

When bees lose their queen, the whole hive is thrown into confusion. They all quit work and run hither and thither without any apparent aim or object. They seem to lose their senses, or, to speak more correctly, their proper instincts. Ants, too, are thrown into the same disorder when their hills are rudely broken into. They are called a "wise folk" in the inspired volume, but on such occasions they appear to lose all of their wisdom. We have recently witnessed, in these Southern States, says the *Richmond Times*, an exhibition of the same character among the laboring class of the South. The human hive lost their head, the African ant hill was broken into, and from hive and hill the swarming thousands poured in confusion. Chaos is scarcely a word strong enough to describe their condition. The idea of freedom, freedom from labor and restraint, with all the vague visions of happiness it inspired, acted upon them like so much exhilarating gas. It set them to running about, jumping and gesticulating. The plantations upon which they and their forefathers were accustomed to work were abandoned, their homes desolated. Packed down with all their worldly goods, they filled the public highways leading to our cities. All seemed bound "for the happy land of Canaan." Scattered, confused, unemployed and homeless, they soon found that labor, so much dreaded by man, is man's greatest blessing. It is his capital, his money, his bread and meat, his home, his source of comfort and happiness.

A few months have passed, and in the lapse of that time a marked change has taken place. Pilgrim negroes no longer throng the thoroughfares leading to our cities, and no longer occupy the street corners, the unbuild lots and the cellar-caps in the cities and towns. They appear to have settled down. Chaos has been reduced to order, and the wandering tribes have found resting places. Many of the negroes have returned to their former homes and gone to work, finding by a bitter experience that freedom without labor is nothing but freedom to starve. Others, influenced by a vague apprehension that their title to freedom would be incomplete and unsatisfactory so long as they remained with their former owners, have sought and found employment with others. Many unable to provide for themselves have been taken in hand by provost marshals and officers of the Freedmen's Bureau, and have either been hired out or provided with quarters until they can be permanently settled. It is seldom now that the eye falls upon a traveling negro, loaded down like a pack mule, with his goods and chattels, and in quest of a new home. The great bulk of them appear to be supplied with lodging places. But the warm season is rapidly passing away. Spring has been succeeded by summer, and summer will soon be followed by autumn. Then the rigorous winter, with its blasts and snows, will come upon us, and the troubles of the negroes will begin in earnest. The fruits, vegetables and fish which now afford them a cheap subsistence, will be gone, and solid meats will have to be purchased. The genial sunshine, which warms the world without cost, will no longer be felt, and for seven long and dreary months fuel will have to be bought. Happy those who can provide themselves with it. It is to be feared that great numbers of the emancipated negroes will be unable to do so, and will have to shiver through the long, cold season, with few blankets and no fuel. We are all alike, poor here now. The whites find it almost impossible to take care of themselves, and are altogether unable to assist the colored people, however much they may desire to do so. If the Government does not provide for them, either by furnishing fuel, or by keeping up steady fires at certain stations, day and night, their condition will be deplorable indeed.

Plantations and Crops.

A correspondent, writing us from the two Edistos, in Orangeburg and Barnwell Districts, says:

The corn crops, with some exceptions, are generally good. There will be enough made, perhaps, to support the country. There is little or no cotton planted. I have seen but two fields on the whole of my route; in these the cotton looks well, though not large, and is *bolting* tolerably well. If it gets the adequate work, these fields will turn out respectably, as in days of old. But I perceive that nearly all the corn is laid by in grass. Grass spreads everywhere. In many plantations, large tracts of corn have been abandoned wholly, lacking the necessary labor. In these fields, the planters can hope for nothing, and they will be converted into pastures. To attempt to gather the small quantity of corn and fodder, would cost more labor, if it could be had, than would be repaid by the production. I find a great deal of discontent among the planters and the freedmen. The former complain that the latter only work as it suits their humor; that they are continually breaking away from work on the smallest pretexts, and leaving the crop to its fate. In most of the contracts between the planters, the fodder crop, for example, has been reserved wholly to the planter. He owns the stock, mules, horses and cattle, and has to provide for their food; and the fodder was essential to this end. The freedmen, having no interest in this article, work languidly at stripping and curing it. If not stripped and cured at the right season, it becomes worthless. The work goes on so badly that the danger is that a large portion of the fodder will be lost. The work of several hands, several days, will not, I am assured, yield enough fodder to feed the cattle for a week. In many cases, the freedmen refuse to strip fodder altogether. They are sullen, are perpetually complaining, and daily the provost courts are crowded with complaints, on one part or the other. Where the encampments of the soldiers are to be found, the trouble is the greatest. The complaints against the soldiers are endless. They are said to enter the fruit orchards, the melon patches, the corn fields, and help themselves *ad libitum*, and all expostulation is unavailing. I could report scores of cases of this sort, where the proprietors are entirely shorn of all means of support. No plantation is secure from trespass. In some precincts they enter the grounds, gardens, kitchens, and even dwellings, without any regard to property or the rights of property; and, perhaps, the only remedy will be found in the submission of affidavits to the heads of department at Washington, describing truly the condition of the country. All *ex parte* statements are to be received with caution, but facts duly certified are irresistible, and will make themselves felt at Washington, and through the Northern presses, which are constantly filled with most reckless statements in regard to the progress of events.

