Edgefield Advertiser.

"We will cling to the Pillars of the Temple of our Liberties, and if it must fall, we will Perish amidst the Ruins."

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EDGEFIELD ADVERTISER

BY

W. F. DURISOE, PROPRIETOR

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COMMUNICATION.

For the Advertiser.

ARTICLE III.

LIGHT AND OPTICS.

Light is one of the *three* imponderables, and one of the fifty-seven elements which compose our globe. Such great affinity has light for heat and electricity, that when either of the two latter are disengaged, light is also disengaged.

Vision may as properly be called the effect of a certain agent as heat is the effect of the operation of the matter Caloric. The effect of light being mistaken for the cause, is I imagine, partly from this circumstance, that the theory of light is not better understood. It is very evident, that vision is not the agent which produces the faculty of seeing, but is the result of the action of a material agent, on the expansion of the optic nerve—the retina, from thence transmitted to the sensorium commune, and there by the molecular action of the brain, the sense of vision is produced. The most superficial Physiologist, is convinced that the faculty of olfaction and taste is not the agents or materials which produce these different sensations, but are the effect of the application of odoriferous or savory particles upon the snyderian membrane of the nose, or mucous membrane of the mouth, from thence conducted to the brain, and there by a mysterious operation of this organ, the sense of smell or taste, (as in vision,) is produced. The idea that vision is the result of the molecular action of the brain, can also be supported from the observance of certain pathological conditions of the animal economy. Taste and smell are so considerably vitiated in certain affections, that many substances which were quite agreeable, have an entirely different odor, and things which in health were sweet become in disease bitter, and vice versa. So in vision—objects which could not be seen in health can be seen in disease, (Mania a potu.) That vision is made evident to the mind, by the molecular, or some other mysterious operation of the brain, and is the effect and not the cause of light, is, I think, very conclusive.

Having shewn that vision is the effect of some occult agent, and not the cause of light, I shall proceed to expose the different theories; to account for the phenomena of light. It is well known that there are two rival theories extant to explain the different phenomena of light. These theories are called the undulatory or Huyghenian, and Newtonian or Corpuscula.

"Of the undulatory or Huyghenian theory—first, that an excessively rare subtil and elastic medium or ether fills all space, and pervades all material bodies, occupying the intervals between their molecules: and either by passing freely among them, or by its extreme rarity, offering no resistance to the motion of the earth, the planets or comets, in their orbits, appreciable by the most delicate astronomical observations, and having inertia, but not gravity. Secondly, that the molecules of the ether, are susceptible of being set in motion by the agitation of the particles of ponderable matter, and that when any one is thus set in motion it communicates a similar motion to those adjacent to it, and thus the motion is propagated farther and farther, in all directions, according to the same mechanical laws, which regulate the propagation in other elastic media, as air, water or solids, according to their respective constitutions. Thirdly, that when regular vibratory motions of a proper kind, are propagated through the ether, and passing through our eyes, reach and agitate our retina, they produce in us the sensation of light, in a manner bearing a more or less close analogy to that in which the vibrations of the air affect our auditory senses with that of sound. Fourth, that as in the doctrine of sound, the frequency of the aerial pulses, or the number of excertions to and fro, from the point of rest, made by each molecule of the air, determines the pitch or note, so in the theory of light, the frequency of the pulses, or number of impulses made on our nerves in a given time by the etherial molecules, next in contact with them, determines the *color* of light, and that as the absolute extent of the motion to and fro of the particles of the air, determines the *loudness* of the sound, so the *amplitude*, or extent of the excursions of the etherial molecules, from their parts of rest determines the brightness or intensity of the light." Sir John Herschels Principles of the undolatory theory

Of the corpuscular, or Newtonian theory. "First, that light consists of particles of matter, possessed with inertia, and endowed with attractive forces, and projected or emitted from all luminous bodies, with nearly the same velocity, about 20,000 miles per second. Second, that these particles impigning upon the retina, stimulate and excite vision; the particles whose inertia is greatest, producing the sensation of red, those of the least inertia of violet, and those in which it is intermediate, the intermediate colors."—*Sir John Herschel's principles of the Corpuscular or Newtonian theory.*

From the circumstance that the Newtonian, or Corpuscular theory, cannot satisfactorily account for all the phenomena of light—Philosophers have recently manifested an inclination to abandon the theory of Newton, and return to the undulatory theory which accounts for light, by the vibrations or undulations of an etherial fluid, which pervades all the universe, and penetrates all bodies, occupying in them the interstices between their molecules, and even penetrating the primitive molecule itself.

