

THE PLAN of rotation among the circuit judges works admirably. In all the counties where courts have been held under the new plan, the people and the papers express themselves highly pleased with the change.

Interest in the Schools.

One of the best signs of improvement is the interest now taken by our people in common school education. It has been frequently charged that the people of this State have always been opposed to popular education, and one of the proofs pretended to be adduced is that they took no part in helping along the free common schools established by the Radical government. It must be admitted that there was a great want of interest in the free schools, but we need not go far to find most excellent reasons for this. In the first place the head-centre of the system was Mr. Jilison, an unknown carpet-bagger, quite as much intent upon making money as upon a faithful performance of his duties. Then the school commissioners—a pretty set of fools they generally were. Leaving out the Democratic counties, and perhaps one or two others, these commissioners were totally unfit, not only in educational qualifications but in moral character. Many of them were preacher-politicians, like the Reverend Dublin Walker of Chester, and were of course odious to decent people. The character of the school commissioner has very much to do with the character of the schools themselves. He must have the co-operation of the good people of the community, and this he cannot have if he is wanting in either moral or educational requisites. This was the chief difficulty under Radical rule. Now that it has been to a very large extent removed, there is more inducement for our people to do their share; and they are doing it. Everywhere we hear of increased interest in the common schools and increased efforts to make them a success. The school commissioners are of greater fitness for their duties. The State superintendent is in every way the right man in the right place. Under his supervision, and with the attention given by the commissioners, the schools are bound to improve. The irregularities common in the past have been stopped. Teachers are required to pass more rigid examinations. Trustees are looking more closely after the schools in their respective districts. Above all, there is a growing conviction on the part of our people, that a perfect system of free common schools is a necessity. Of course, the want of funds has prevented the running of the schools in many counties. But to keep them temporarily closed is a very wise measure. It is better to get all old scores first settled, and then make a new start with a clean record. This is the view of our county school commissioner, and he has carried it out with the best results. When the proper time arrives, with the requisite means at hand, the schools will all be put in operation. Then we may expect to see at least some of the good fruits of the system. In the meantime, it is certain that the interest already taken by the taxpayers will constantly increase, and with that increase the schools must improve. In Fairfield especially, we think there is an active interest in popular education never known before. This at least is the opinion of the county school commissioner and of many others.

The entire amount of money charged as paid by the State to that malignant knave, L. C. Carpenter, for printing and advertising, is \$250,000.

THE LIBERIAN SCHEME.

The Views of a Colored Clergyman.  
LITTLETON, S. C., Sept. 13, 1877.

Messrs. Editors: I desire through your columns to express my opinion to my colored brethren concerning the Liberia question. I am in favor of going to Liberia when the time comes, but I regard the present Liberia question as being premature, from the fact that we have no knowledge of the God-sent Moses, Jr., to lead us to our father's land. I regard this as a question which calls for our most serious reflections, accompanied with earnest prayers and deep meditations. For, having looked up to a party of men representing themselves as being our friends, we are brought to political shame; and a similar class of men, in pursuit of personal aggrandizement, are making efforts, in my opinion, to accomplish their ends by exciting the ill-feelings of this people, and encouraging them to revenge themselves by seeking refuge in some land which we know not. I will say to my colored brethren that it would not be wisdom to give up the certainty, with the hope of finding the uncertainty; nor could it be considered wise to attempt such a flight, having no knowledge of where to light. But rather let me give you some advice. Increase your grain crops, wheat, oats, rye, barley, &c. True, the old maxim says it is better late than never, but there is a maxim which says it is better never late. So commence now in the month of September. This is the month.

It is rumored that the Rev. B. F. Porter is trying to get all of the colored people to go. I take this occasion to contradict the rumor. The Rev. B. F. Porter, in a private interview a few days since, said that he had never said that he desired for the colored people as a whole to go to Liberia, but only men of culture, such as mechanics and men of education, but he would deprive none. I myself would only be willing to go just as a missionary, and that upon being persuaded in mind to believe that I could be instrumental in saving more souls there than here, and am sent by my Bishop. And when the hour of departure comes, let us leave in peace, praying the blessings of God upon the land and the people we leave behind us, and take peace with us. And finding peace in our father's land, we will have peace on earth, which is good will toward men.