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Steady Progress of the Extinction of the Black Race.

WASHINGTON, July 26.—All the accounts which reach here from the South show that there are two causes operating in all the Southern States, which will not only prevent negro suffrage as a fixed institution, but which will also dissipate the Utopian dreams which have been indulged in by those theoretical and false friends of the negro who know nothing of his real capabilities or the actual requirements of his nature. These causes are: The alarming and terrible mortality among the negroes, and the steady increase of the introduction of white laborers, who are rapidly taking the place of negro laborers. The entire change in the habits and mode of life which sudden emancipation has brought upon the negro; their fixed propensity for idleness; their habit of congregating together in vast numbers, in places where they cannot obtain subsistence; their filthy and licentious habits, and their utter inability to take care of themselves, are carrying them off, in every State, by thousands, every week.

The planters, thus left destitute of agricultural laborers, would have seen their own families starve during the coming winter, if they had not been able to secure white laborers from the North to take the place of the negroes who have deserted them. A steady stream of white laborers from the North, and from Europe, has, however, set in during the last three months; and this influx will continue to grow larger for nine months to come. All the second-class trains on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, running to Parkersburg, on the Ohio River, as well as those on the railroad

between this city and Richmond, just opened, are crowded with Irish and German laborers. They are going down the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers in steamboats, to various points in Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama, Louisiana and Arkansas, and to the interior of Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina.

WHITE LABORERS SUPERSIDING NEGRO LABOR AT THE SOUTH.

Even with their short experience up to the present time, the planters find that they can accomplish more with ten white laborers than with forty able-bodied negroes, and at one-tenth the expense with which they were formerly burdened. The example set by Gen. Howard in Maryland, of compelling the planters to feed, clothe and support the aged and infirm negroes, and the young negro children left on their hands by their runaway slaves, under penalty of the confiscation of their entire estates, may be followed by the military authorities in all the Southern States. But that will only alienate the feelings of the people from the Government which permits such acts, while it will neither prevent the supercedure of negro labor by white labor, nor hinder the certain ultimate extinction of the black race.

THE NEGRO INCAPABLE OF PROFITABLE VOLUNTARY LABOR.

In the meantime, it is not impossible that negro suffrage may be introduced to a limited extent in some of the Southern States, although it is not probable that it will be. The radicals are working day and night to accomplish this, sending fresh men on here every few days; and they may possibly succeed in the next Congress although I do not think that they will. But as the negro race in America is doomed to certain ultimate extinction, this cannot, practically, amount to much. The radicals who come here pretend not to believe this, and assert that there is a bright future before the negroes in the South, because they can be stimulated by the same motives that impel white laborers to providence and industry. I did not see it. Those who have read history carefully know that it is not so. The negro is not impelled by the same motives that influence a white man. The whole history of the negro race shows that he is incapable either of self-government or of profitable voluntary labor; and that, left to himself, he has made no advancement, either in civilization, art or science.

THE EXPERIMENT OF FREE BLACK LABOR IN THE SOUTH A FAILURE.

Look at the native African tribes in Africa. They are to-day what they were four thousand years ago. Running naked in the woods, they are continually at war with each other, selling their captives as slaves and eating their flesh. Where are the cities they have built? Where are the books they have written? Where their scientific inventions? Where their monuments and temples? They have none—they have never had them. It is not so with any other race of men on the face of the earth. Look at Hayti—settled even by civilized negroes—a republic in name for the last twenty-two years. The island is a natural paradise—production is almost spontaneous—yet the Haytian negro of to-day is as crude as he was twenty-two years ago, and they have proven themselves to be as incapable of improvement as the newly-made freedmen of the South. Free black labor in the South will be found to be a miserable failure, unless it is made compulsory, and then it will cease to be free.

