have taken place in that town on the 25th of January:

A Frenchman named Soulaiges, a native of Colmar, has for some time past been exhibiting with great success at Wurtzburg, as a lion tamer. On the day above mentioned, he entered a den containing a lion and a lioness, and made them go through various performances. The spectators loudly applauded. Elated by these plaudits, Soulaiges determined to do something more extraordinary, and for that purpose he collected in one den a lion, a lioness, a white bear, two black bears, four hyenas, two wolves and a tiger. He then entered himself, whip in hand, but the door was scarcely closed when the tiger made a spring at the white bear. This was the signal of a terrific struggle among all the beasts, which appeared at once to recover their natural ferocity. Soulaiges, hoping to intimidate the animals, fired two shots at the tiger and white bear. This act sealed his fate, for the tiger, leaving the bear, sprang on his keeper, threw him down and began to tear him with his teeth and his claws. The other beasts, rendered furious by the smell of blood, all fell on the unhappy man, and in a few minutes he was torn to pieces and almost entirely devoured, in the presence of the horror-stricken spectators, who were powerless to render assistance.

WANTED,
IMMEDIATELY, a GOOD WHEEL-
WRIGHT. Such a one can find steady employ-
ment at and good wages by applying at this office. June 27 41*

MOBILE, Ala., June 4.—The effects of the late terrible explosion in this city have not been exaggerated in the least. It is now estimated that over one thousand human beings were buried in the ruins. Dead bodies are being recovered every day. Every building in the city is more or less injured, and scores are in danger of falling at any moment.

Captain Tucker, of the steamer Colonel Cowles, has died of his injuries. Sixteen men out of a crew of twenty (belonging to the Colonel Cowles) are missing.

In looking over the papers in one of the rooms of the custom house a day or two ago two torpedoes were discovered. One was placed behind the door. None exploded.

MOBILE, Ala., June 5.—The President's amnesty proclamation was received here by telegraph last night. It created considerable excitement, and was read in the open saloons and private houses by all colors, classes and ages.

Among those who will be present at the Union (reconstruction) meeting to be held here to-morrow, will be many gentlemen representing the real planting and property interests of this State. Some of them say that they are willing to rent their plantations to any Northern men who believe they can work them to advantage and with profit.

The negroes here have a very imperfect idea of what is embraced within and conferred upon them by freedom. They do not relish work, and, as in times past, shun it as much as possible.

The talk among many of the planters of this State is what are they to do with the negroes. They look upon them as unreliable under a free system of labor, and are anxious to get rid of them as speedily as possible.

'Sir Stratford Canning,' says an English paper, 'has returned from his excursion to Mount Athos. Lady Canning has caused the monks of the Holy Mountain to break their vows. The brotherhood allow no female, nor any creature of that sex, to enter their boundary. Cows, hens, geese, &c., are all banished. Sir Stratford, however, was accompanied to the Mount by his lady and daughters. The monk dared not to send them back, neither did they make any remark when the whole family entered the first monastery. They received the ladies with great courtesy, offering them refreshment. So it was in the second; but in the third the friars remarked that females were not admitted. However, on learning that the two other monasteries had infringed the rule, they consented to receive Lady Canning and her daughters.'

MARRIED,
At Trinity Church, June 24th, by the Rev. Peter J. Shand, Lieut. Col. JOHN C. HASKELL to SALLIE, eldest daughter of Lieut. Gen. Wade Hampton.
On the 23d of June, at the residence of the bride's father, by the Rev. R. T. Senn, Mr. J. D. ROBERTS, of Columbia, to Miss ELIZA J. EVERITT, of Lexington, S. C.

Mr. Davidson's Select School.
THE scholastic quarter commences on MONDAY, the 3d of July. Boys received at any time. The course of study embraces all the English branches usually taught in schools, Greek, Latin and French. For other information, apply to or address JAS. WOOD DAVIDSON, June 27 tufo3* At Dr. John Fisher's.

Mrs. Howard H. Caldwell
WILL open a BOY and GIRLS SCHOOL on MONDAY, 26th inst. A gentleman fully competent to teach the higher branches will preside over the male department. Mrs. C. will also take an unlimited number of French and Music scholars. French will be taught to the day pupils without extra charge. June 26 2*

South Carolina Railroad.
GEN. SUPT'S OFFICE, S. C. R. R., CHARLESTON, June 19, 1865.
ON and after WEDNESDAY, the 21st inst., and until further notice, the Passenger Trains of this road will leave as follows:
Leave Charleston at 7 a. m.; arrive at 2 p. m. Leave Orangeburg at 8 a. m.; arrive at 1 p. m.
Freight per Passenger Train will be received only between the hours of 8 a. m. and 3 p. m. No freight will be received in the morning prior to the train leaving.
H. T. PEAKE,
June 23 3 General Superintendent.