Yours in Christ,  
D. S. RICE.

A PROTEST FROM GEN. HOWARD.—Gen. O. O. Howard has addressed a letter to Governor Potts, of Montana, in which he deprecates the adverse criticisms of the local papers on his management of the campaign. "The effect of this treatment," he says, "is to create distrust on the part of your people, with whom I want the heartiest co-operation. I have not rested in the pursuit of these hostile Indians; I have taken the offensive at all times and never the defensive; they have run from me again and again, but at last by a forced march I struck them and beat them. Surely I should not be treated to insult and contumely for which there is not a shadow of reason. It makes the officers of my command indignant in the extreme, after having marched some of them six and others eight hundred miles, and having been pushed almost to the extreme of human endurance, and with real success, to have the grossest falsehoods sent from localities near the scene of operations broadcast throughout the land. The anxieties of loved ones at home are great enough already without having them aggravated by stories of inefficiency and slowness that are known to be so palpably false as hardly to need contradiction."

When you see a woman standing on a kitchen chair, looking up at a ragged hole in the plastering, while she holds a hammer in her right hand and her left thumb in her mouth, there is your chance for a candid opinion about the nail works. —Burlington Hawkeye.

A farm hand for harvesting is paid in Central Italy seven cents a day, and considers himself a lucky man to find employment at that rate.

Ten thousand glass eyes are sold annually in the United States.

POLITICAL NOTES.

Having seen Sprain, Returning Board Wives is near again.

The campaign Ohio is progressing in a very satisfactory manner. The Cincinnati Enquirer has got down to Luinosto to the extent of calling Judge Wit a blackguard.

Mr John D. Agwell, a colored politician of some tremendous influence in New Jersey, hopes to be forgiven "for thiniquity of voting and working for Hayes last fall."

The eight Democratic members of Congress from Illinois will support Morrison for Speaker at the outset, but after his name is withdrawn, as they seem to think it will be, two will go to Randa and six to Saylor.

Some of the newspapers of Iowa are asking the Democratic candidate for governor of that State what he meant when he said in a speech, a couple of years ago, that the Democratic party was dead and damned. It does seem a little bothering.

A Cincinnati paper says that "Judge West has got through with his prepared speeches." The Judge's prepared speeches have so far been largely explanations of and apologies for these speeches that were not prepared.

They are falling into line in the wake of the President's New England trip. Congressmen Joyce and Hendee, of Vermont, now declare themselves in favor of the President's policy—"civil service reform, Southern policy and all," as Mr. Hendee puts it.

Complaint is made that the indictment of so many of the late statesmen of South Carolina "will destroy the remnant of Republicanism in that State." If Republicanism in South Carolina is reduced to such a remnant as his it isn't worth while to save it.

The Iowa Democrats talk about demanding a representative in the national government, and urge Gen. John M. Corse for Sergeant at-Arms of the House. As the Iowa Democrats have not even one member of Congress, their prospects are wretchedly slim.

In Holmes county, Miss., where the Democrats have a majority of fifteen hundred, they have nominated a colored man for the Legislature. There isn't much of the shotgun policy in this sort of thing, but the bloody shirt folks would doubtless rather the Democrats would "kill the wisest" than to nominate them for the Legislature.

There is a decided difference in Browns even in Ohio, where there is ordinarily not much difference in anything. One Brown was defeated for a senatorial nomination in Toledo because he was a friend of Stanley Matthews, and another Brown who is a friend of General Garfield was placed on the ticket.

The soft-money men of Cumberland county, N. J., held a convention at Bridgeton last week, two or three hundred persons being present, and nominated Charles C. Grossepup for senator, and a full assembly ticket. Mr. Grossepup was the Democratic candidate for senator last fall, when the Greenback men of Cumberland polled 400 votes.

