

ligion and the strongest guaranties of constitutional freedom, we should shake this very continent from sea to sea, with the convulsive throes of one general popular earthquake, until every vestige of opposition to our republicanism should be trampled into dust.

deeply interested in the Savannah Valley Road, as it is proposed to be connected with the South Carolina Road at Aiken. The only remaining question to be propounded is one which Charleston alone can answer: Will Charleston do her duty in this matter, and thus secure herself this rich boon at a moderate cost?

THE INDEPENDENT PRESS. PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY MORNING.

O. C. PUCKETT, Editor. M. PUCKETT, Editor.

TERMS—One Dollar a Year, in Advance. ABBEVILLE C. H. FRIDAY, - - - - - MAY 18, 1855.

Our Agents. WILLIAM HILL and JOHN MCBRYDE, Esqs., are our agents. Any orders left with them will be attended to.

Presbyterian Minutes. THE editor of the Laurensville Herald requests us to say that the Minutes of the last meeting of the Presbytery will be ready by the 20th instant, and that those designed for the churches in Abbeville District will be left with Rev. Mr. HOYT and R. H. WARDLAW, Esq., at this place.

A Long Adieu. SUCH are the words which close the long and interesting letter of "BEN LANE" on the preceding page; and very sorry are we to hear them. Nevertheless if he will allow his corporeality to follow the adventuresome wanderings of his soul, we hope both may come out unscathed. We are not informed as regards his destination.

The Eastern War. ACCOUNTS from Europe, since our last, contain little of importance except that the allies have opened their batteries upon Sebastopol in earnest. There is now, it seems, no prospect of peace until one or the other "conquers a peace." We shall probably hear by the next arrival from that quarter of some grand or humiliating results.

Answer to Enigma. WE have received several answers to the little enigma in last week's issue. The one below was the first, and is correct. We recommend a trial of Miss "L. H. B.'s" skill upon the poetical puzzle in another place. She will agree with us, we think, that that one "is hard to solve."

Mr. Press: The following is the answer to your miscellaneous enigma: Cat, Hoone, Cant, Sin, Pan; the whole, THOMAS C. FERRIS. Not hard to solve. L. H. B.

The Valley Railroad. IN our last issue we published the proceedings of a meeting held in the town of Edgefield, on the 23d ultimo, to take into consideration the proposed branch of the Savannah Valley Railroad from DORNS' to Aiken, by Edgefield. We intended to have accompanied the publication of the proceedings of this meeting with a few remarks of our own, but from the press of other matters were compelled to defer it to the present issue.

Since then a very pointed and sensible article on the subject has appeared in the Charleston News, which we herein republish, as worth the attention of our readers. The editor of the paper referred to very warmly commends the cause, and urges upon Charleston the duty of aiding it.

We are not in the habit of intruding railroad articles of our own manufacture upon the market, because, partly, we have never been so fortunate as to feel able to enforce our precepts by very convincing examples; or, more literally, to draw forth a long purse ourselves when we ask others to do so. And, again, we are ever conscious of the existence of many around us whose more thorough acquaintance with the subject, befits them to be much better spokesmen of the cause than ourselves. Nevertheless we venture occasionally an opinion, and offer it at its simple worth.

It gives us great satisfaction to see that our neighbors of Edgefield have the prospect of so favorable a railroad connection. We must congratulate them upon their good prospects of once more catching up with the age and getting back into the world. It always affords us great pleasure to see any portion of our State blessed with railroad facilities. But the peculiar advantages which the Savannah Valley Railroad is likely to afford to one of the richest sections of our State, is, in our opinion, a peculiar cause for congratulation to every one who wishes well to the State. We know of no section of South Carolina where a railroad is more needed than in the Valley of the Savannah River, and we know of no

section where its advantages are likely to be more manifest. Blessed with a fertility of soil, unsurpassed by any portion of the State, the Savannah Valley country needs but the invigorating influence of steam to make it again what in times past it has been—the garden spot of Carolina.

