Six Months.

ADVERTISING RATES. Advertisements will be inserted at the rate of \$1.50 per square (10 Nonpareil lines or less) for the first insertion, subsequent insertions by contract.

Fancy Job Printing.

Every kind of FANCY JOB PRINTING executed in the best manuer, promptly and at low prices.

A full 'assortment of paper, envelopes, ink, pens desk furniture, etc., always on hand at Charleston

Address.

Communications may be addressed to THE PORT ROYAL COMMERCIAL, Beaufort, S. C.

Selby and the News.

The News has very certainly shown that the editor of the Phoenir has a warm spot in his heart for Honest John. His telegram as agent of the associated press last winter, in regard to the trial before Kirk; his refusal to attack the Blue Ridge swindle, which resulted in the withdrawal of Col. Thomas from hipaper; and his recent telegram, headed in all the northern papers as "Patterson vindicated," etc., all remain unexplained as coming from a professedly conservative editor, and an enemy to all radical carpet-baggers. On the other hand, what can Dawson say to Selby that cannot as truthfully be said of himself. Moses just as plainly controlled the News as it appears now that Patterson controls the Phoniz. Last year the News could not afford to give up its ten thousand dollars worth of patronage; its corre pondents in Columbia liked to get six dollars a day as committee clerks from the speaker of the house; to be designated the "official paper" was worth many hundreds of dollars a year when the Courier was alive; and therefore Frank Moses, for months before and months after the election had a useful, able and industrious organ in the leading conservative paper of the State. Don't let the pot call the kettle black. From one end of the state to the other Joe Woodruff fed out the pap to the conservative editors, and while the grub lasted they were dumb dogs indeed. Printing papers is expensive, conservative South Carolinians are slow in paying for subscriptions, advertising is dull, taxes are high, and if Selby is lenient to Honest John, he can say to the News

A Warning.

-"You know how it is yourself."

Those who count upon the continued docihty of the people of South Carolina under misrule reckon without the host. There are signs of organization in one party and mutterings of revolt in the other. It is not possible that the conservatives will again allow an election to go by default. We see in the Granges the agency needed in the past to bring out the full vote of the democratic party in one supreme effort to secure an honest and economical government. And we see in the very recklessness of the repub lican leaders, in the talk of the people around us, heard in Columbia, in the streets, in the cars; and by the wayside, that the ties of party fealty are grown weaker, that the fears of the past are being dissipated, and that a longing for parity and decency is growing among those whose votes have hitherto been depended upon to continue in power those who have been false to every trust. who have broken every promise, and whose course has proved a heavy load to republicanism elsewhere and a disgrace to it here.

The democrats of New York, generally of the lower grades of the people, showed their desire for honest government by overthrowing Tweed. The sixty thousand majority which his party had for years maintained emboldened Tweed and his co-thieves to believe that they need fear nothing. They insolently inquired when first confronted with the evidences | mon school system would be varily imof their frauds: "What are you going to do about it?" They had a constituency which republicans were apt to think were hapelessly besotted with ignorance and dishonesty. Yet when these masses, thought to be so obtuse, so degraded, so partisan-when, we say, these masses were at last convinced of the rasculity of hitherto untried experiment in South their leaders, they rose in anger and disgust to join a movement for reform. Thousands of the democratic party, far removed in education. in social rank and in apparent respectability from the mass of voters, hung back or actively worked to retain in power their old time leaders.

the masses, though they may be hard to move, though they may long decline to believe in the guilt of those they have trusted and been used to follow, when that confidence is finally broken, when it becomes manifest that they have been deceived, have always been found with patriotism enough to subordinate habits of obedience to party leaders, to prefer good government to party success.

So will it be in South Carolina. Not the most refined and wealthy of her sons is more anxious for an honest and capable government of the state than is the poorest freedman who plies the hoe in the fields of Colleton, Beaufort or Georgetown.

The Debt and Taxes.

The Senate passed on Saturday the house bill to reduce the volume of the public debt. The changes are that the senate altered the rate of discount upon bonds, so that the public creditor is offered fifty ner cent instead of forty, and the proposed tax levy is made fifteen mals instead of sixteen. The levy is divided as follows:

1. One and a quarter mills for excea-

2. One and a quarter mills for neual. charitable and educational institutions.

extra and regular session.

