

Organization.

At the recent special election in Sumter, for a member of the House of Representatives, each party had a candidate. As the result was in doubt, some persons unknown broke into the office of the commissioners of election and carried off several boxes, thus preventing a count. The commissioners will report the matter to the Legislature after the recess. Without having more to say at present about this violence than that it was entirely unlawful, and leaving it to be investigated by the proper authorities, we propose to deduce from it a moral. Sumter is one of the wealthiest and most intelligent counties in the State, and there is no reason why it should not be as surely Democratic now, under the beneficent auspices of the new regime, as any other similarly situated county in the State. Moreover, a month has not elapsed since the Democrats there elected a senator without opposition. And yet the recent election was so close that an unlawful procedure may entirely vitiate it. The explanation seems to be that the Democrats, here, as in Beaufort, were too confident. They believed they would succeed, simply because they had succeeded before and other counties had succeeded, and they omitted to take the precautions necessary to ensure success. They had permitted their organization to fall through. The voters did not respond to the call made upon them. Discipline, without which a minority can never pluck victory from a majority, was wanting. See the consequence.

We do not criticize the people of Sumter in an unfriendly spirit. The same result might have obtained elsewhere under similar circumstances; only it was the lot of Sumter to be taken unawares. The people everywhere have ceased to take an active interest in politics. After the long strain to which they have been subjected this is but natural. But the question remains, have they disbanded or are they merely resting on their arms? Will the bugle call at any moment rouse them to action? If not, their condition is precarious. They may be straggling on an ambuscade. True, a powerful foe has been crushed, one of the best trained political armies ever known has been dispersed. But the material is still in existence. All that is needed is a nucleus. Re-organization cannot be effected under Republican auspices. But other captains may be found; and the contest of 1878 may be bitter. The only means of averting this danger is by perfecting Democratic organization. While the main points in organizing have been attended to, a number of details are still to be perfected. This unperformed task should be completed at once. There are now no candidates in the field. Personal considerations will not warp the judgment; so that a complete constitution can be secured, clearly defining every point on which a dispute may arise, and giving a fair field and no favor to any one of those who may hereafter seek the suffrages of the people. When a candidate submits his aspirations to the dictum of his party, he has a right to demand justice and fair play. And if every detail is pre-arranged, so as to avoid ambiguity, he can have no excuse for raising the cry of unfairness, if disappointed. As to the manner of making nominations, there is difference of opinion. But that which seems to be attended with the happiest results is the system of primary elections, when it is so hedged in with safeguards that none but members of the party may have a voice in the nomination. Let there be a fair, old-fashioned "scrub race" in the party for the nomination, and then make the

nomination authoritative. Where every member of the party sees that justice has been done to all the candidates, he will not only abide by the nomination, but will work earnestly for it. The supreme safety of the State demands that the Democratic party shall win. This is the first and great law. The second is that every one should feel, in supporting the party nominee, that every precaution has been taken to secure the choice of a majority of the people. And, by perfecting organization, both of these results can be achieved.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

St. Domingo is enjoying another red-hot revolution.

President Hayes has had a grand banquet in New York.

Russia has lost 80,000 men in the present war.

The health of Queen Victoria's son, Leopold, again causes anxiety.

Philadelphia's poor rejoice in the prospect of a "penny restaurant."

Millham, N. J., has, by ballot just declined annexation to Trenton.

The reports of troubles along the Rio Grande are said to be the inventions of parties who want war.

Owen Murphy, one of the Excise Commissioners, of New York city, has absconded with \$30,000.

Senator Patterson is better. He will spend the holidays with Senator Cameron, of Pennsylvania.

The snow along the Balkans is so deep that fears are entertained of the loss of Russian troops and Turkish prisoners.

The Czar has returned to St. Petersburg, where he was greeted with a most enthusiastic ovation. He will return to the army in a month.

Ben Butler in a recent speech said that Hayes must choose by February whether he will join the Democrats or come back to the Republicans.

One Dr. Tanner, of St. Paul, Minn., claims to have lived forty-two days on nothing but water. For the benefit of the incredulous he offers to repeat the experiment on a wager of \$5,000.

The Italian government has decided to return to the Royal family of the late kingdom of Naples their estates, which were seized at the time that the country was absorbed into that of Italy.

The three United States vessels designated to transport goods to the Paris Exposition will all be ready for sea by the 20th of February. The Supply, now at New York; the Constitution, at Philadelphia, and the Wyoming, at Washington, will be turned over to Commissioner General McCormick by that date, and will receive goods for transportation immediately afterward. The last named vessel, a steamer, will carry the government exhibit now being prepared by the several executive departments.