The object of those who now have this enterprise in charge, seems to be to build a road that will not only answer the wants of the Savannah Valley country, in transporting its produce to market, but also to form a connecting link between the Rabun Gap Road and Charleston, by a line approximating an air line. To do this, they propose to have one branch of the road from DORNS' to Aiken, by the way of Edgefield; and another branch to Hamburg, for the accommodation of the town of Hamburg and the city of Augusta. If this scheme can be carried out, (and we confess we see no reason why it should not be,) it will be a magnificent work of improvement to a large and wealthy portion of the State, embracing a part of Anderson, Abbeville and Edgefield Districts. It will at the same time give to Charleston, if not the best, certainly as good a connection with the Rabun Gap Road as any other is likely to obtain.

We say, then, to our neighbors of Edgefield, and to our friends in the Savannah Valley country in general, a hearty God-speed to you in your noble enterprise!—You will have difficulties to contend with in carrying your work through. It would be no work if you did not. Cold and selfish friends, who would like to reap with you the rewards of your labor without contributing to aid in the work; open and secret foes; these will oppose you. But you must not stop to fight them off. Strengthen your own arms—levy additional tribute upon your own means and energies—and a steady perseverance will enable you to accomplish your work. And be assured success will bring friends, and we shall hear of no patriot-Carolinian who will not rejoice with you.

Exchange Notices. SOUTHERN QUARTERLY.—The April number of this work contains papers under the following heads:—BENTON'S Thirty Years in the Senate; LOUIS XIV; The Chief Justices of the United States; RUSKIN'S Architectural Works; The Russo-Turkish Campaign; Principles of Art; Ruth Hall; American Education; Observations on the History of Virginia; Applications of Chemistry; and Critical Notices. These are all interesting subjects, and from the ability which usually characterizes the pages of the Quarterly, we judge this number is an exceedingly entertaining one. We wish the Southern Quarterly long life, extended usefulness, and merited prosperity. C. MORTIMER, Publisher: Charleston.

THE SCHOOLFELLOW.—This little representative of juvenile literature very gracefully displays his treasures for May. The Schoolfellow is a monthly of forty pages, (octavo,) filled with entertaining and instructive stories, and so forth, for school children. Edited by W. C. RICHARDS, Esq., formerly of Charleston, and published by J. S. DICKERSON, New York, at one dollar a year. We have no doubt it would be worth twice that to any family of children. The editor offers to give a copy of the Schoolfellow as long as it exists, together with all the back volumes, (six in number,) handsomely bound, to any one who will give a reasonable answer to the following puzzle:—

Sir Hilary charged at Agincourt South 'twas an awful day! Although on that old age of sport—The rufflers of the camp and court Had little time to pray: 'Tis said Sir Hilary uttered there Two syllables by way of prayer. My first to all the brave and proud Who see to-morrow's sun! My next with her cold and quiet cloud To those who find their dewy shroud Before to-day's be done: And both together to all blue eyes That weep when a warrior nobly dies.

MADISON MESSENGER.—The promise of Messrs. FILDES & BAREFOOT to establish a paper at Madison C. H., Fla., under the above title, has been resolved into a reality, and we are in receipt of the first number. It is a very creditable sheet, and we have no doubt will meet success. The price is two dollars.

MONTGOMERY MAIL.—As soon as we heard that this paper was presided over by the imitable author of "Simon Suggs," we despatched a messenger to press it into a "reciprocity treaty" with us. The result was as desired, and we have the Mail, brim full of the life and spirit of that interesting quarter of our "great country."

THE CHARLESTON STANDARD.—Last mentioned, but not less welcome, of our recent acquaintances, is the Charleston Standard. We find it a most excellent newspaper—evincing, in a high degree, the talent, industry and fine taste of its conductors. We are under many obligations to the Charleston press generally, for its daily and tri-weekly issues.

CHRONICLE AND SENTINEL.—This paper, published at Augusta, Ga., is offered for sale. It has been doing a fine business for several years, and to any one who has a taste for Georgia Whig politics, it will be a splendid investment.

WRITTEN FOR THE INDEPENDENT PRESS. My Old Professed Friend. "An!" said EDWARD, "is this you?" and passed on. I suppose I might have looked indifferently, but was not conscious of it, as EDWARD passed me; but, as I learned, he was hastening on to his recent acquaintance, Mrs. SOMERS, truly a lovely and intelligent lady, and her son, a most genteel and polite gentleman. I thought EDWARD was doing well in associating with, and making the acquaintance of the SOMERS family. But, on learning the reason why he passed me so cavalierly, the other day, there was not a little astonishment in the reason to a calm and unsuspecting mind. I was strongly reminded of the saying of an old author which I read in my childhood, and which my father greatly admired. The sentence runs thus: "Thine own friend and thy father's friend, forsake not." The impression made on reading this, (proverb, we may call it,) remains on my mind, and has in it a great deal of good, strong and excellent common sense.

