

OHIO holds her election on the 9th of October. A senatorship is involved. Several other States vote on the same day.

THE AUGUSTA Chronicle and Constitutionalizer favors the return of the capital of Georgia to Milledgeville as a matter of economy.

AND now they tell us that Aleck Stephens weighs more than he ever did before, and is enjoying capital health.

THE DEMOCRATS of Kingstree were defeated in a municipal election the other day. That comes from Democrats' quarreling among themselves.

GENERAL KILPATRICK refused to be the Republican candidate for governor of New Jersey. He doesn't relish a political fight against McClellan any more than he did a cavalry tilt with Hampton.

THE WOMEN of Wyoming have separate polling-places established for their benefit. They don't fancy the rough and tumble political scimmages that delight the sterner sex.

MCCLELLAN AND HAMPTON would make a good "Military ticket" for the Democrats in 1880. Some such combination may be needed to beat Grant, who will again loom up in politics after his return from Europe.

THE NATIONAL government is prosecuting ex-Senator Sawyer, of this State, for theft, and yet not a single Radical pap organ has raised the cry of "persecution." Why is this thus? If Sawyer fell from grace in the pure city of Washington, why is it improbable that Chamberlain, Patterson, Parker and Whittemore stole in the corrupt atmosphere of Columbia?

PRESIDENT HAYES is splendidly vindicating the wisdom of the policy upheld by the Democrats since the war. In the teeth of all the Radical platforms, and of the howls of office-seeking speakers, he has left the South to herself. The fruits of this conciliatory policy are apparent. Southern people are becoming fast reconciled to the National government, and peace reigns everywhere. The best part of it is that Blaine, Morton and the other leaders are being whipped into line, and Radical conventions are everywhere now approving the Southern policy. The country could have been at peace eight years ago if the Northern people had voted the Democratic ticket.

Railroad Facilities.

Should a narrow-gauge railroad be built from Chester, through Fairfield, to Columbia, along the ridge passing through the middle of this county, competing lines would be established both north and south, for the people of York, Chester and Fairfield. The South Carolina Railroad would lead directly to Charleston, and the Air Line road would give a through line to New York. With this, and the present route, freights could be brought down to reasonable rates. The articles contributed to this paper by a civil engineer of acknowledged ability and long experience indicate that a narrow gauge road can be built from Chester to Columbia for not more than two hundred thousand dollars. The grading will be light, and not a single bridge will be required. The exporting of fifty thousand bales of cotton annually, and the corresponding imports, are all affected by this measure. Our business men and farmers should seriously think about it.

THE ONLY religious daily in this country, the Witness, of New York, has just died.

PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS.

A Petition on the Subject from the Trustees of Mount Zion Institute.

The following petition will be presented to the Legislature at the approaching session. The paper was drawn, we understand, by Mr. Benjamin R. Stuart, Principal of Summerville High School, Georgia, unanimously adopted by the trustees of Mount Zion Institute, and unanimously endorsed by the Mount Zion Society. The petition is as follows:

We, the undersigned, trustees of Mount Zion Collegiate Institute, Winnsboro, S. C., respectfully petition the members of the General Assembly to give us aid to the amount of seven hundred and fifty dollars, to be set apart from the educational fund, to enable us to convert our school into a public high school for Fairfield county, such aid to be paid in quarterly installments, and conditioned upon our previously collecting, by moderate tuition fees, seven hundred and fifty dollars for the support of the school. The value of our buildings and other property which we thus offer for the use of the State, and to aid the important interest of education in the impoverished condition of our people, exceeds four thousand dollars, the rent of which, at the rate of ten per cent, upon its value, would cover four hundred out of the seven hundred and fifty dollars we petition for. It is evident, too, that secondary education at a cheap rate is as much and as earnestly desired by the people of the State as free primary education, that there is no antagonism between them, and that, if the policy of State aid supplemented by moderate tuition fees be adopted for all the counties of the State, public high schools of a superior order can be at once organized at a very moderate expense. The "father of popular education," as he has well been called, John Knox, when founding his famous "parish schools," which were—in the higher branches taught in them, both classics and mathematics—what we now call "high schools," founded them then upon the principle we advocate; and as the result, the Scotch for many generations, until the Germans began, early in this century, to dispute the palm, have been the most universally, the most thoroughly, and the most highly educated people in the world. Prussia, too, has founded her gloriously successful and splendid gymnasia and real schools upon this same principle of State aid, rather than of exclusive and entire support by the State.