Brigham Young's spendthrift son has been sued by his Eastern creditors. Three suits were begun against him on December 7, in the Third District Court, Salt Lake City, for the recovery of claims amounting to \$19,000, and his household goods in the "White House Harem" were seized by the sheriff. One claim was brought by a bank in Ohio for money borrowed. The contractors who furnished iron for the construction of the Utah Western Railroad, threaten to prosecute him and to throw the road into bankruptcy. This road was one of the Prophet's pet schemes.

The drop game was adroitly played upon Rear Admiral Walker, in New York, on Monday. He was about to deposit \$1,100 in the Seaman's Savings Bank, when a genteel man tapped him on the shoulder and said: "You have dropped one of your bills." The Admiral was placing his money in his bank book, at a desk near the cashier's window. He looked down and saw a "greenback" on the floor. He stooped to pick it up, and found it was only an imitation bill. But, when he rose up, the confidence man was gone with his \$1,100, which he had left for three seconds on the desk. No account of the money since.

We would like to know why it is that a young man can sit down, have a sigh or two the size of a cider barrel, and then dash off a dozen pages to some angel of about seventeen years old plumage, but when he begins to write to his mother, he can scratch himself baldheaded and then not get over a page and a half.—[Glasgow (Ky.) Times.

BRIC-A-BRAC.

A Nantucketer has raised a crop from wheat found in an Egyptian mummy's hand. He is now experimenting with corns taken from the mummy's feet.

In Switzerland donkeys have bells on their necks. In this country it is not unusual to see them with bullets on their arms.—Lowell Courier.

If the short man ever feels overcome with an intense desire to be tall it is when he finds himself on the outside of a crowd at a dog fight.

"How to Discourage Your Minister," is the title of an article in the newspapers. We know of no better way than to give him donation parties. One or two of these will bow him down the ground.

Patterson used to be a newspaper man. O scissors.—[P. I. Mail. That explains a thing that has been worrying us. If Patterson belongs to the Sisera family we can understand his natural aversion of going to Juel.—[Philadelphia Bulletin.

The Norristown Herald moves that Longfellow be expelled from the Paragraphers' Association for taking only \$10 a line for "Keramos." The Herald thinks H. W. had no right to work at half rates, even if times are hard.

Vinegar Bitters Walker's wife has soured on him. He was sent to the police station the other day on the charge of abandonment. Walker is seventy years of age and his wife is called Eliza Jane. Although quite used to bitters she is too bitter for Walker.

"Whenever you see in a story," says a book-review in one of the literary papers, "such an expression as 'I vow I will,' or 'I vow I won't,' you may know that a woman wrote it." Yes, the rule is infallible. And the fact is quite remarkable, too, that when you find in a story such an expression as "damfhi do," or "damfhi don't," you may know that a woman didn't write it.—[San Antonio Herald.

A dress that Clara Louise Kellogg wore in Washington, was criticised by a correspondent of the Boston Herald as being indecently low at the neck. Max Strkosch writes in defence of Miss Kellogg that the dress was no more nor less than fashionable, and adds, relative to the fact that the correspondent is a woman, "There is nothing so venomous in all this world as woman's inhumanity to woman."

PARLOR CHARADES.

We used the back parlor as a stage, and the front parlor as an audience-room, the folding doors being an excellent substitute for a curtain. All things being in readiness, away went the curtain and one of those wonderful wooden animals, with plug tails and regular red spots painted all over a beautiful sky blue skin, stood alone on the carpet and the placard read: "An island in an Eastern archipelago."

This was guessed by a clergyman to be "Theos." (The'oss.)

And certainly this was a triumph, as the animal needed "The'oss" painted on it as much as Johnny's four-legged table under which he writes "A Kow."

The next tableau, there stood the fiery untamed steed, beneath the sign which this time reads: "Another island in an Eastern archipelago."

This defies everybody, but proves, amid much laughter to be "Samos." (Same'oss.)

Here followed a stammer, a scenic divertissement in four sections: the first installment representing according to the bill of the play, "the highest form of conventional decorum."

The second, embracing "a famous exclamation of reproach."

The third, the name of "a noted prize-fighter."

The fourth, "a species of a large maple tree."

The properties were merely a table on which sat three sugar cuts. The artist walked on, and, with much grace and histrionic ability, swallowed the first and smallest cat. "The highest form of conventional decorum," was therefore, "Ate a cat" (Etiquette.)

With much solemnity the second cat was demolished, and the famous exclamation,

"Ate two brute!" (Et tu brute!) was fulfilled. The mastication of this last cat was accompanied with manifestations of great delight, so that we were prepared to see the noted prize-fighter's name spelled,

"Glad he ate her." (Gladiator.)