But when we look off into the world as it now is, and presents itself to our view, we are constrained to believe that the above proverb is entirely forgotten, as one of obsolete character. An old friend—for such, according to our proverb, must be a father's friend—has something of the quality of an old book—has become musty; and it is time, in this age of progress and steam, to be casting old things aside and getting something fresh. EDWARD, as I learned, supposed he had gotten all that was or could be profitable out of myself. However correct his judgment on this point, his decision suggests an unenviable sequence with regard to himself, viz: that the SOMERS family may soon be deserted, too, when new faces appear. The present age has but one admiration, and that is bestowed on something new, just made, or just imported.—True, there are two old things at present much admired—old corn, and old wheat; and people run after them and embrace them as their friend and their father's friend. But we are not talking about corn and wheat, but about professed friends.

We do not intend to come out and say, in so many words, that there is no such thing as true friendship, and yet we are somewhat skeptical. We often hear the sweeping remark made, but to agree to its truth would be to reproach ourselves, and the good opinion we have of our dear self; and this we are reluctant to part with. We believe that we are flesh and blood, just like our neighbors, and as the good Book says somewhere—(notwithstanding the new notions of some old fogies, for it is a positive fact that old people have young notions, else why do old men get young wives)—"That God hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the time before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation." But old folks do not believe, or all of them do not, all the Bible says, for some of them say that all the nations of the earth are not one blood, but many. Now, if we could believe this, we should be inclined hence to account for the great fondness discernable for new things—new acquaintances, new friends, we say if there be such a being on earth as friend—and with all our skepticism, we say we believe there are many. But it is a sad truth, that there should be so few true and trustworthy friends, reliable at all times and in all emergencies. The day of adversity lowers, and we look out for friends and sympathy, but find neither, and we feel sad, and almost weary of life, and quite so of the world.

There are many professed friends, but the most of them will sell you for a dollar, and some even for less. Professions are not to be trusted; they are seldom, if ever, reliable. Men sell their professed politics for a little popularity; change their church connection (at least many do) for worldly gain; and their religious faith for distinction.—Professions of friendship are mostly empty, and unworthy of confidence, for, like a windy cloud, they soon pass away. My old professed friend, where is he? He has not evaporated, but has to me become obsolete. I would call him back, but for me he has no ears, no eyes, and no hand. My old friend, my father's friend, I would not forsake without most cogent reasons. And yet I would utter this cautiously, for I, too, am but a man. I will therefore put on the mantle of charity, and say, he sees some unworthy feature about me which I do not see, for we are all blind to our own faults. And why should I expect too much from the world, as I have never done much to ameliorate the world's condition? Indeed, I am inclined to believe that the expectation of men in general is too great from the world. They expect more than they realize, and disappointment always sours the mind, and tends to make us misanthropes—a disposition ever to be deprecated. Let me cultivate a kind feeling to all the family of man—I mean all that descended from ADAM and EVE—as for the monkey races, that sprang from some other race, no one

can tell from whom, where, or when, with these I intend to claim no affiliation, until regularly, and by authenticated lineage, I am introduced to the family. But I would view with all my compeers in feeling kindly toward my species. It may be my old friend will yet return, and we shall enjoy many sweet days of intercourse and instruction together in a firm and stronger friendship than we ever did in our palmist days of communion. This is a changing world, and the wind does not always blow from the same point. It sometimes brings storms, and even tornadoes, with the desolation of every fair hope; again it brings sunshine and showers, and all destroyed beauty and prosperity is restored, and every fond hope revived. Then I am determined I will not repine, complain, nor murmur. I will look forward when the peaceful slumbers of the tomb shall shut out all the turmoils and strifes of mortality, and anger, and malice, and envy, shall die to live no more.

The Black Warrior Affair.