From not being able to do the subject justice, I shall not in this place, enter into the discussion of these two great theories, which has occupied the mind of the philosophical world so long, and which has been handled so profoundly by the most accomplished philosophers. I shall consequently bid farewell to this metaphysical branch of my subject, and take up that department which relates to *Optics*.

Before the time of Pitagoras, who lived 370 years before the advent of our Saviour, we have no account of optics. This Philosopher believed that there emenated from about bodies, certain kinds of visibles, which acted upon the cornea, and excited there the sensation of the presence of objects. Plato and Eupedocles, not being content with this explication, say that there emenates from the object and the eyes certain effluvia, which encounter and mingle, the one with the other, in the midst of their voyage. By this collission, the effluvia which went from the eye, returned to it, exciting there the sensation of the presence of objects. The deciples of Plato adopted this system, and taught the important discovery that light is propagated in *linea recta*, and that the angles of incedence are equal to angles of reflection. This was an excellant principle for establishing a theory of optics; but Aristotle, one of the deciples of Plato, being more of a disputant than a geometrician, in place of securing this idea. He applied it to explain vision, by a mode more conveniently; and to know light and its object Vision is effected, according to him, by the reception of the images of objects in the eye This matter is not difficult to understand, but the manner in which he explains light, is more difficult. The light, he says, is that which makes bodies transparent, because bodies are not so really—for at night they are opake. He imagined that the light which exists in transparent media, is owing to the presence of fire or some other luminous fluid. This is the conclusion of Aristotle.

The successors of Aristotle, who applied themselves to optics, taught these notions as obscurely as they found them. The next great name after Aristotle, who applied himself to optics, is Euclides. He turned his attention to the movement of light, and to the laws of optics, without explaining the nature of light. He fixed his attention on two principal points. These were to determine the apparent magnitude of objects, which according to him, depended upon two angles, under which they appeared, and to meet in the vissible point of the image in mirrors, which he believed was formed by the concourse of the reflected with the perpendicular ray. With these two principles, they attempted to explain many optical phenomena, and was their main theory of optics, three hundred years before Christ. This theory is attributed to Euclides, an able geometician. His demonstrations on this subject are very defective, and his method very intricate.

Optics remained stationary for more than four hundred years During this long period Philosophers never thought of perfecting this interesting department of science.

Ptolmy, one hundred and fifty years before Christ, greatly cultivated mathematics, and believing optics to be a branch of his favorite study, he applied himself also to this science. He composed a learned work, which is said to be lost, but we can form some idea of it, from the fragments which the Opticians, his successors, has conserved. Ptolomy, first speaks of astronomical refractions, and afterwards of the light which comes to us from the stars, through the atmosphere. The second fragment is an explication of the excessive magnitude of the stars, as seen just above the horizon. Ptolomy explains this phenomena, in a manner very metaphysically. The soul, says he, is that which judges that a star is very large, relatively to the great number of objects interposed, with whose comparison we form the idea of a great distance, when the star is near the horizon; but when it is very elevated above the horizon that is near the meridian, and having no object interposed between the eye and the star, we judge that it is infinitely more distant.

Those who more appreciated the opinions of Ptolemy, were the independent Arabs. They studied with great diligence optics, and composed on this subject many works. The first who wrote, whose name is Alhazabo, treated of vision, which is an essential part of optics. Another Arab called Ibein-Heiten, managed the matter more extensively. He wrote on vision *directa, reflexa, refracta*, and on burning lenses. He examined first, the movement of light, in strait lines; afterwards as it comes to the eye by reflection, and ultimately as it makes an impression on this organ, from having been refracted. This author is the first who spoke of burning lenses, and also mentions that Archimides was acquainted with these glasses.