Hereupon the third and largest cat, was apparently going to join the others but the artist turned with sadness away, and walked off,

leaving us to understand that the name of the maple was, in his case,

"Siek o' more." (Sycamore.)

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA,

COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD.

Court of Common Pleas.

Wm. H. Kerr, as Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas for the County of Fairfield, Plaintiff, against Martha J. Means, Fannie A. Means, Marcia D. Means, Martha Means, Sarah T. Means, John C. Means and Gabriella Means, Defendants.

To the Defendants, Martha J. Means, Fannie A. Means, Marcia D. Means, Martha Means, Sarah T. Means, John C. Means and Gabriella Means:

YOU are hereby summoned and required to answer the complaint in this action, which is filed in the office of the Clerk of Common Pleas, for the said county, and to serve a copy of your answer to the said complaint on the subscribers at their office, No. 3, Law Range, Winnsboro, S. C., within twenty days after the service hereof, exclusive of the day of such service; and if you fail to answer the complaint within the time aforesaid, the plaintiff in this action will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in the complaint.

GALLAHER & REYNOLDS,

Plaintiff's Attorneys.

Filed December 28, 1877.

Wm. H. Kerr, C. C. P. F. C.

To the Defendants, Martha J. Means, Fannie A. Means, Marcia D. Means, Martha Means, Sarah T. Means, John C. Means and Gabriella Means:

TAKE NOTICE that the summons in this action, of which the foregoing is a copy, was filed in the office of the Clerk of Court for Fairfield county, on the 28th day of December, A. D. 1877.

GALLAHER & REYNOLDS,

Plaintiff's Attorneys.

dec 29-1x law 6w

SHERIFF'S SALE.

BY virtue of sundry executions to me directed, I will offer for sale before the court-house door in Winnsboro, on the first Monday in January next, within the legal hours of sale, to the highest bidder for cash, the following described property, to wit:

2 dozen jugs, 12 chairs and 5 tables, hat-rack and wash-stand, 2 stoves and fixtures, 1 bagatelle table and balls, 1 billiard table and 2 sets balls, 15 picture frames and desk, 8 demijohns, 3 bbls. rye whiskey, 1 bbl. corn whiskey, 10 gallons apple brandy, 10 gallons black-berry brandy, 20 gallons N. E. rum, 3 gallons sherry, 1 gallon Catawba wine, 5 gallons sassafras wine, 5 gallons strawberry syrup, 10 gallons ginger brandy, 1 ice chest and water-cooler, 4 dozen bottles porter, 2 dozen bottles Milwaukee beer, 2 dozen bottles assorted sauces, 500 cigars, bar-room fixtures, 1 chandelier, 2 lights, 1 screen, 2 window shades, 2 lamps, 2 carpets all levied on as the property of Jno. E. McCarley, at the suit of Nathan Bros., R. J. McCarley, Geo. P. Trigg & Co., J. L. Winter, H. K. & T. B. Thurber & Co., W. M. Jacobs as Survivor, against Jno. D. McCarley, defendant.

S. W. RUFF,

S. F. C.

Sheriff's Office, Winnsboro, S. C., 1877. December 22, 1877. dec 29-1x

SHERIFF'S SALE.

BY virtue of sundry executions to me directed, I will offer for sale before the court-house door in Winnsboro, on the first Monday in January next, within the legal hours of sale, to the highest bidder for cash, the following described property, to wit:

Six mules, one four-horse wagon and harness, one carriage and harness, lot of plantation tools, one gin and belt seventy-five bushels of corn, more or less, fifteen hundred pounds of fodder, more or less, eight hundred bushels of cotton seed, more or less, and five thousand pounds of cotton, more or less, in field, the property of R. E. Ellison, jr., at the suit of George W. Williams & Co.

ALSO,

One bay horse, two cows and one calf, the property of Mrs. Rebecca Delleny, at the suit of R. T. Yarbrough, for another.

ALSO,

All the right title, and interest of John Morrison in and to the following property, to wit: 9 mules and harness, 3 wagons, 1 cart, 100 pairs shoes, 2 pairs boots, 17 pairs pants, 26 coats, 3 dozen pairs socks, 10 pairs drawers, 7 shirts, 10 boxes Mustang Lintment, 3 vests, 125 empty barrels, 104 barrels rosin, 3 barrels turpentine, still and fixtures, 18 hammers, 1/2 barrel sugar, 5 pounds tobacco, 12 pounds soda, 3 coffee pots, 1 bog boxes lye, 3 bolts cloth, 3 boxes undershirts, 2 bolts cotton goods, 1/2 box soap, 1/2 dozen straw hats, 30 boxes collars, 3 boxes suspenders, 1 dozen bottles castor oil, 10 bottles sweet oil, 2 pairs blankets, 1 bolt ticking, 1/2 bolts sheeting, 1/2 dozen axes, 1 dozen dippers; levied on as the property of Jno. Morrison, at the suit of Rachel Kenan.