Oue mill for public winting.

and Trust Company (H. Solomon.) 8. One mill for half yearly interest on public debt.

9. Three mills for county purposes. The floating debt has not been touched and the conversion bonds are not provided for at all.

The statesmanship which concieves and passes such a measure is on a par with hat which created the debt and stole the money. Not one tenth of the publie ereditors will accept the provisions of the act and the a oney raised for interest will be spent on other objects. A state, no more than individual, can resolve tself out of debt. The whole scheme is too silly to discuss with patience.

The Governor's Message.

We are sorry to note the fact that Governor Moses uses the occasion of his annual message mainly to produce a document which he thinks will be useful to him as a politician. He is not now actually a candidate. He is the governor of the state, and ought to feel that he represents the whole people and not a mere party.

We can heartily endorse at least two parts of his message, and these are all we have room for this week. These are his commendations and recommendations in regard to the reports of Mr. Jillson and Dr. Ensor.

EDUCATION.

I transmit the fifth annual report of the State superintendent of education. This elaborate and suggestive document setting forth, in a most forcible aspect, the magnitude and importance of our free school system, and its rapid growth and improvement—is worthy of the de-voted and capable officer from whom it emanates, and will amply repay your attentive perusal and consideration, to

which I commend it.

The following tables will exhibit the scholastic population and school atten-

	for the year ! SCHOLASTIC	POPULATION.	
Sex.	White.	Colored.	7
	49,474	73.412 71,085	110
Total	seholastie po	pulation of the	St

has increased by 32,923 since the year It includes all those inhabitants 1869. of the State who are between the ages of six and sixteen year .

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE. Colored. Sox. 23,528 22,707 43,174 49,379 83,752 Total.....37,218 46,535

This exhibit shows an increase of 7,431 over the school attendance of the year 1872. There were in operation throughout the State, during the year 1872, 1,919 common schools, under the charge of 2,185 teachers During the present year there have been 2.017 schools, in charge of 2,310 teachers, showing an increase, during this year, of 98

schools and 125 teachers. You will readily see, from the figures given above, that almost two-thirds of the children of the State either obtain their instruction in private schools, or else are growing up in mental ignorance and darkness. It is also fairly presumable that the majority of the children who attend private schools are of the white race, as the parents of those who are colored are, as a rule, too poor to pay for the education of their children. respectfully but most earnestly call to the attention of your honorable bodies the imperative necessity, which seems to exist, of some action being speedily taken to enforce those provisious of the constitution which require the compulsory attendance at school of all children be-

tween the ages of six and sixteen years. The superintendent of education reports that the progress and success of the school system has been greatly retarded by the unsatisfactory condition of the finances of the State, and reconsmends that proper legislative action be taken to secure such appropriation as will cover past indebtedness. It is due to the State treasurer that I should say that the entire proceeds of the two mi levy for school purposes have been sacredly applied to the appropriation for common schools, as required by law-a de-lailed statement of which will be found

in Mr. Jillson's report.
I recommend, as Mr. Jillson does, that the school funds be apportioned according to school attendance, as the constitution directs, and not according to scholastie population, as now apportioned by law. I am of the opinion that our comproved and strengthened were the superintendent of education given by law a more general supervision and power over the affairs appertaining to his department in the various counties of the State. The devotion to duty and unremitting energy which have marked his whole term of office in the inauguration and successful development of Carolina, entitle him to the gratitude and esteem of all the people of the State

THE LUNATIC ASYLUM.

