

COLUMBIA.

Tuesday Morning, Sept. 12, 1865.

What to be Done for Us!

The South has been stripped literally of every thing but its lands. These are valueless without the labor which should cultivate them. In the annihilation of slave property, the annihilation of all negro labor has been an inevitable consequence. But, even were this labor yet available to any useful or productive purpose, nothing could be done, with any considerable result, unless the plantations were restocked with the necessary cattle, and refurnished with the necessary implements. If the continued cultivation of the staples be desirable to the United States—and we should think it properly one of the desiderata of the North—the first necessity is to supply the plantations with an adequate plough force. A working force of negroes of fifty hands on a plantation, implied at least twenty plough mules or horses. It was the associated labor of mules and negroes that enabled the cotton planter to achieve such wondrous results in production, to compass so large a territory with his labor, and realize those profits which resulted rather from the extent than the nicety of the cultivation. Necessarily connected with this joint force of negroes and mules, was the employment of a large variety of implements, ploughs, plough-stocks, hoes, shovels, axes, the common cart, the timber cart, the wagon, the gin-house, threshing-house, the corn-sheller, the thresher, the blacksmith shop, the cooperage, &c. Briefly, every plantation of large dimensions was a village, self-supplying and self-supporting, after being once fairly established and in operation. This understood, it will be easy to comprehend the embarrassments, in the re-establishment of all these things, in the case of a people who are totally without money; who have nothing left to sell; who have been stripped of horses, mules, cattle of all sorts, every tool and implement, every wagon and cart, and are lacking besides in all the facilities of communication and transportation to which they have been accustomed for thirty years. Perhaps, no people ever lived who have been so thoroughly deprived of all that made life desirable. A barbarous people—a nomadic horde—never accustomed to civilization, or its aids, would suffer little from any loss; but civilization, which refines and elevates and fortifies and fructifies during peace, is rendered more helpless than any state of barbarism by the ravages of invasive war; and such a war as ours—a war so recklessly conducted—as if in defiance of all those rules of convention which civilized nations have generally adopted as essential for mollifying human suffering, and for preserving still the essential qualities of humanity in the bosoms of men—has left the country in such a state of desolation, that the most hopeful industry, and the most generous energies, might well despair of its recuperation, even in the lapse of many years, unless great success is yielded to us from abroad. We claim, accordingly, from the United States Government, that it puts us in condition, if only for its own sake, to resume our labors in the various provinces from which she has torn, by her armies, all the recuperative and productive forces. It will be no profit to the Government if it makes conquest of a land only to reduce it to barrenness. Mere territorial extent, without adequate return, would be a curse and a cost to any Government; and when it is taken into consideration that the human force still remains, six or seven millions of whites, three to four of blacks, all capable, if their capacities for use be properly employed, it must be evident that the only policy which can suggest itself to statesmanship, is the restoration to the country of enough of the material

capital of which it has been deprived, at least for the resumption of labor, and for a new beginning either in new or in old fields of enterprise and industry. Constituting now one vast and single population; under one sovereign rule; without any conflict of power between States or peoples; with no struggle any longer of rival interests; no issues between the States and Central Government; it becomes the Government, in its paternal relations to the whole, to see that so vast a body of its population shall not be overborne by fortune. They must address themselves to the work of restoration as an equal duty to themselves and to humanity, and in recompense for that appropriation or annihilation of a great property which is the most monstrous feature of the war. The United States Government has already expended hundreds of millions upon the negro; it will need to expend hundreds more. Is it less willing—are the Northern people less willing—to make a like appropriation for the benefit of the whites of the South, whom their acts have ruined?

Horrible Murder.

We give the following letter, from a gentleman of the first character, writing from Newberry, giving an account of a most horrible murder committed in that precinct. We had heard the facts stated before, in private letters, to the same effect, but less full in detail. We doubt nothing of the statement. It was only what was to be expected from the employment of negro troops throughout the State. We trust that proper steps will be taken, by the proper authorities, for bringing to punishment the enactors of this cold-blooded tragedy. We have submitted the statement to General Ames, the Commanding General in this Department, and shall bring to his and to public notice every atrocity, of this or any sort, which shall be reported to us on any respectable authority. We repeat our invitation to all aggrieved parties, to submit their facts on proper affidavits. We shall take care that they shall reach the proper authorities:

On Thursday evening, September 7th, the 33d Regiment of U. S. C. T. reached Newberry, by rail, from some point above. The command was camped near the town during the night, intending to march early next morning towards Orangeburg. Some negro quarters near the railroad depot were made the "rendezvous" for all who could get out of camp, and night was made hideous by their profanity and loud talking—the result of drink, we take it for granted. During the night, one of the negroes entered a car in which some ladies were spending the night—having come up from Alston and having no other available arrangements, as the car arrived from below at 11 o'clock P. M. These ladies were under the protection of Mr. Calvin Crozer, of Galveston, Texas, in bearing and appearance a perfect gentleman. Some words ensued and the negro, being very insolent and using offensive language, Crozer attempted to eject him from the car into which he had intruded. A fight ensued, in which others participated; and, in self-defence, Crozer used a knife on one of the negroes. Shortly afterwards a Sergeant and six armed negro soldiers returned and seized Crozer, pinioned his arms and took him from the depot. They kept him in custody until day break, when he was taken to a convenient point and deliberately "shot to death with musketry." The Sergeant in charge, to make his death a sure thing, fired a pistol ball through his head. A hole was then dug and the yet warm but lifeless body was thrown in, head foremost, in a most disgraceful and brutal manner, and only partly buried. Soon after the battalion took up the line of march for Orangeburg. The ladies, exposed in an open car, were in a most painful agony of mind, and before leaving for Greenville on Friday morning, brought the murder to the attention of the local authorities. A coroner's jury was duly impanelled, and, after a protracted investigation, brought in a verdict that the deceased came to his death by shots fired from muskets in the hands of a file of soldiers from the 33d U. S. C. T., &c.

The remains of Mr. Crozer were decently interred, after funeral services at the Methodist Church, amid the regrets of the entire community.

Special Correspondence Phoenix.

Election for Convention in Greenville—Revival of Business—Re-opening of the Theological Seminary and other Schools—New Religious Paper—New Book on Taxes—Suicide.

GREENVILLE, S. C., Sept. 6, 1865. Our election for delegates to the State Convention resulted in the choice of Lieut. Wm. H. Perry, Maj. T. C. Bolling, Rev. J. P. Boyce and Dr. J. P. Latimer. The number of votes polled was small, not exceeding in all 850. This was owing partly to a want of interest amongst the people relative to the election, and partly to the revocation, by military order, of authority given by Gov. Perry to magistrates to administer the oath of amnesty, for the purpose of enabling citizens to vote. The authority thus given by the Governor was recognized and affirmed by a telegraphic despatch from the President, on Friday night before the election; but it was too late for the people generally to avail themselves of the information. This election over, our people are beginning to discuss with more interest that of Senator and members to the Legislature, and of Representative to Congress. No candidates are out, as yet, for the Legislature, but some have been talked about. For Congress, it is probable that Col. Farrow, of Spartanburg, Maj. Bolling, of Greenville, and Col. Reed, of Anderson, will be in the field; and an addition to our Congressional District that may unite Abbeville and Laurens with us, will probably bring into the list the gallant and veteran Gen. McGowan, of Abbeville.

Within the past few weeks, there has been a sudden and marked revival of trade and business in Greenville. Various new stores have been opened, and are rapidly disposing of their wares, and some half-dozen others will be in operation in a few days. Our people have gone to work in good earnest to retrieve the losses of the past, and to improve the opportunities of the present and the future. Many of our American citizens of African descent are leaving for the softer climate and more prolific soil of the coast, and hope to find in the profusion of oysters, crabs and fish, in the water, and the ease with which goobers, yams, &c., are produced from the land, a partial relief, at least, from the hard work to which, either as bond or free, he is so little inclined. This, from the nature of circumstances, will continue and increase; and by the same token, the white citizens, of sections where they are largely in the minority, will prefer the society and enjoyments which a thickly settled white population will give, to the more profitable but less agreeable advantages of a warmer and more fertile location. The operation of these causes promises, for sections like this, a rapid improvement in population, progress and refinement in the future.

Among our topics of local interest is the re-opening of the institutions of learning for which Greenville has been so long and justly famous. The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary will renew its operations on the first of October, with its full corps of professors, to wit: Rev. Drs. Boyce, Manly, Williams and Broadus—presenting a combination of literary and religious talent no where surpassed. Many students are already awaiting its opening, and many more will doubtless avail themselves of the advantages which it offers. Its tuition is free to theological students of all denominations. The Furman University is to be re-opened in February. The Female College, which has continued to flourish through the war, is succeeding admirably under the superintendence of President Judson, who is making arrangements for still further additions to his already able corps of professors. The Gaillard School, for girls and boys, will also be re-opened at an early day.