The Paris correspondent of the New York Times writes: "It is well known at Madrid that this troublesome affair is already settled. Mr. Perry, our present representative at that Court, has, it seems, obtained from the Spanish Government all that has ever been asked by our own. That Government recognises fully the illegal conduct of officials; condemns them and disavows their acts; promises to dismiss from its service all who took a responsible part in that transaction; and as to those who are no longer in her service, from General Penzela down, to bring them before the Supreme Tribunal of Justice to answer the accusations of the Government under that process, peculiar to the Spanish laws of the Indies, by which the Captain-General and other high officers of the possessions beyond the sea may be called before the Supreme Tribunal to give an account of their conduct whilst in office during a year after their return to Spain, and, if condemned in any particular, be made to suffer the corresponding pains and penalties. At the same time Spain offers full and complete indemnity to all who suffered by that outrage upon the presentation of their papers proving their damages. This arrangement is understood to have gone to Washington some time about the last of February, and the Government of Madrid is only waiting the return of the mail, which ought to bring the formal acceptance of the arrangement by the Cabinet at Washington, in order to lay all the documents before the Cortes."

Commencement Speakers.

We mentioned, last week, one of the *side dishes* that might be expected at the annual festival in Erskine College. We might have stated that the Alumni Address is to be delivered by Robert A. Fair, Esq., of Abbeville, S. C., from whom much is expected; and we undertake to say there will be no disappointment. It is our privilege now also to announce that Gen. Samuel McGowan, likewise of Abbeville, the Athens of Carolina, has been invited to deliver the Anniversary Address before the Literary Societies, and that he has accepted. This is a capital selection. The General refused to give us the \$5,000, last winter, but if it was to do over again he would probably vote right. No doubt he would have done it then, but for the fear that when the floodgate was lifted it would be hard to get it down again. Be this as it may, we know that he has always been a friend and advocate of Erskine, and he may expect a greeting on Commencement day that will "do him good." Being a lawyer of the first eminence, and a gentleman of well known literary tastes and habits, and withal one of the finest speakers we have ever heard, we will expect something rich from our Anniversary Orator.—*Due West Telescope.*

FUNNY CASE OF ROBBERY.

Our readers will remember that we gave a day or two ago, on the authority of the Lexington Telegraph, a paragraph to the effect that Col. Barr had been nearly robbed and murdered between Columbia and Lexington, or at least had been stopped by two men on the road. These same men, whose inoffensive and laudable occupation is declared to be that of painters, have written a letter to the Columbia Times, setting the matter in a rather ludicrous light. It appears from their statement that they had killed a snake in the road with a revolver, and espying a rabbit by the side of the road, they were preparing to serve him in the same way. It was in this position of affairs that Col. B. came up, and, thinking an assault was intended him, he cried out "there were more behind." He was now about eighty yards distant, (and never was any nearer,) and the "robbers," thinking he meant more rabbits, turned their heads to look for them, when the rider clapped spurs to his horse and rode off.—*Charleston Standard.*

The English are discovering that it is impossible to carry on a cheap war, and the taxes are beginning to press upon the nation. The London Times, reflecting upon the thirty millions of pounds a year, which the war now costs, says, that, in order to pay for one soldier at the seat of war, or one horse, or to supply a Lancaster gun for half an hour, they must pay what would maintain four or five families in comfort, keep up a good parish school, provide an active clergyman for a neglected district, or do some other good work, that, may be, will never now be done. As there is now no prospect of a peace, new expenses must be incurred to carry on the war successfully.

MASONIC CONGRESS.—A grand Congress of Masons is to be held in Paris on the first of June, proximo, for the purpose of considering the condition of Masonry over the Globe. The Grand Master of the Grand Lodge in Paris has extended an invitation to American Masonry to be represented on the occasion.

METHODIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY.—The appropriations made for the ensuing year by the Board of Managers of the Missionary Society of the M. E. Church South, at their recent meeting in Nashville, amounted to \$160,000. Of this sum \$12,000 are appropriated to carry on the mission in China, and about the same amount in California. It was determined to establish a Missionary post at Santa Fe, New Mexico; also, one in New Grenada and Central America. About \$100,000 was appropriated to the missions among slaves.

IMPORTANT TO SCHOOL TEACHERS.—A case has just been decided at a special term of the Supreme Court that a watch belonging to and used by a school teacher, is exempt property, and cannot be reached by a receiver under a Judge's order on proceeding supplementary to execution. Judge Cowles held that the watch of a school teacher comes within the law, and is as necessary for him in his occupation as the hammer of a mechanic is to the latter; and allowing the watch to be but of an ordinarily expensive kind, that it is exempt from execution.