I respectfully submit for your attentive consideration the annual reports of the board of regents and of the superintendent of the State Lanatic Asylum. The statement therein contained of the Thus is it everywhere. The people, many awkward an humiliating embarrassments to which the superintendent has been subjected by the inability of the State treasurer to furnish him with the entire amount of money appropriated for the maintenance of the in-titution, will only awaken the sympathy of your honorable bodies for the unfortunate patients under his care and protection, but will also impress upon you the importance and necessity of such legislative action as will furnish immediate relief. and prevent the possibility of the recurence of so painful a state of affairs. The wy of a specific tax for the maintenance of the charitable institutions of the state and the strict sequestration of the proas directed by the constitution, would ! an efficient remedy for the diseased finances of the institution, and would reflect eredit upon our humanity and civilization. I camestly recommend that this course be adopted. The report of the superintendent shows that at the commencements of the last fiscal year the number of patients in institution was 220 number admitted during the year 98. making the whole population of the instantion during the year 388. Of this number 27 were discharged fully recovered, 4 were discharged improved, were discharged unimproved, and 34 have died. There remained in the institation, on the 31st of October, 1873, 309, of whom 146 are males and 155 are females. The appropriation for the sup-

port of the institution for the fiscal year

commencing November, 1872, was \$59,

970.24, from which sum must be proper-

6. Three and a quarter out to for de-detencies.
7. Three quarters of a mill for Bank institution for the fiscal year commencing

November 1, 1872, amounted to \$87,751 24. Liabilities reported due and unpaid at close of last ascal year \$52,015, 65. Liabilities due at close of last fiscal year inadvertently omitted in last report \$33-

3191.873.41. The recommendation of the saperintendent that a special appropriation be made at once to pay this deficiency, and that an appropriation of \$75,000 be set apart for the support of the institution my earnest approval. More than three years ago an appr priation was made for he purpose of having built an addition to the male department of the asylum for the comfortable accommodation of the colored inmates, but owing to the inability of the State treasury to pay the appropriation, even this small addition remains uncompleted. The superintendent, however, determined to remove them at all hazards from their contracted and disagreeable quarters, and accordingy, vacated several ward in the male and emale departments, and then transferred them, where I have found, by personal in pection, thy new enjoy accommoda-nons equal to any in the building. The continuous efforts of the superintendent to improve the condition and surrounding of all his patients, even in the face of his financial troubles, are especially commendable and, afford at once a proof of his kindness of heart and energy of haracter-demonstrating, if, at this late day of his stewardship, such a thing were nece sary, that he is pocaliarly right man in the right place." thousand feet of underground sewerage have been constructed for the purpose of carrying away from the institution the waste water and slops, thereby improving both the appearance of the premises and the health of the patients. New kitchens and dining rooms have been fitted up, hot air furnaces introduced, and a lecture room and a billiard hall have been constructed. In short, all that human in genuity could contrive, and his limited allow, has been done to promote the comfort of those unfortunate beings who have been afflicted with the "sickness of the soul."

SEA ISLAND COTTON.

Ought the Culture of the Staple to be Abandoned.

The Views of a Planter who is not Discouraged.

Editor of The News and Courier.

A circular has been issued by the Agricultural society of South Carolina inviting "a conference in convention of the sea island planters touching the vital interests of those engaged in agricultural pursuits."

Evidently, from the whole tone and tenor of the circular, the committee seem to take a very despending view of the condition of this branch of our agricultural interest, so much so as to suggest that they meet and council together for such substitutes as are likely to give a remuneration for capital and labor"-meaning, I infer, the abaudonment of the culture of sea island cotton. If my inference is correct, I by no means share or sympathize with prices are unremunerative. It is also true that those engaged in its production have suffered from bad seasons and the depredations of the catterpilar, and, in general, have found it difficult to make both ends meet at the close of their year's labors. It is to be regretted that these things are so, but we should not be too much discouraged because we have been checked. Findable not only to fail, sometimes almost totally, but also to vary much in extent, and there is no "substitute" that can be suggested but will be subjected to all the vicissitudes of raising cotton. Nor do I concur in the "manifestly increasing production of sea island cotton in other countries." as stated by the circular. Certainly not, if you may rely on a late circular issued by Stead Brothers, of Liverpool, who are said to be of the high st authority.

It is well known that the Emperor of the French made most carnest efforts in making Algeria "a very garden" for the cultivation of cotton, and to create not only a source of national wealth, but a great rival to the United States, by offering large bounties and prizes amounting to twenty thousand francs, annually, to the largest and most successful cultivators of the sta-

RESULT-STEAD BROTHERS CIRCULAR. остовек 3, 1872.