2. We would furthermore respectfully petition that this public high school of ours, and others like it, to be established in the several counties of the State, be put, as to discipline, absolutely under the control of its local trustees, but as to the course of study, embracing a curriculum of four years, the going through which shall entitle a pupil to admission, without further examination, into the State University, under the guardianship and control of the trustees of the State University. And we petition that the trustees of the University be authorized, from time to time, or continuously and permanently, just as in their best judgment it may seem promotive of public benefit, to detail one of the professors of the State University to visit, inspect and examine the several public high schools, spending not less than the whole of the school-hours of the whole of five days in each one of them, upon each visit of inspection, thus making the inspection a real and useful thing, and reporting the results of his observations and any suggestions he may see fit to make, both to the local board of trustees, and to the trustees of the University.

3. And we moreover pray that a scholarship in the University, not to exceed one hundred dollars in value, nor to continue for more than one year, be held out as a prize to that pupil in our own school, and also in each of the public high schools in the several counties, who shall most distinguish himself in his studies. Thus will a feeling of generous rivalry and State pride diffuse itself gradually through our entire educational system. Our free common schools will lead up to our public high schools, which will not, indeed, be free, but exceedingly cheap, and thoroughly efficient; and our public high schools will lead up to and sustain our State University.

4. In conclusion, we would call special attention to the fact that on the plan we have proposed, it will cost the State no more to aid in the establishing of a cheap and efficient high school than to supply buildings, school apparatus and teachers for a free primary school with the same number of teachers. Moreover, this plan will effect a prompt and voluntary duplication, in the shape of small tuition-fees cheerfully paid, of that portion of the educational

fund supplied in aiding public high schools. For the free primary schools being open to all, the public high schools need not be attended at all except by such as are perfectly willing to pay the very reasonable and moderate fee proposed for their partial support. No force will be applied, but a prompt and voluntary duplication of the amount contributed by the State will undoubtedly result. Thus for public school purposes the educational fund of the State will, to the extent of the high school tuition-fees for each pupil, be increased and duplicated with cheerful alacrity by that portion of the people for the time being immediately benefitted, and a remission to pay a double tax upon them, one into the treasury and the other as tuition-fees, will be gratefully accepted as a beneficent boon. We thus, gentlemen of the General Assembly, and the present and future patrons of our school, while seemingly petitioning aid, are really offering aid to the educational system of the State, of which public high schools should form an essential part.

Respectfully submitted by JAMES H. RICH, T. T. ROBERTSON, JAS. W. LAW, F. GERIG, S. B. CLOWNEY, Trustees Mt. Zion Institute.

A Fire in the Patent Office.

Shortly before noon on Monday the 24th inst., a fire broke out in the conservatory above the Model room of the Patent Office building, at Washington, and at 12:30 the entire upper portion of the west wing of the building fronting on Ninth street, was in flames, and the fire creeping along between the ceiling and the roof towards the north wing and the main building on F street. The flames for a long time defied all efforts to extinguish them, and besides the local engines, the fire department of Alexandria and Georgetown came over; and several engines were brought from Baltimore by train, at the rate of a mile and a half a minute. After several hours the flames were extinguished. A large number of rejected models and old documents were destroyed; and a large portion of the rest of the building was much injured by water, which flooded it several inches in depth. This is the most serious conflagration that has occurred in the public buildings since 1836. Its origin is supposed to have been spontaneous combustion of chemicals. The damage to the building is variously estimated from \$300,000 to \$500,000, while that resulting from the loss of models and other valuables connected with the Patent Office proper is at most incalculable. Arrangements have already been made to construct a temporary roof to the building and the debris is now being removed preparatory to its construction.