We have occasion to believe that the Greeks were the inventors of these lenses. In the comedy of the clouds of Aristophanes, in have a focus of three miles;—without timidity which he so much satires Socrates, we read that an actor found a kind of stone with which he was enabled to pay his debts; by exposing this stone to the sun, and by its virtue of conveying the rays to a focus, and by bringing this focus to bear upon the wax seal, under which was written his debts, thereby melting the seal, and consequently exempting him from the payment of his debts. This stone no doubt was a fragment of glass, which reunited in a point, the rays of the sun, which in substance is a kind of burning lens.

From Socrates to Archimides, who lived 230 years before the nativity of Jesus Christ, we see in history no other account of these lenses, until they were found to be of admirable use, by Archimides. He, however, neither speaks of their origen, nor the improvement of their invention With these lenses, Lucian says, Archimides burnt the Roman fleet, at a distance of three miles. This statement is now not received as being a fact, as it is impossible for a lens, even the most powerful, to we place this in the class of fables.

About the year 1000, an Arab caled Alhazen, joined together all the ideas of Ptolemy on the reflection of light, and taught with them his own. Ptolemy wrote on catoptrica; which is the science of the reflection of light, and of dioptrica, which is the scienc of the refraction of light. He also described the *forct* of spherical glasses, and the magnitude of objects as seen through these glasses. In the 13th century, a learned mathematician by the name of Vitilion, attempted in a treatise, to put the optics of Alhazen in better order, and more clear and intellig ble. A few years after this, the Archbishop of Canterbery composed a work on Optica directa, which he called perspectiva, that is to say, the science of vision without reflection, or refraction with a compendium of catoptrica; but Roger Bacon gave a new form to optics. Bacon was a great philosopher, and endowed with an admirable imagination.

In the 16th century, John Baptist Porta, an Italian, in making experiments with light, relative to its passing through different media, thought of stretching some tissues of skin, and letting the light only pass through a small perforation, and in conjunction with glasses, he was enabled to form the miniature of objects in front of this aparatus.

This is the origin of the *camera obscura* which many celebrated philosophers, as Grewisand, Polinere Muschenbrook, etc., have perfected, making it more managable and convenient, and to copy with facility all kinds of objects. After this discovery, Porta believed he had solved the great enigma of the rationale of vision. Believing the eye to be a kind of camera obscura, in which objects are painted, but he knew not where this picture was formed—he believed, however, it was on the crystaline lens.

Having spoken of the origen of the principal discoveries of the ancients in optics, I shall now proceed to the other branches of this science, and first, that which relates to the different colors of bodies and the compound nature of light.

Light, notwithstanding it seems to be homogenious, is composed of seven primitive colors—violet, indigo, blue, green, yellow, orange, red. This discovery was made by Sir Isaac Newton, by letting light pass through certain media, and Newton's discovery being improved, has resulted in the invention of the solar spectrum. In the year 1775, a philosopher by the name of Mayer, regarded all the colors of Newton (the *vibgyor* of Newton); this word being composed of the initials of the seven colors, and in their order of refraction) as arising from the mingling of three colors—red, yellow, blue. (The *ryb* of Mayer, this word being similar to the one just mentioned.) As by a combination of red and green in certain proportions, produces a color perfectly identical with the yellow of the spectrum, and a mixture of violet and green a perfect blue. From this, Young imagined that the many shades of the spectrum are compounded of green, red and violet, (the *grv* of Dr Young.) Sir David Brewster inferred from certain experiments, that green and violet are compound colors; he adopts the hypothesis of Mayer, which is, that the three homogenious colors are red, yellow and blue. Since his time, most of the philosophers of distinction coincide with Brewster, in the hypothesis of Dr. Mayer.