The late Secretary of State of Louisiana has sued ex-Governor Kellogg for something over eight thousand dollars, which the Secretary of State insists is due him from the Governor for affixing the Louisiana seal to certain State documents. It will not surprise anybody to hear that there are charges of a job in this matter, and that Kellogg was the jobber.

The Democratic newspapers of Alabama are engaged in a sanguinary struggle over the next gubernatorial nomination, which will not be made until next year. The question involved is one of location, the southeast and the northwest and the northeast and the southwest, and all the other places think they are entitled to the governor this time. The excitement is intense.

A lady who edits the Herald, of Circleville, Ohio, is doing some rather lively campaign work against Bond, the workingman's candidate for governor of that State. She does not think he is fit to be a workingman's candidate because "he came to Circleville in 1858, starved, loafed, wrote poetry, made love, studied law, and was finally cowhided by a woman." Thus the campaign opens.

Stone, District Attorney for South Carolina, and late a member of the Returning Board of that State, is in great tribulation. He is afraid to return to South Carolina in consequence of an indictment for refusing to obey the order of the Supreme Court. He says that if Governor Hampton gets Chamber back into the State he will send him to the penitentiary, although it is probable Hampton knows how he can get Chamberlain whenever he wants him.—Philadelphia Times.

SOME SNAKES.

A Bold Attack on Rattlesnakes—402 Rattles Secured.

A Point Jervis letter in the New York Sun says: Harrison Van Deuzer and Dan Tompkins haul cordwood over the Monticello turnpike, between that place and Wurtsboro. On Saturday, as they were jogging along by McMunn's, three miles from Wurtsboro, three big rattlesnakes lay coiled up in the middle of the road, and set up a chorus that made the teamsters stop. A stone thrown at the rattlers drove them into the woods. It's bad luck to let a rattlesnake get away from you. A Sullivan county mountaineer would sooner miss a circus than go home and say that he had seen a rattlesnake and then couldn't pull its rattles out of his pocket to prove it. So Tompkins and Van Denzer left their teams and followed the snakes. The rattlers led them a chase of two miles, but the excitement that followed paid for it. The men had been taken plum to Matt Talmage's famous den. The snakes lay about in scores, taking in the merry sunshine, and regretting that the huckleberry pickers had all left the woods. This was a picnic Van Denzer and Tompkins had not hoped for. They got clubs and went at the snakes. The fight lasted about ten minutes. More than half the best ones got away and hid in the fissures of the rocks. But the men gathered the rattles off of fifty-six very fair specimens. Some of the snakes they killed were three feet long. They took home 492 rattles, and expect to get at least four gallons of oil for liniment.

The den was a favorite one of the celebrated snake catcher, Matt Talmage. He used to take hundreds out of it alive. He lived in Wurtsboro, and a rattle-snake bite never had any effect on him. He followed snake raising, and he had some of the most curious and rare specimens of the snake family ever collected. In 1873 he captured a large pitot or copperhead. He made a great pet of it, but finally it bit him on the thumb. He paid no attention to it, although a pitot's bite is especially dreaded, being very deadly. Talmage's thumb began to swell after some days. His arm then commenced getting larger and by and by he got blind and suffered untold agony. He lived several weeks, continuing to swell all over, and at last he died. His den has, probably, not been visited before since his death.

The Columbia correspondent of the News and Courier gives the following as the substance of the agreement with Jones and Woodruff, the late clerks of the House and Senate: A *nolle pro.* to be entered on the indictments against them; they to testify in behalf of the State when called upon to do so. Each surrenders twenty-eight thousand dollars of bonanza warrants and all claims against the State for printing, &c. Jones also surrenders his Beaufort property, valued at twelve thousand dollars, and Woodruff surrenders the Republican Printing Company's building and fixtures in Columbia, valued at about seven thousand dollars, and also claims against the Bank of the State for one hundred and thirty thousand dollars. Both Jones and Woodruff saved their respective residences in Charleston as settled upon the wife in Woodruff's case, and the children in that of Jones.