Our town newspapers, the *Mountaineer* and the *Enterprise*, are both flourishing. The publisher of the former has recently leased the upper story and a portion of the lower story of the old court house for his office, to meet the increased demands of his business. He will shortly issue a large weekly Baptist newspaper, to be conducted by gentlemen of great ability, and which promises to stand at least amongst the first of its class in the South. He is now engaged in publishing a book called the "Internal Revenue Guide," containing about eighty-four pages octavo, prepared by the Assessor for this Collection District, and intended for the information of all tax-payers, under the internal revenue laws of the United States.

A very distressing suicide, from morphine, took place in this District, on last Wednesday night. The subject was Major John M. Lynch, who has resided at Hodges' old stand, known as Menittsville for some years past. Maj. Lynch was a gentleman of intelligence and great moral worth, and no cause can be conjectured for the rash act by which he closed his life.

We have had fine rains recently, and have the prospect of a good corn harvest.

The country is generally quiet, with the exception of an occasional theft by some hungry and lazy freedman.

EXTRAORDINARY DECISION OF A NEGRO MEETING.—The *Mobile Advertiser*, of the 16th ult., makes the following extraordinary announcement, on the authority of a citizen who was present at a meeting of negroes on the previous Sunday, near that city:

"Nine hundred of them assembled to consider their condition, their rights and duties, under the new state of existence upon which they have been so suddenly launched. Our informant was surprised at the hard, practical sense and moderation of tone with which the spokesmen of the meeting urged their views. After long talk and careful deliberation, this meeting resolved, by a vote of seven hundred voices to two hundred, that they had made a practical trial for three months of the freedom which the war has bequeathed to them; that its realities were far from being so flattering as their imaginations had painted it; that they had discovered that the prejudices of color were by no means confined to the people of the South, but on the contrary, that it was stronger and more marked against them in the strangers from the North, than in the home people of the South, among whom they had been reared; that negroes, no more than white men, could live without work, or be comfortable without homes; that their Northern deliverers from bondage had not, as they had expected and been taught to expect, undertaken to provide for their happy existence in their new state of freedom, and that their old masters had ceased to take any interest in them or have a care for them; and finally, that their 'last state was worse than the first,' and it was their deliberate conclusion that their true happiness and well being required them to return to their homes which they had abandoned in a moment of excitement, and go to work again under their old masters. And so the resolutions were passed, and at last accounts the wanderers were packing up their little stock of movable goods, preparatory to the execution of their sensible purposes."

DEATH OF MAJOR WM. LAVAL.—We were painfully surprised, on Tuesday last, when we heard of the death of this well-known citizen of our State, who has for some time past been residing at this place, with his son-in-law, Capt. Leonard Williams.

Major Laval was born in Goose Creek Parish, S. C., on the 27th of May, 1788, and was therefore in his seventy-eighth year at the time of his death. He was peculiarly identified with the history of Charleston, and claimed his citizenship there. His father (Colonel Jacinth DeLaval, of Lyons, France, who married Rebecca Withers, of this State,) was one of the sympathizers with this country during the first Revolutionary struggle, and came to its assistance as an aid-camp of the Duke DeLausanne.

At an early age, Major Laval entered the army, and shortly afterwards took a distinguished part in the war of 1812, holding the rank of captain until the siege of Pensacola, when he was honored with the rank of brevet major for gallant and meritorious conduct. During this siege, and at the storming of the fort, he received a wound, by which he permanently lost the use of a limb. In 1823, he resigned his commission in the army, and was elected Secretary of State. Since that time, he has filled the offices of Treasurer and Comptroller-General almost continuously. During the intervals, he held positions in the Custom House and in the Sub-Treasury Department.—*Greenville Patriot*.

SUICIDE.—Maj. John F. Lynch, a citizen of our District, who resided near Merrittsville Post Office, on the Buncombe road, some twenty-five miles from town, we regret to learn, committed suicide on the 30th ult., by taking poison. He was a very respectable citizen, and his death is lamented.—*Greenville Enterprise*.

A certain dissatisfied wife says that her husband is such a blunderer that he can't even try a new boot on without "putting his foot in it."

Local Items.

To insure insertion, advertisers are requested to hand in their notices before 4 o'clock p. m.

Special attention is invited to the sale of an extensive stock of groceries, furniture, etc., by Durbee & Walter, in front of their auction room, this morning.