WHAT THE MAJOR-GENERALS ARE EXPECTED TO DO.

The Major-Generals commanding military departments will have little military duty to perform in most of the States. Yet they all have enormously large staffs and large bodies of troops under their orders. They are evidently expected to do something. What is it? Can it be that the telegraphic order of General Thomas, of July 21, in relation to *habeas corpus* in the case of Emerson Etheridge, throws any light upon this question. TAKE CARE HOW YOU VOTE IN VIRGINIA.

The *Richmond Whig* made its appearance here again yesterday. All the Richmond papers now maintain a very denure and subdued tone, and evidently stand in fear of military interference. The article in the *Republic*, of yesterday, warning the people to vote in a manner that will be pleasing to the Government, is regarded as rather sarcastic; but that is a dangerous kind of sarcasm to indulge in. The *Republic* tells its readers, in substance, that if candidates distasteful to the Government are elected, that the latter will adopt a harsh and rigorous policy. It says: "The Government is watching the elections in Virginia with great interest, and its policy will be shaped by them. We warn the people to take care how they vote."

In other words, vote for whom you please; but be sure you vote for the Administration candidates. This would sound well in an Austrian or Russian newspaper, or under an avowedly military government, such as that in France, when Louis Napoleon was President and before he became Emperor. But, if it is not sarcasm, is it not a strange warning to be given under a Republican Government? RUMOR OF AN EXTENSIVE NEGRO INSURRECTION.

There are some very painful rumors in town in relation to a formidable general rising of the negroes in some of the Southern States. It is said that there is a wide-spread conspiracy among the blacks to rise simultaneously on a given day and to repeat the bloody scenes of St. Domingo on a scale that will blot out the memory of that horrible massacre. The plot is said to have sprung up and matured within a month or two past, but the design was not to strike the blow until next December. It was thought by the leaders that that length of time was required in order to secure the entire success of the atrocious design. It was not to be confined to one locality, but was to be made general all over the South. Vast numbers of muskets and other weapons are said to have been provided, and the negroes seem to have been persuaded into the belief that they were numerous enough to make a clean sweep of the whole country, and to carry everything before them. The pretext with which the leaders sought to stir up the ignorant blacks was that the promise of the ballot made to them was a mere sham; that there never was any intention on the part of the Government to give them the ballot, or the right to vote; that the Government intended to keep up a large military force in the South, in order to keep them in subjection and make them work; and that in consequence of being forced to work, they were as much slaves now as ever before. They seem to have been deluded with the idea that their condition would be greatly bettered if they could remove their former masters by violence and take possession themselves of the plantations and other property. No steps have yet been taken to arrest even the ringleaders; but the plot has been divulged to the authorities, and it is to be hoped that measures will be taken to prevent the outbreak.

AN INSURRECTION WOULD ONLY HASTEN THE EXTERMINATION OF THE BLACKS.

Such an outbreak, however, may be looked for at almost any time within the next five years. Such feelings and sentiments among the blacks, and the legitimate consequences of the teachings that have been installed into the negro mind by the pestilent Abolitionist, ever since the war began. When it does take place, it will be speedily repressed, but then will commence, in earnest, the extermination of the blacks. If one white family is murdered by negroes, in a negro rising, the lives of a thousand blacks will pay the forfeit of the crime. We have made pretty much of an idol of the black man. If he is wise, he will adapt himself to his changed condition, and settle down quietly to earn his living by hard work, as white men are compelled to do. If he listens to those who would hire him into plots for the massacre of white people, he will only be hastening his own doom. [Correspondence New York News.]

DESTITUTION IN VIRGINIA.—A gentleman, who has just returned from a tour through the counties of Stafford, Spottsylvania and Orange, Virginia, reports that he found the inhabitants in a very destitute condition, with no money and very little of anything aside from the present crops. The corn crop, though not very extensive in acres, will be universally large in yield. It is thought that more corn will be raised in proportion to the number of acres planted than was ever before produced in that section of the State. The common people are well satisfied with the termination of the war, and the rebel soldiers who have been longest in the field appear to be the best satisfied with the present condition of affairs. The preachers, editors and politicians of the old "States Rights" school are the only ones who still adhere to the idea of Southern independence. In many instances ex-rebel lieutenants, captains, majors and colonels are engaged in tilling the soil, who, before the war, would have considered such an occupation degrading.

