

By Telegraph.

Great Fire in Augusta, Maine.

AUGUSTA, ME., September 17.—The most destructive fire that ever occurred in Maine, swept through this city, this morning. The entire business portion of the city, extending from Passenger Bridge to Winthrop street, and from the river to above the railroad track, is a smoking mass of ruins.

Great Fire in New York.

NEW YORK, Sept. 18.—A fire occurred here this afternoon, which destroyed the fine storage stores at 505 Cherry street, kept by A. N. Lawrence, formerly Coe & Lawrence. It originated among some cotton, part of a cargo put into the warehouse during the last three days from the brig Bella of the Bay. The bonded stores No. 750 Water street, also occupied by Lawrence, took fire, and both buildings were destroyed. The loss by fire reaches \$3,000,000. 9,000 bales of cotton were destroyed. Included in the property destroyed were 11,000 bags of Manilla sugar, 4,114 bales of hemp, 750 bales of white, 2,500 bales of gunny cloths, 350 tons of junk, and 300 bales of East India cotton. Insurance on the building \$200,000, and on the goods about \$2,000,000.

Altered Government Bonds.

NEW YORK, Sept. 19.—Recent developments show conclusively that stolen Government bonds have been disposed of to innocent parties by altering the numbers of the same. Some of the bonds recently purchased have turned out to be of this character. The alteration is very skillfully executed, and likely to escape notice, unless closely scrutinized. It is done by adding a figure before or after the number of the bond and each coupon, thus: Bond No. 1,226, by adding the figure one before or after the number, is made 11,226, or 12,261; thereby rendering the caution to the public not to negotiate bonds bearing the original numbers of stolen ones totally ineffective. The losses of those bonds by theft are becoming so frequent of late that it behooves every one to be on his guard against imposition.

Odd Fellows Convention.

BALTIMORE, September 18.—The annual meeting of the Grand Lodge Independent Order of Odd Fellows of the United States, took place this morning, in the Hall of the Order, at North Gay street; Grand Sire Isaac M. Veitch, presiding.

Representatives from nearly all the States of the Union, and from several of the British provinces, were in attendance; and, as this is the first occasion within the past five years when brethren from all sections of our widely extended country mingled together, mutual congratulations were interchanged, and much friendly feeling evinced.

The Grand Sire presented his annual report, in which he, with no ordinary emotions of pleasure, congratulated his fellow-representatives at being assembled in another annual communication of the Supreme Grand Lodge under such peculiar, interesting and auspicious circumstances. He expressed his highest gratification and rejoicing that he was permitted to visit again the representatives of nearly all the jurisdictions who have been precluded from fellowship and communion with the representatives for the last four years. The retrospect for the year furnished abundant cause for congratulation that the Order has survived the severe ordeal through which it has passed, and which threatened to imperil its unity. He refers to his efforts which were successful in re-opening communication with the Grand Lodges of the various Southern States. The general condition of these jurisdictions rendered it impossible for them to meet the representative tax imposed by the laws of the Grand Lodge, and he in this correspondence indicated that this would be no impediment to the admission of their representatives, and that the Grand Lodge would generously remit the tax, as was done in the case of the jurisdiction of Tennessee in 1863. Reference is also made to his connection with the Wilsey monument, the formal presentation of which will be made at this session. Other matters of interest to the Order were alluded to by the Grand Sire, who pays a tribute to the memory of P. G. Sire R. B. Boylston, of South Carolina, whose death occurred recently.

The city is thronged with strangers to attend the dedicatory display of Wednesday, and every train brings accessions to the gathering.

STATE CONVENTION.

Saturday, September 23, 1865.

The President took the Chair, and the proceedings were opened with prayer.

Messrs. McIver, Dudley and others, presented reports from sundry committees.

Mr. Furman, from the Committee of Ways and Means, made a report on resolution as to providing for the expenses of the Convention; which was ordered for consideration.

Mr. Boyce introduced a resolution that a Revising Committee of Five be appointed, to whom shall be referred all Constitutional provisions agreed to by the Convention; which was agreed to. Whereupon the President announced Messrs. Inglis, Orr, Lesesne, Dudley and Dawkins.

The Convention resumed the consideration of the report of the Committee on the Executive Department on various matters referred.

Mr. Rion introduced a resolution, which was agreed to, that it be referred to the Committee on the Executive Department to inquire and report upon the propriety of giving to the Governor a qualified veto.

Mr. Orr offered the following resolution, which was ordered to be printed: "The Secretary of State, Comptroller-General and Treasurer, shall be elected by the qualified voters of the State, at the same general election when the Governor and Lieutenant-Governor are elected.

The report of the Committee on the Judicial Department, on a proposition that the Judges and Chancellors be appointed by the Governor, subject to the confirmation of the Senate, was agreed to.