ESCAPED FROM JAIL.—From the Athens (Ga.) Watchman we learn that Thomas Gunnels, who was imprisoned for killing his wife, and very nearly killing his daughter,—John Eppes, for murdering his father,—and Jesse M. Garner, for selling a hired horse, escaped from the jail in Watkinsville, on the night of the 4th instant. The Sheriff offers a reward of two hundred dollars for the arrest of the two first, or half that amount for either one. The other man (Garner) there is no reward for.

AWFUL CASUALTY.—On Wednesday night, at the plantation of Mr. Benjamin Motley, in the ninth district of this county, a negro house caught fire, and four negro children perished in the flames. All efforts to save them proved unavailing. No one saw the children even in the house at the time. It appears that the elder negroes were engaged at the crib in shelling corn, and had left a fire burning in the house. *Columbus (Ga.) Enquirer.*

RICHEST MAN IN THE INDIANA PENITENTIARY.—Kipley Circuit Court, last week, sentenced Mr. Muir to the penitentiary for two years, for forging a note of \$20. Mr. Muir is probably the richest man in Ripley county, Indiana. It is supposed his property is worth near \$100,000. It has been his strife to be rich, and now he will have the honor of bragging of being the richest man in the penitentiary. Won't that be something of which to be proud? *Indiana Sentinel.*

FEMALE HOSPITAL.—The New York correspondent of the Charleston Courier says: Dr. J. Marion Sims, formerly of your State, is fast earning the title of a philanthropist. After years of toilsome struggles, he has at last established a hospital for the diseases peculiar to females, in Madison Avenue. It is now open for patients, and receives the encouragement of our best people. An application is made to the Common Council for a donation of \$2400, supported by such endorsements as the names of Peter Cooper, James Boorman, and others.

HUNG.—The Pickens Courier, of last Saturday, says: "The negro boy Jerry, who had been condemned to be hung for violating the person of a married lady, was executed on yesterday about 1 o'clock. He is said to have met his fate with the same unconcern with which he had lived. There was a large crowd in town during the day, who witnessed the execution."

One of the largest distilleries in Scotland, the Leith distillery, where 1,200,000 gallons of whiskey used annually to be made, has just been converted into a flour mill.

Counterfeit \$100 bills on the Hamburg Bank are afloat. A fellow lately purchased a horse from a gentleman in Georgia at \$75, paid him one of those bills, and received \$25 in good change.

DURING the last three months, 4,645 passengers arrived at San Francisco, against 11,760 in the same period of 1854.

A clergyman was hung in effigy at Lagrauge, Tenn., last week, for selling a poor man's note at auction.

THE setamer Aton, with two thousand bales of cotton, has been burnt on the Yazoo river.

A SURE REMEDY.—If you are troubled with a Cold, Cough, Hoarseness or Bronchitis, or any affection of the Lungs or Throat, you are advertised to make trial of STABLER'S ANODYNE CHERRY EXPECTORANT, which is really what it professes to be, a "good medicine." If it were not such, it would not have received the decided and warm approval of some of the most celebrated, intelligent and high-minded physicians in the country, who have been made acquainted with the recipe from which it is compounded, and who say that "it will effect more good than any of the numerous preparations with which the country is inundated." An array of testimony, such as can be shown in favor of Stabler's Anodyne Cherry Expectorant, and STABLER'S DIARRHŒA CORDIAL, could never be produced unless they were really and truly "good medicines." Therefore we advise you to make trial of them, with confidence.

See descriptive pamphlets, to be had gratis of the agents. Price of each, only 50 cents per bottle, or six bottles for \$2 50. E. H. STABLER & CO., Proprietors, Wholesale Druggists, Baltimore. Sold by Dr. P. F. GARY, Columbia; WARDLAW & LYON, Abbeville; C. H. HAVILAND, HARBAL & Co., Charleston. Wholesale agents, Charleston, and by Merchants generally.

WANTED. In Madison village, Fla., on Sunday, the 29th ult., by Rev. D. J. Auld, Mr. FREDERICK R. WILSON and Miss VIRLINDA G., daughter of E. K. Cobb, Esq.