A vicious cat in Somersett, Pennsylvania, which delighted in killing young birds, was recently attacked by six or eight robins, the latter having combined their forces for the purpose of revenge. The contest was very short, the cat having her eyes picked out, and receiving such other injuries as to cause death soon after.

Local Items.

Our readers on Arsenal Hill can now procure their supplies of groceries, etc., without the usual wear and tear of shoe leather, Mr. Pratt having opened a store in Assembly street, near Richland.

Messrs. Kossuth & Gibson, Lapeer Row, have, we believe, the largest stock of goods for sale in the city—in fact, almost anything from a pair of scales to a bale of cotton. Doubtless are invited to call, see and be convinced.

DEATH OF A CITIZEN.—We regret to learn that a letter was received by the family yesterday, from a former resident of this city, stating that the Rev. S. Townsend died in Philadelphia, on the 30th ultimo, from an attack of bilious fever. Mr. Townsend was known and appreciated in this community for his business qualifications.

LIMESTONE SPRINGS FEMALE SCHOOL.—The reader will be pleased to see that this admirable school, under the efficient management of the able proprietor, Dr. Curtis, is about to resume operations. It needs only that we should draw public attention to the fact. The superior merits of this institution are too well and widely known to require any comment.

A CURIOSITY FOR BARNEY.—If any of our readers have any particular admiration for the great showman, they would do well to secure for his new museum a colored man who appears on our streets every day, with more toes than the law allows, viz six on each foot. We suppose he could be "bought up."

Our citizens are under great obligations to Messrs. Durbee & Walker for their earnest and successful efforts to remedy, as far as possible, the postal deficiencies. Mails for nearly every section are made up at their office, and they daily receive hundreds of letters. All of this work, be it remembered, is done without compensation—their sole object being to accommodate the public. Their office is quite a small one, but a large amount of business is transacted in it—not only in the postal, but the nation line. Persons expecting letters, after giving Messrs. D. & W. a call, would do well to call at the Silver House, Messrs. Zebby, Scott & Burns, and the post office in the College Campus.

The following is a list of letters remaining at the Silver House: F. H. Trenholm, J. B. Cohen 2, J. Pringle Smith, L. P. Moses, W. Connor, Robert Gardner, Mrs. C. M. Cheves 3, Mrs. George Chisohn 2, Mrs. Arthur P. Hayne, Mrs. F. G. Del'ontaine, Mrs. John S. Preston, Mrs. Arthur M. Manigault, Mrs. E. H. Shackelford.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.—Attention is called to the following advertisements, which are published for the first time this morning: Wm. J. Gayer—Government Claims, etc. Orangeburg and Columbia S. and C. Line. Messrs. White & Thomas—Male School. R. A. Buchanan—Female Sem. for Sale. Jacob Levia—Bridges and Harness. Geo. L. Patten—Furniture, etc. Wm. Curtis—Female High School. Durbee & Walker—Furniture, etc. C. S. Jenkins' Store—Assembly Street. Simons & Harrison—Copartnership.

NOBLE BEQUEST.—Mr. Ephraim M. Baynard, a highly esteemed and noble-hearted citizen, one of the oldest and most successful planters on Edisto Island, died very recently, leaving the generous and magnificent bequest of one hundred and sixty-six thousand dollars, in city six per cent. stock, for the benefit of the Charleston College.

This liberal gift for the cause of education reflects more brilliancy on the generous donor when the present condition and wants of our educational institutions are remembered. Our youths have sustained a heavy loss in the suspension of the Charleston College, and we hope to soon see it restored to its former usefulness under the guidance of its beloved President, N. Russell Middleton, and the associate professors in that cherished institution of learning which has been so long the pride and boast of our city.—*Charleston Courier*.

THE GIRLS OF ENGLAND.—A correspondent of the *New York Times*, describing what he saw at an English watering-place, says:

"There is a startling abundance of fine, bold, handsome English girls, who throw the long tresses of their abundant black hair to the breezes to dry after the morning bath, as a corsair might throw her black flag to the winds. There may have been a time when English girls were shy or timid. We read of bashful maidens in ancient song and romances. But in this fast age they have got very bravely over it, and the British maiden of the present day looks the enemy full in the face, as if she had nothing to fear, and might have something to hope. It is the men who are sheepish. They are in the minority, and fight shy accordingly. The women are having it their own way, and now that Mr. Mill is elected to Parliament, they hope soon to be a power in the State.

Madame Kossuth, the wife of the famous Hungarian leader, has died at Genoa, after ten years' illness.