For Sale,
A DESIRABLE FARM of 60 acres, under good fencing, about 2 1/2 miles from town, near Barhamville. On the place is a neat COTTAGE HOUSE, containing five rooms, with all necessary out-buildings and a spring of cool water.
Apply to C. F. HARRISON,
June 25 2d door from Shiver House.

General Commission Agency.
P. B. GLASS respectfully advertises to the public that he is prepared to do a GENERAL COMMISSION BUSINESS, and invites consignments of all kinds of Merchandise, Manufactures, Produce, &c. He will attend to the purchase or sale of Real Estate, Stocks, &c. Office and sales-room on Plain street, between Bull and Pickens.
June 20 46*

Headq's 1st Provisional Brigade,
COLUMBIA, S. C., June 22, 1865.

GENERAL ORDER NO. —
I. ALL persons having in their possession any property formerly belonging to the Confederate or State Government, or any persons knowing the location of any such property, will forthwith report the same, with an exact statement and inventory, to the commanding officer here; failing to do which, they will incur the extreme penalty of the law.

II. No tax of any description is to be collected by or paid to any officer not announced by the United States authorities. Persons having paid such taxes since the occupation of this place by Government, will report the same to the commanding officer.

III. All persons desiring to open trade, or already having done so, in this city, will report to the Act. Ass't Provost Marshal, and receive their licenses from the Provost Marshal here. No intoxicating beverage of any kind will be sold to any enlisted men.

IV. A tax of one (1) per cent. will be paid to the Provost Marshal on all sales of liquor, to be accounted for by him to the Ass't Provost Marshal of the Brigade, for disposal by Post Council of Administration.

V. Any person refusing to receive United States money at par value will be at once arrested and tried for disloyalty.
By order of A. S. HARRIS, Lieut. Colonel,
Brevet Brigadier-General.
Geo. F. McKay, 1st Lieut. and A. A. G.
June 26

Just Received

FROM
NEW YORK & PHILADELPHIA,
AND FOR SALE AT
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL,
A LARGE STOCK OF
DRY GOODS,
CLOTHING,
GENTS AND LADIES'
FURNISHING GOODS!

CONSISTING IN PART OF:
CALICOES, DELAINES, LAUNES,
Jaconet and Swiss MUSLINS,
Bleached and Unbleached HOMESPUN,
Hoop and Bamoral SKIRTS,
GLOVES, HOSE, LACE,
MANTILLAS, FANS and Hair NETS,
Shaker HOODS, CLOTHING,
LINEN, Calico and Traveling SHIRTS,
UNDERSHIRTS and DRAWERS,
HATS, SOCKS, NECKTIES,
Butterfly SCARFS, GLOVES,
Fancy and White Paper COLLARS,
Linen HANDKERCHIEFS,
SUSPENDERS, Shoe BLACKING,
Table Cloths, Napkins, Toweling,
Long and Fine Combs,
Pencils, Knives and Forks,
Cotton Cards, Needles, Flax Thread,
Also, a large and fine stock of IMPORTED and DOMESTIC SEGARS, for sale by FOOT & SULZBACHER,
Agents,
Assembly street between Plain and Washington.
June 22 6

MR. HENRY TIMROD
WILL open, during the first week in July, at his residence in Richland street, (between Bull and Marion,) a DAY SCHOOL FOR BOYS, in which the Ancient Languages, French and the usual English Branches will be taught.
June 15

Bakery and Confectionary.
L. SHODAIR and W. STIEGLITZ have re-opened their BAKERY, CONFECTIONARY and CRACKER MANUFACTORY. Also, on hand a fine assortment of CHEWING and SMOKING TOBACCO, SCOTCH and MACCABOY SNUFF, CIGARS, PIPES, &c., at Messrs. Cooper & Gaither's old stand.
June 5 mth6

City Taxes.
I WILL attend daily, from 9 a. m. to 12 m., at the Council Room, (formerly Odd Fellows' School room,) for the purpose of collecting CITY TAXES. In view of the urgent necessities of the City Council, it is hoped that all tax payers will be prompt.
A. G. BASKIN,
June 5 City Clerk.