Mr. Melton introduced an ordinance to provide for the first ensuing election of Governor and Lieutenant-Governor, and for Members of the first ensuing General Assembly of the State of South Carolina; which was ordered to be printed, and to be laid on the table.

Mr. Jones introduced the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Amendments to the Constitution:

Resolved, That hereafter there shall be a capitation tax laid, by the General Assembly, on all male inhabitants of this State, between the ages of twenty-one and fifty years, which shall never be less than one-fourth of the tax laid on one hundred dollars worth of land.

Mr. Black introduced a resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Amendments to the Constitution: The General Assembly is forever hereafter prohibited from exempting the property of any corporation, association or individual from taxation.

The purchase yesterday of 5,000 barrels of beef, in this market, for shipment to Great Britain, admonishes us that the dreadful cattle disease, which is now raging in Europe, will have an important influence upon our markets for cured meats, if we shall be so lucky as to escape the disease itself. A large advance in butter or cheese may be expected. Fortunately, we have a large stock of salted beef in this market; it was packed last fall and winter in anticipation of a demand from the army, which having failed, prices have ruled all summer lower than average of peace times, especially for the finer qualities. This, in a measure, accounts for the scarcity and high price of beef cattle for some months past. We can, therefore, well spare John Bull some beef, but we beg of him to keep his present style of roast beef to himself.

[New York World.]

The Confederate bond-holders held a meeting in London, on the 4th, and debated a prospect of a redemption of the bonds. Some of the speakers contended that the Federal Government is responsible for them. A committee was appointed to make inquiries, and report at an adjourned meeting, on the 18th of October. The proceedings afforded so little ground for hope that the bonds declined one per cent.

The Liverpool Post points out that trade between the Mersey and Southern ports is resuming its former activity. Many ships have sailed, and many more are on the eve of leaving for cotton ports.

When they introduce a man now in New York, if they can, they say, "Mr. So-and-so; he is a man of wealth, and respectable." The reason of this is, that there are so many men of wealth who are not respectable, owing to the discreditable way in which they have acquired their fortunes.

Rev. B. M. Palmer.

This distinguished Divine, on his way from New Orleans to Columbia, reached our city Saturday evening and spent the Sabbath with us. Fortunate indeed may those of our citizens consider themselves, who happened to be present when he preached in the afternoon at the First Presbyterian Church.

It was a rich and rare feast, and those who partook of it will not soon forget the occasion or the lessons taught them by this eminent man of God, respected and esteemed by Christians of every name, who have seen him, or heard of his holy labors in furthering the interests of his Master's Kingdom. His theme was the office and work of "another comforter," which the Saviour promised his disciples he would pray the Father to send to them and abide with them. The preacher showed very clearly and plainly that Christ was comforter to the believer, (or advocate for man, which he said the original term used might properly be translated, and that the Holy Spirit, the third person of the adorable Trinity, was the other comforter or advocate promised. For more than an hour most eloquently and forcibly did he elucidate his subject, while his large and intelligent audience sat as if spell-bound, rendering the most earnest attention to the thoughts warm and glowing as they came from the pious heart of the speaker. His conceptions of the plan of salvation were so clear, his view of the appropriate work of the Saviour and of the Holy Spirit in the redemption of man so reasonable and just in the light of Scripture truth, that the discourse could not fail to carry the conviction to the minds of his hearers that the interpretation of the Scripture as given by him was correct. It is strange what beauty and force are found to exist in many portions of Scripture, generally considered mysterious and incomprehensible, when elucidated by a master mind, such as Dr. Palmer's, warmed up and enlightened by the influence of the Holy Spirit.

Then the darkness and mystery which hitherto enveloped it are scattered by light drawn from other portions of Scripture, and we wonder that the truth, now so plain and obvious, had not before occurred to us. In the elucidation of his text, Dr. Palmer showed most conclusively the necessary connection between the work of the Saviour and that of the Holy Spirit, in the three offices, which Christ in the Scriptures is represented as occupying, that of prophet, priest and king; and that the word of the second person would be incomplete without that of the third, in the pardon, redemption and salvation provided for the human family. The numerous friends of Dr. Palmer will be pleased to learn that he has resumed his pulpit ministrations in that church in New Orleans, whose pulpit he had filled so acceptably for some years before the war, and which he was compelled to leave after the fall of the Crescent City.

[Montgomery Intelligencer.]