The Convention, it is understood, will hold its meetings in the Baptist Church of this city—the only building of sufficient size which can now be had for this purpose.

TO MEMBERS OF THE CONVENTION AND OTHERS.—You are advised to seek board and lodging at Mrs. C. Loomis', on Pendleton street, opposite the South Carolina College. The rooms are airy, water splendid and the accommodations as cheap as can be had in the city.

Bell's Row has had a new accession to its variety stores, Messrs. J. F. Speck and J. Polock having just opened in season for the Convention and for our guests during the present week. We have been permitted to sample their wines, in order to assure our visitors that they may quaff with confidence; and a glance at their shelves would seem to promise as gratefully for the benefit of the fair sex. We are pleased to welcome them, and every addition to the mercantile area of Columbia, as arguing well for the future of our brave old city.

THE STATE HOUSE.—It will need to be a subject of early consideration with the Legislature, whether anything can be done with the new capitol, so as to convert it temporarily to its destined uses for the meetings of the Assembly. Whether a temporary roof cannot be put on, and whether the windows may not be sashed and the area cleared of debris, so as to render the building of early use, and so contribute, perhaps, to its preservation from the weather. A consultation with Major Niemi might, we think, from his art and intellectual resources, result in the discovery that a temporary finish might be given to the building, which will render it available for temporary purposes, without much cost and without harm to the architectural beauty of the structure.

THOMAS' RESTAURANT.—We beg to suggest to visitors in Columbia, as well as citizens, that one of the best chop-houses in town is that of W. J. Thomas, in Gervais street, convenient to the business marts and to the capitol. Thomas is one of the freedmen, who has had the advantage of training in a family which always insisted upon good manners, good cooking, fine varieties and the most absolute cleanliness. These are the essential qualities in a good housekeeper. We have examined the restaurant of Thomas, and have enjoyed a choice supper at his table. There, we found everything remarkably neat and nice, the cooking was admirable, the meats various, the service good, and the order, quiet and respectful civility which prevailed were quite grateful at an evening meal. We may add, as a matter of some importance in these days, that Thomas' charges were quite moderate.

THE CONVENTION.—As the proceedings of the Convention may be expected to be of absorbing interest to all persons in the State, and as the *Phoenix* will make daily reports of its progress and the results from it, besides publishing in full the new Constitution the moment it shall be ratified, it will be well that persons desiring to subscribe should do so in due season. In the present scarcity and cost of printing paper, publishers cannot venture to print upon a mere speculative or possible demand. We shall publish but a few more copies than will suffice for our customers, and unless they come forward promptly, they may find themselves too late for the supply.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.—Attention is called to the following advertisements, which are published for the first time this morning:

- Mrs. John Palmer—Lodgers.
- Jenkins & Co.—Tears.
- Wm. Wardlaw—Cottage for Sale.
- F. Pollard—Sole Leather.
- " "—Crackers.
- " "—Pickled Pork.
- Richard Caldwell—Cheese, &c.
- W. M. Beckham—Notice to Travellers.
- Ward & Harvey—
- Apply at this Office—Situations Wanted.
- Speck & Polock—New Goods.
- C. D. Ehrhart—Merchant Tailor, &c.
- P. Cantwell—Nails.
- " "—Soda Biscuit.
- " "—Ale and Porter.
- " "—Candles.
- D. B. Miller—Holding of Court.

MEMBERS OF THE CONVENTION.—The following members have been elected to the Convention:

- GREENVILLE—W. H. Perry, T. C. Bolling, James P. Boyce, Dr. Latimer.
- ABBEVILLE—D. L. Wardlaw, S. McGowan, Thos. Thomson, J. W. Hearst, W. A. Lee.
- ANDERSON—James L. Orr, John Wilson, W. S. Pickens, A. Evins.
- NEWBERRY—E. P. Lake, R. Stewart, Henry Sumner.
- CLARENDON—Dr. James McCauley, Warren Wilson.
- DARLINGTON—David C. Miller, Dr. J. E. Byrd, Major James H. Norwood.
- MARLBORO—T. C. Weatherly, T. C. Dudley.
- ORANGEBURG—C. McMichael, Major J. P. Morgan.
- WILLIAMSBURG—E. J. Porter, Dr. J. A. James.
- ST. GEORGE'S PARISH—Chisolm.
- ST. JAMES' GOOSE CREEK—Dr. W. M. Brailsford.
- ST. PAUL'S PARISH—I. M. Dwight.