Doctor and Musician.

A correspondent of the Concord (N. H.) Monitor, says: "A physician in that city, who was attending a sick musician during convalescence, suggested to the latter that it would be agreeable to hear a little music during his visits. The musician fell in with the suggestion and frequently regaled the doctor with the concord of sweet sounds. Time sped rapidly away, and the day arrived for the presentation of that little bill for medical attendance, which amounted to about \$100. The bill was presented, but the worthy physician was surprised and disgusted by the presentation of the following counter charges, which he was ultimately compelled to allow: For playing 'Oft in the Still Night,' six variations, ten dollars; solo, 'Sweet Home,' three variations, five dollars; 'German Waltz,' one variation, two dollars; 'Yankee Doodle,' six variations, ten dollars; 'Sweet Home,' three variations, five dollars; solo, 'Last Rose of Summer,' six variations, ten dollars; solo, 'Arkansas Traveler,' six variations, ten dollars; six solo burlesque variations on 'Pop Goes the Weasel,' ten dollars; 'Sweet Allen,' fifty cents; 'Money Musk,' fifty cents; 'New Century Hornpipe,' fifty cents; 'Fisher's Hornpipe,' fifty cents; 'German Waltz,' with one variation, four dollars. Total, sixty-eight dollars.

COURT AT NEWBERRY.—The Newberry Herald of the 19th inst., in speaking of the recent court at that place, thus alludes to the presiding judge:

"Though suffering from indisposition, Judge Mackey occupied the bench for twelve successive days, Sunday excluded of course, giving the closest and most earnest attention to the trials in every case, small and great, and deciding disputed points of law with a readiness and fairness that gave satisfaction to all, and won for him the respect and admiration of the bar and citizens generally."

Thurlow, the famous Lord Chancellor of England, who was called the Warburton of the Woolsack, "was born in an humble Norfolk personage;" yet, because his faults and meannesses were many, his comparatively humble birth forms no exception to the law which makes us contemplate with interest the amazing rise of one who, whatever may have been his faults, was a man of vigorous influence and powerful intellect. Johnson, the acknowledged conversational monarch of his time, thus expressed himself to Boswell when speaking of Lord Thurlow as a conversationalist: "Sir, I would prepare myself for no man in England but Lord Thurlow. When I am to meet him I should wish to know a day before."

THE JUDGE'S "BLACK CAP."—The coil cap is still worn in undiminished proportions by judges when they pass sentence of death, and is generally known as the "black cap." In old time the justice, on making ready to pronounce the awful words which consign a fellow-creature to a horrible death, was wont to draw up the flat, square, dark cap, that sometimes hung at the nape of his neck or the upper part of his shoulder. Having recovered the whiteness of his coil, and partially concealed his forehead and brows with the sable cloth, he proceeded to utter the dread sentence with solemn composure and firmness. At present the black cap is assumed to strike terror into the hearts of the vulgar; formerly it was pulled over the eyes, to hide the emotion of the judge.—Jefferson's Book about Lawyers.

"On, you say this gentleman was about fifty-five," said Canning to a pert young woman in the witness box, "and I suppose, now, you consider yourself to be a pretty good judge of people's ages, eh? Ah, just so. Well, now, how old should you take me to be?" "Judging by your appearance, sir," replied the witness, "I should take you to be about sixty; by your questions I should suppose you were about sixteen."

"WHAT IS THE annual corn crop of Kentucky?" asked a foreign tourist of a Kentuckian. "I can't exactly say," replied the Kentuckian, "but I know it's enough to make all the whiskey we want, besides what is wasted for bread."

THESPIAN HALL.

—ONE EVENING ONLY.—

SATURDAY, September 29. CHAS. H. PRATT, Manager.

The most Finished Entertainment of America.

The Marvellous Living Wonder in Comedy.

SOL SMITH RUSSELL,

And his Grand Concert Company.