NOT INCLINED TO KISS THE ROD.—A Southern officer writes humorously to the Mobile Register, in reply to the accusation of a Northern newspaper that the Southern people still praise their own Generals and neglect to praise those who have saved the republic. He thinks the Yankees must have queer ideas about Southern human nature if they expect anything different, and says: "Nor do I sing psalms to the Union generals for saving the republic, for at the time the thing was done it struck me they saved the wrong one. It may be that I might feel grateful to the generals who thrashed me and all my friends within an inch of our lives, but, in the language of Mr. A. Ward, 'I don't see it in those lamps.' We all admire the artistic beauty of the style in which the Union generals put us through, we make no attempt to suppress or disguise the fact that the thing was done handsomely in point of skill; but to denounce us as a set of ungrateful sons of guns, because we don't expend our ink and eloquence in constantly saying so, would be called in some countries a premeditated attempt to add insult to injury."

At a banquet given in honor of Horace Greeley by some of his colored brethren, the following toast was proposed: "Massa Greeley; his face is white, but he has a black heart."

A great fire has occurred at Stamboul, Turkey. Two thousand five hundred buildings have been burnt, and the fire was still raging on the 6th inst.

R. M. T. Hunter has been released from Fort Pulaski on parole, and is now on his way to his home.

THE CHRISTIAN SOLDIER.—Nearly, says the writer of a sketch of the late Stonewall Jackson, were these the last words of that Christian soldier:

"Order A. P. Hill to prepare for action! Pass the infantry to the front! Tell Mejer Hawks to send forward provisions for the men." Then his martial ardor disappeared, a smile diffused itself over his pale features, and he murmured, "Let us cross over the river and rest under the shade of the trees." It was the River of Death he was about to pass; and soon after uttering these words he expired.

Liberty, like love, is as hard to keep as to win, and the exertions by which it was originally gained will be worse than fruitless, if they be not followed up by the assiduities by which alone it can be preserved.

MARRIED.

On Wednesday evening, the 23rd inst., at the Presbyterian Church, Columbia, S. C., by Rev. B. M. Palmer, D. D., Dr. J. W. CALDWELL, of Charleston, to MARY, daughter of the officiating clergyman.

Funeral Invitation.

The friends and acquaintances of Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Drennan are invited to attend the funeral of their adopted daughter, SARAH BOULWARE, from their residence on Upper street, opposite Fair Grounds, THIS AFTERNOON, at 4 o'clock.

An Obituary Sketch.

On last Sabbath afternoon, in the burying ground attached to the Baptist Church of this place, was committed to the grave the body of Mrs. SARAH MURPHY. She was very old and poor, and for many years afflicted with that distressing disease, palsy. She had outlived every relative; but friends, ardent and sincere, kept watch by her sick and dying bed, and her faithful servants, to the last, forsook her not.

Until the incendiary onslaught on our devoted city, on the 17th February, she owned a house. From this, in flames, on that awful night, she was rescued by one of her faithful servants—a woman, not very strong—who dragged her palsied mistress in a chair from the burning building (situated just in rear of Main street) to the poor house. There the mistress and her two servant women found refuge, and there she remained, ministered to by them, till her death. All she had to leave them, in compensation of their faithful services, was the lot occupied by her former dwelling. This, by her last will and testament, she has done.

Mrs. Murphy, by her holy living and dying, in another age and country, might have been canonized as a saint. She always said she wished her last words to be, "God is good," and these were her words on her dying bed in the almshouse. On her death pallet, in her uncomfortable room, sweetly as ever, she discoursed of God's amazing goodness and love. As of persons, she proved this grace was no respecter of places. Some writer has given an exemplification of practical Christian charity being the true union of all Christian sects, in the case of a man, who, just as the different congregations were coming out of their respective places of worship, fell down in a fit, and how they all, without inquiring into his creed, drew to his relief; so Mrs. Murphy's sick chamber, in all the long years of her affliction, was a common platform for the same beautiful exhibition of Christian charity. Religious controversy never intruded there. Where the spirit of love pervades, there is little room for it, as was the case in that chamber "quite in the verge of Heaven." Some went there to minister, but they were more richly ministered to in return by the lessons of rich Christian experience learnt from that poor and suffering, but patient and loving, child of God.

Rev. Dr. Boyce, who officiated at her funeral, mentioned the interesting fact of her having been for more than fifty years a member of the Baptist Church, and one of the first members of the old Baptist Church in this place. One of God's poor has been taken from us to the inheritance of the saints in light. The poor we have always with us, and whosoever we may be we may minister unto them; but few such blessed poor are we often privileged to have dwell among us as our deceased friend. M. M. COLUMBIA, S. C., September 21, 1865.

Medical College of Georgia, Augusta.

THE regular Course of Lectures in this institution will be commenced on the FIRST MONDAY in November next, and be continued four months. Sept 17 mfs L. A. DUGAS, Dean.

A Meeting

OF COUNCIL NO. 10, U. L. A., will be held TO-MORROW EVENING, at 7 o'clock. Sept 24 1st

For Sale.

TWO handsome BRUSSELS CARPETS, cheap for cash. Apply at the store of L. C. CLARKE, Washington street, opposite Jail. Sept 24 1st

Rice! Rice!