ALGERIA .- This cotton has for some time been out of favor with English spinners and very little has found its way to this country for the last two

Undoubtedly it has been the constant aim of the cotton spinners and manufactures of England for the last fifty years to relieve themselves from describence on the United States for their main supply of "food for their looms," by making every effort in their power to substitute other cotters, with what result I will quote from the same

Stead Brothers circular: "TAHITI. - For some time this cotton proved to be a very important sub stitute, and was much liked by the spinners, but during the last two years the quality has so greatly deteriorated in regularity and strength of staple that it is now quite out of favor."

And yet these quotations make this article, which is "quite out of favor," sell in the Liverpool market at 14'd., to 15d., gold, for the 'medium' grades. The Liverpool Brokers' Price Current quotes them 17d.

"Fig. - This cotton in its general properties, more resembles sea islands than any other substitute, but the extreme length of staple, without proportionate strength, is a serious draw back. * * * * The great irregu larity of the earlier crops gave much disappointment, and caused considerprejudice against the cotton, which has not been overcome."

And yet their quotations shows "clean good" cotton to sell at 18 to 22d gold. "This was considered a low scale of prices. In the Liverpool Broker's Price Current they are quoted 18 to 24d. · PERUVIAA .- This cotton is much in favor for west spinning, owing to

its color, cleanliness and silkiness of The fact that it is in favor for "weft" spinning, shows that it is wanting in strength of staple. Sales 151 to 161d,

"EGTPTIAN. - By far the most important of the substitutes is 'Gallene' Egyptian, which has largely supplant-3. Two unills for public schools.
4. One and a half mills for expenses of the institution for the fiscal year just the information we have

passed of \$51,788.65; of which the super- gather, we are of optahin that it has amounted to fully 15.00; bales of 600 pounds each, of such quality as to be a substitute for sea is ands, quoted as

s lling about 18d."

In the Liverpool Broker's Price Current, extreme quotations are 5 to 151d. It is a little singular that whill every description of cottons are queted 01.33. Due State treasurer on account of overdraft \$8.182.16. Total liabilities rent, no mention is made of this rent, no mention is made of this ("Gallene") Ezyptian, "which has so largely supplanted common and medium sea island," and with all deference to Messrs. Stead Brothers, as being the highest or most reliable autho ity, I doubt their candor when they state during the current fi-cal year, meets with that it is "of such quality as to be a substitute for the real sea island." They are finer in quality and longer in staple than the common America i uplands, but have not the strength, nor so fine, nor so long, as the true sea islands. Now, it is well known by both the spinner and producer that the requi ise for quality is the combina-

tion of fineness and strength. Thus it is shown that every one of the substitute are wanting in what constitutes the real or chief value of sea island cottons; but if this were not so, the same authority states the important fact that the sales from the 1st October, 1872, to 2d October 1873 were 'equal to a supply amounting to" 59,910 bags, and its production from all countries as follows:

.. 4,000 7,000 Total production.

Showing sales of 5,651 bags more than

production. With this important fact before us. and the additional one that there has been comparatively no such decline or fluctuations in the yarns or goods into which these cottons are manufactured, the question naturally suggests i self, what is it that has operated to make so rumous a decline in the staple itself? and this too in the face of one of the smallest crops that has probably been

made the last thirty years.

Is it not reasonable, therefore, to suppose that compulsory sales and combinations have bad far more influence in causing the present decline than excess of production of substitutes? Since the war our factors are, as a general thing, so circums ribed in their means as to be incapable of hold ing consignments, and consequently subjects this interest to foreign combinatious, which may act in concert and with a perfect knowledge of the need of both planter and factor, to meet their obligations, and by being forced to sell have to submit to enor mous sacrifice, and thus this important interest of husbandry is brought inte jeopardy.