S. W. RUFF,

S. F. C.

Sheriff's Office, Winnsboro, S. C., December 22, 1877. dec 29-1x2

Just Received,

APPLES, Oranges, Pears, Raisins and Onions, just in and low for cash.

We will keep on hand during the season a choice stock of the above fruits. Butter, Eggs, Soda Biscuits, Ginger Bread, Spices, Starch, Gr. Meal, etc., always fresh at J. E. CATHCART & BRO.'S.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

Money and Life Saved by its Use.

IMPORTANT DISCOVERY.—Galileo invented the telescope; Columbus discovered a new world; Harvey, the circulation of the blood, and to Professor Morse is due the credit of teaching the lightning how to talk, but it was reserved to Dr. J. Bradford to penetrate the mystic depths of science, and drag therefrom the wonder of our century. The victory has been won, and woman is free.

The sale of Dr. J. Bradford's Female Regulator is unprecedented in the history of popular remedies, and thousands of certificates are coming in from grateful women, throughout the Union, attesting its powers and applauding its untold benefits to their sex. dec 15-2w

SHERIFF'S SALE.

BY virtue of sundry executions to me directed, I will offer for sale, before the court-house door in Winnsboro, on the first Monday in January next, and the day following, within the legal hours of sale, for cash, the following described property, to wit:

Four bales of cotton, five hundred pounds of seed cotton, more or less, sixty bushels of corn, more or less, five hundred pounds of fodder, more or less, and sixty bushels of cotton-seed, more or less, the property of Thomas Richardson, Robert Manigault and William Rabb, at the suit of Mrs. M. A. Faucett.

ALSO,

Twenty bushels of corn, and five hundred pounds of fodder, all more or less, the property of Thomas Kelly, at the suit of Mrs. M. A. Faucett.

ALSO,

Nine hundred pounds of seed cotton, more or less, and small lot in field, the property of Aquilla Harrison, at the suit of Samuel McCormick.

ALSO,

One hundred and thirty-five bushels of corn, one thousand pounds of fodder, two hundred pounds of hay, and seven hundred pounds of seed cotton, all more or less, the property of Frank and Lemuel Craig, at the suit of A. K. Craig.

ALSO,

One hundred and seventy-five bushels of corn, and one thousand pounds of seed cotton, all more or less, the property of James W. Stewart, at the suit of F. Elder.

ALSO,

Seven hundred pounds of seed cotton, and one thousand pounds in field, all more or less, the property of Frank Adamson at the suit of T. H. Davis.

ALSO,

One bale of cotton, three hundred pounds of fodder, and six hundred pounds in field, all more or less, the property of Ned Drayton, at the suit of John R. Martin.

ALSO,

One thousand pounds of seed cotton, sixty bushels of cotton seed, more or less, and small lot of tops, and three hundred pounds of fodder, more or less, the property of Aquilla Harrison, at the suit of A. F. Ruff as Executor.

ALSO,

Six bales of cotton, fifty bushels of corn, five stacks of fodder and hay, the property of King and Simon Nelson, at the suit of Jas. P. McFie.

ALSO,

Fifty bushels of corn, twelve hundred pounds of seed cotton, three thousand pounds of fodder, thirty-five bushels of cotton seed, all more or less, the property of Charles Goings, at the suit of W. R. Doty & Co.

ALSO,

Sheriff's Office, Winnsboro, S. C., December 22, 1877.

AT COST!

To Change Investment!

HORSE Shoes, five and a half cents per lb. by the keg, Axes at seventy-five and ninety cents each, Nails at three and a half cents per lb. by the keg, Pot Ware, the very best, at five cents per lb., Swedes Laying Iron, at five cents per lb., Tire Iron at three cents per lb., the best Horse Shoe Nails at twenty-five cents per lb., brass bound cedar Buckets at fifty cents each, Blue Buckets at fifteen cents each, dressed Buggy Shafts at ninety-five cents per pair, Copper Rivets and Burrs at sixty cents per lb., Ames Shovels at one dollar and fifteen cents each, Smoothing irons at five cents per lb., Cotton Rope at twenty-five cents per lb. dec 18

NOTICE.

R. J. McCARLEY begs to inform every one indebted to him, that, as he intends selling out, it is imperative that all accounts be paid on or before the first day of January, 1877. After that date those who have not paid up will please call at the office of A. M. Mackey, in whose hands all accounts will be placed or collection. dec 13