A machine has been invented in N. Y., mounted on wagon wheels, which is intended for use on farms in the West. It deluges the ground behind it with smoke from burning chips and brimstone, and holds the smoke down long enough to suffocate every potato bug, locust and other insect that comes within its influence.

The Harrisburg Telegraph has made up an issue for the parties in Pennsylvania this fall. It has concluded that it will go back and fight the war over again, which is a valorous thing to do, particularly as the editor of the Telegraph wasn't around when there was some real fighting to do. It would be humiliating if he shouldn't be able to find an antagonist, now that his blood really begins to boil.

Blue glass is coming to the surface again. Now it is related that a boy in Vermont put a blue crystal on his five dollar watch, and in three days he had a \$300 movement and a gold case.

Three men were found hanging from a tree in Texas, and one of them was placarded: "They stole horses; here is where we found them, and here is where we left them."

The Republican speakers in Ohio seem to be doing all that could reasonably be expected of them to insure the defeat of the Republican ticket.

It was very careless leaving the parrot in the parlor Sunday evening but she never thought anything about it until Monday morning when he roused the whole house by making a smacking noise and crying: "Darling Susie! Darling Susie!" He kept it up all day, too, and the old folks are much interested in the case.

The great Corliss engine in machinery hall, Philadelphia, has been taken down and packed ready for removal to Providence, R. I. Seventy railroad cars will be needed to carry it.

"Gentlemen, I introduce you to my friend, who isn't as stupid as he appears to be." Introduced friend, with vivacity—"That's precisely the difference between my friend and myself."

NOTICE.

MY place of business will be closed on Monday next, the 17th inst., on account of holiday.  
sep 15-11 R. L. DANNENBERG.

The State of South Carolina,  
COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD.  
In the Common Pleas.

Wm. H. Lyles, Plaintiff, against Geo. W. Kirkpatrick, Defendant.

PURSUANT to the decretal order of His Honor T. J. Mackey, made in the above stated case on the 21st day of May, 1877, I will sell before the Court House door, for Fairfield County, on Monday, the 1st day of October, 1877, for cash, the tract of land described in the pleadings in the above cause, viz:

All that tract or parcel of land, situate in Fairfield county, on Shadrach's Branch, waters of Broad River, in the fork of the public roads leading from Shelton's Ferry to Monticello, and from Chester to Ashford's Ferry, bounded on the south by lands of Estate of J. J. McMahon, deceased; on the east, by lands of Geo. W. Kirkpatrick and the aforesaid public road leading from Shelton's Ferry to Monticello; and on the west by the said public road leading from Chester to Ashford's Ferry; and containing ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-NINE ACRES, more or less.

This land is sold subject to the lien of a mortgage debt due by G. M. Chapman to the Estate of E. F. Lyles, also to a judgment debt due by said G. M. Chapman to Thos. M. Lyles, in the whole amounting to about the sum of six hundred dollars; and any bid received will be considered as over and above that amount. The land is sold as the property of the defendant in the above entitled action.

S. W. RUFF, Sheriff of Office, S. F. C.  
Winnboro, S. C.  
September 5, 1877.  
sep 15-tds

NOTICE.

ALL persons having claims against John Mobley, Senior, are requested to present the same to the undersigned; and all persons indebted to him will make immediate payment, and thereby save costs of suit.  
sep 11-x11m N. W. JONES.

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Best Corn and Rye Whiskey in town Tobacco and Cigars, Molasses, Lard, Bacon Hams &c. Lowest market prices, for cash.

mar R. J. McCARLEY.

Notice to Creditors.

IN THE PROBATE COURT,  
August 21, 1877.

THE creditors holding claims against the estate of Henry T. Crumpton, deceased, are required by order of this court to establish their demands before me at Fairfield Court House on or before the first day of November next.

O. R. THOMPSON,  
Judge of Probate.

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