FRESH-BEAT and direct from the Mill. 20 barrels of the above for sale. Apply at the Auction Room of Sept 24 2 JACOB LEVIN.

Brick Offices to Rent.

TWO BRICK OFFICES, Nos. 8 and 9, in Bryce's Range, have been completely reshingled and are now in good order, and being in a very central business part of the city, will answer either as offices or small stores. Inquire at my office, No. 7 Bryce's Range. Also, for sale, a large, likely young HORSE, not over six years old, accustomed to all kinds of harness, and very gentle. Inquire as above, at No. 7 Bryce's Range. Sept 15 4th ROBERT BRYCE.

Auction Sales.

Real Estate.

By Jacob Levin.

ON MONDAY MORNING, October 2, I will sell positively, without reserve, That new and neat COTTAGE BUILDING with the land on which it is erected, consisting of half an acre, situated on the East corner of Gates street—measuring on the same 104 feet 4 inches, and on the North by Medium street, measuring 203 feet 8 inches. The building has been erected within the last four years, contains 4 rooms and pantry, with portico front and rear; also brick basement, finished, with 4 rooms, garden and good well of water. Persons desiring to purchase are requested to examine the premises, as the property will be positively sold. Sept 24 7

MRS. E. C. MONTGOMERY

WILL open a SCHOOL for BOYS and GIRLS, on the 1st MONDAY in October, at the residence of Mrs. Steele, on Assembly street. Sept 24 2nd

At Home Again!

IMPORTANT TO MILL OWNERS.

I WILL PATCH, ALTER and REPAIR STEAM BOILERS, within fifty miles of this place; also, do any heavy or particular MILL FORGING. I may be found by applying at this office. S. J. PERRY. Sept 21

J. M. Blakely and G. P. Copeland

HAVE this day entered into copartnership, for the purpose of transacting a general COMMISSION BUSINESS, under the style and name of BLAKELY & COPELAND. They will give their best attention to the sale and purchase of COTTON, as well as other things consigned to their care. They have ample store-room and will take charge of cotton, and sell here, Charleston or New York, as may be desired. Store and office on Main street, corner of Boundary, near Cotton Town, Columbia, S. C. BLAKELY & COPELAND. Charleston Courier copy six times and forward bill to this office. Sept 24

New Opening.

GEO. SCHOFIELD & CO.,

WHOLESALE and retail dealers in DRY GOODS, CLOTHING, HATS, CAPS, BOOTS, SHOES, Ladies' and Gent's Furnishing Goods, Perfumery, Segars, &c., Plain street, between Main and Assembly, third door from Bedell's. Sept 24 2nd

SELLING OFF, SELLING OFF!

H. VAN PELT



OFFERS to the citizens of Columbia the following articles at greatly reduced prices:

- GREEN TEA, BLACK TEA.
- BROWN SUGAR, CRUSHED SUGAR.
- RIO COFFEE, JAVA COFFEE.
- WINE TABLE SALT, FLOUR.
- CHEESE and CRACKERS.
- HERRINGS and MACKEREL.
- CANDLES, SEGARS.
- CHEWING TOBACCO.
- SMOKING " "
- BLACKING.
- CANNED FRUITS, of all kinds.
- CONDENSED MILK.
- SARDINES.
- LEMONS.
- HATS.
- SOAP.
- STARCH.
- SODA.
- WINES and LIQUORS of all descriptions.
- And various other articles.

H. VAN PELT, Sept 24 6th Basement College Chapel.

New Goods, NEW GOODS!!

Just received and for sale by

SIMONS' & KERRISON,

OPPOSITE CATHOLIC CHURCH.

DRESS GOODS—Colored and Mourning—consisting of: Alpaccas, Delains, Calicoes, Cassimeres, Broadcloth, Jeans, &c. ALSO.

- Misses' Hoop Shirts, Travelling.
- Love Veils, Black Silk Corvates, Gloves.
- Embroidered Handkerchiefs, for Ladies and Gentlemen.
- Fancy Hair Nets.
- Hair Brushes and Combs.
- Irish Linen, of all qualities.
- Longcloths, Corsets.
- Buttons, of all varieties.
- Gent's Half Hose, Felt Hats.
- China Dolls, of all sizes.
- Crying Dolls, Wax Dolls.
- Perfumery, Soaps, Suspenders.
- Head Handkerchiefs, Belts.
- Belted Ribbons, Tooth Brushes.
- Bleached and Brown Homespun.
- Paper Collars, Trimbles, Needles.
- Pins, Spool Thread, Sewing Silk.
- Hair Pins, Hooks and Eyes.
- Misses' and Children's Shoes.
- Gent's and Ladies' Shoes.
- Perfumed Velvet Chalk, &c.

ALSO: A small assortment of SPECTACLES. Sept 24