JULIUS G. LUMBARD, Musical Director,

Comprising the following artists: Miss Dora Wiley, Soprano, Miss Anna Holbrook, Contralto, Miss Annie L'Estelle, Pianist, Miss Helen Marx, Mezzo Soprano, Mr. Jules G. Lumbard, Profundo Basso, Mr. L. M. Packard, Tenor, Mr. Walter Pond, Baritone. And the inimitable

SOL SMITH RUSSELL,

All the Late Musical Novelties of the day will be Presented.

Doors open at 7: Concert commences at 8. ADMISSION 75 CENTS.

Seats can be secured in advance at A. P. Miller's Confectionery, without extra charge.

sept 25-3. THOMAS W. BROWN, Agent.

Hurrah for Hampton!

GRAND SPRING OPENING,

—AT THE—

Dry Goods, Fancy Goods, and Millinery Bazaar,

Of a beautiful and full line of latest novelties in Spring and Summer Millinery and Fancy Goods, consisting in part of Ladies', Misses' and Children's trimmed Hats, Flowers, Ribbons, Silks, Nets, &c.

A large lot of Ladies' Collarettes, Fichus and other fancy articles. Inspection of the Ladies and public generally solicited. We will endeavor to please the most fastidious. All we ask is that you call, and see for yourselves, and give us a trial.

New Spring Prints, Centennial Stripes, Dress Goods, White Goods, Dress Improvers, Corsets, Hosiery, Gloves, Notions, Clothing, Hats, Shoes, &c. Agent for Butterick's reliable paper patterns. Ladies', Misses' and Children's new patterns in store.

GROCERY DEPARTMENT,

Just filled up with fresh Groceries, Confectionaries and everything usually found in a first class house of the kind.

A lot of Furniture, Laths, Shingles, &c. Lumber low for Cash.

J. O. BOAG.

You can find all you want by calling on

april J. O. Boag.

HERE THEY COME!

DOWN THEY COME!

THE undersigned are daily receiving one of the largest Stocks ever brought to Winnsboro.

BOOTS AND SHOES

bought direct from the manufacturer.

HATS AND CAPS,

a large variety. A splendid line of CLOTHING to arrive.

DRY GOODS

of every description—particularly staple goods.

Notions in profusion.

We pledge ourselves to sell any line of GOODS as cheap as they can be bought in Columbia.

Call and see us before buying. We will save you money.

LADD BROS.

sept 20

Wines, Liquors, Tobacco, &c

FINE Pale Sherry Wine, fine N. C. Superiornog Wine, fine old Porto Fort Wine, fine imported Claret Wine, For table use:

ALSO, Fine article dry Superiornog Wine, Orlard's & Co. genuine Cognac Brandy, pure N. C. Apple Brandy, choice Stone Mountain (Georgia) Corn Whiskey, pure N. C. Sweet Mash Corn Whiskey, My Cabinet Rye—the best whiskey in town, and a full stock of all other good Liquors. Also, the celebrated Indian Pale Ale, fresh Lager and Sweet Sparkling Cider on draught. The largest and best selected stock of Havana Cigars and Cigarettes in town, Blackwell's genuine Smoking Tobacco, Messina Oranges and Lemons for sale low for cash by June 12 F. W. HABENICHT.

New Groceries.

Just Received! Just Received!!

1 Barrel Fresh Soda Crackers. 1 " " Ginger Snaps. 1 " " Lemon Crackers. 2 Boxes Robinson's Scotch Oat Meal.

ALSO,

Sugars, Coffees, Lard, Bacon, Flour, Etc. JUST ARRIVED.

1 Tierce New Rice. 1 " " Cannassed Hams, Cheap.

ALSO,

Fresh Cream Cheese,

—AT—

J. F. McMaster & Co.

sept 20

MORRIS' HOTEL.

I have just finished painting, papering and thoroughly renovating my Hotel from top to bottom, and now have it in first class order and am prepared to entertain my guests with much more convenience and comfort than elsewhere. Office on first floor and opening on main street, with dining room and sample room adjoining. Every effort will be made to make my guests comfortable.

"M" Hotel located next door to Elder's large grocery and dry good stores, and in the central and business portion of town. Charges to suit the times. A. A. MORRIS, Proprietor.

april 26-41