I also doubt their correctness when they state that the "G dlene Egyption has largely supplanted common and medium sea islands" I with spinners. It is not forgotten that during the blockade almost fabulous prices were paid in Liverpool for our staple; neither can it be disputed that after the war prices were extravagintly high. It is only the last two years that the prices have been so terribly depressed and the planting of this staple noremunerative, and this not owing to any serious decline in a sinthe movement. It is true the present gle article of fabric which the, compose. The spinners had then an the 'substitutes' they now have. My doubt is also confirmed by the following extract from a distinguish d spin ner of Manchester. He says: "Fine and course sea is ands are nearly as distinct in their value and different in the purpose they serve, as sik and Charse cotton, however aban dant and cheap, can weer be a suisti ures occur in every pursuit of life. The tute for flue, and hence the value ofcrops of every article of culture are hi- the latter is in a great measure in dependent of the former. the superior strength of yarn it produces, savings will be made in every stage of the manufacture "

From this presentation of facts I cannot but think that there are undue influences, beyond the fair and natural influence of supply and demand, which operate to depress the price of this staple, or how else is to be accounted the fact that the "sulsitutes," such as Tahiti of medium grades and "quite out of favor," are selling in Liverpool at 29 to 3le., and Fiji, "without proportionate strength, and considerable prejudice against the corten, which has not been overcome," are quoted as selling from 36 to 44c., gold. I would, therfore, respectfully suggest that the true question for the couven tion is not what "substitute" is most likely to suit our genial soil, but what arrangements could be formed by which the producers would be proteeted, when their interests are sent to market, from the effects of combined speculation? A PLANTER.

D.E. W.C.

The Italian Colony at Almeada.

Signor Grandi, the secretary of the Italian Consulate in New York; has just seturned to Charleston from Port Royal and gives a deplorable account of the condition in which he found the immigrants sent to. Almenda by agreement with the Port Royal Colonization Society. Mr. Papin, the president of this so-called ociety, has an office at Port Royal, and that appears to be the whole of the soci ety. This per on agreed to give each immigrants a tract of land at a reasonable price and supply him with food and implement, but each landigrant was required to pay Papin fifteen dollars in advance. This was done by the twentythree Italian immigrants who went down and who settled at Almead. They made complaint that faith with them was not kept, and Signor Grandi went down to visit them. He found that they had no tools, no animals and no food except what they could obtain by hauting. Papia, on being remonstrated with, said that he co. Id not fa fid his contract because Mr. R. G. Holmer, the owner of Almeada. I almot fulfilled his bargain with him, but he said he was willing to return the lifteen do lars deposit made by the immigrants. This he failed to do. Signor Grandi sought another home for his computations, and secured a tract of band on the plantation of Messes, Paul & Webs, at Brunson's. The Italians ob-tained the land at tendollars an acte, are for one year, and are supplied with eds, animals and seed. It is a great oity that any societies having the control of immegrants should allow themselves to beguited by person whose only stock trade is promised and plausibility. There was no difficulty in ascertaining in Be-ufort that the vaunted colonization golid not exist. A fittle inquiry before hand in these matters will save a

The Sava mah papers say that Capt. Tenbrock, has gone to New Orleans to ed the common and medium sea is lands, especially amongst the Bolton libel the steamship Texas for \$20,000 for spinners. The growth of this cotton services rendered by the steam tag in services rendered by the steam tug in getting the steamer off the bar near ... Entered according to act of Congress in the year Tybes.

world of trouble and expense. - Charles

Alfred Williams,

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Bay Street, Beaufort, S. C. Having opened a shop upon Pay Street, I am pre-ared to do first-class work.

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Cheap and Durable, And give universal satisfaction. Pure Water can be introduced into any house by the AMERICAN DRIVEN WELL in a few hours. Apply to

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Send for our circulars. Machines sold on easy erms, or monthly payment taken. Old machine out in order or received in exchange. WHEELER & WILSON MFG. CO.'S OFFICES Savannah, Augusta, Macon and Columbus Ga.

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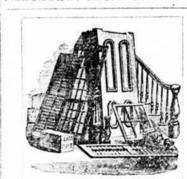
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Gardon Spocis Of all varieties at ten cents per paper.

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Priess. Stono Phosphate (solable) cash \$48.00.

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Rosewood and Gilt, Plain Gilt, Walnut and Gilt

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