Notwithstanding there is such a diversity of color among the innumerable bodies of which our globe is composed, they are all compounded of three primitive colors, red, yellow, and blue. The same relation exists in the colors of natural bodies, as in their composition, and as our world is composed of 54 elements by whose various combinations we have such a variety of objects; and if we subtract from these 54 all the metals and earths, the remainder will be but small; which compose the great mass of all things. Oxygen, carbon, and hydrogen are the principal elements which form the most of bodies, so as regards numbers the primitive colors of light and the elements of bodies are the same—both being three—oxygen, carbon, and hydrogen forming all bodies; and red yellow and blue all colors. The primitive colors are also analogous to the alphabet, as by the different joining of the 26 letters, are formed the many books which treat of an infinite number of subjects, and as by the different joining together of these primitive elements in literature, new ideas may be advanced which the world never has before heard of; so in science, by the different mingling of the primitive colors, red, yellow and blue, and the elementary substances, carbon, oxygen and hydrogen, we may generate new colors and new bodies, which never has before existed. The primitive colors are also very like numbers—it is by the nine digits and cypher, that the different numbers are expressed and as numbers progress ad infinitum in the ascending and decending scale, so with colors

The different colors of bodies are owing to certain rays of light being *reflected* and the others *absorbed*; for example, any red substance, as carmine or vermillion is so because the other two rays, blue and yellow, are absorbed, and the red ray *reflected*—the blue and yellow colors are accounted for on the same principle. Transparency is owing to all three rays passing through without being obstructed—black, to their all being absorbed, and whiteness to all three rays being *reflected*; and the different intermediate colors to a combination of different proportions of the reflected rays. There are other branches of optics, such as the palatization, abration, reflection, and inference of light, which I am necessarily compelled to pass over, from not having plates to explain them; and as these subjects are so intricate it is impossible for me by words alone to give any definite idea of them. Those however, who are curious on these points, I refer to the regular system on optics.

There is another subject connected with optics, which though more of an art than a science, on which it may not be out of place to make a few remarks—it relates to Daguerrotype. This in a term applied to a process by which images are impressed upon plates of silver, from the lens of a camera obscura—This recent discovery was made by Daguerro, an ingenious Parisian artizan. I shall not in this article attempt to explain the *theory* of the process of taking images, as this would prolong the present article beyond all due bounds; and I imagine there are not many who are so inquesitive as to wish it. I shall, in as brief a manner as possible, describe the aparatus and manipulations in taking "the Drguerrotype." In the first place, the operator must have a good instrument, on the principle of a camera obscura. Secondly, a sufficient number of plates; these are made by coating copper plates with pure silver. It would be better for Daguerrotype takers to purchase these plates from a gilding factory, as at these places they are made to greater perfection than he could possibly make them himself; the plates after having been made, are highly polished with diluted nitric acid; after this, the plate is subjected to the diffused vapor of iodine—the plate is now ready for the reception of objects. In the course of a few seconds, after sitting for the image, the plate is removed, and though the image cannot be seen, yet it is indelibly received, and may be made visible by subjecting it to the vapor of mercury; after this it is immersed in a solution of hyposulphite of soda, and finally the plate is boiled in distilled water and allowed to dry. The picture is now quite visible and perfect, and is ready for framing.

LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

An Act to alter the sittings of the Courts of Law, in certain Districts.

1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, now met and sitting in General Assembly, and by the authority of the same, That hereafter the Courts of Common Pleas and General Sessions for the several Districts, within the Northern, Middle and Eastern Circuits, hereafter mentioned, shall be held at the times following, respectively instead of the times now provided by law; that is to say, for the Districts of Richland, Edgefield, Spartanburg and Chesterfield, on the 1st Mondays in March and October in every year, to sit two weeks for the Districts of Richland and Edgefield, and one week for the Districts of Spartanburg and Chesterfield at each term; for the Districts of Union and Marlborough, on the second Monday in March and October in every year, to sit two weeks for the District of Union and one week for the District of Marlborough at each term; for the Districts of Newberry and Darlington, on third Monday in March and October in every year, to sit one week at each term; for the Districts of Fairfield, Lexington and Marion, on the fourth Monday in March and October in every year, to sit one week at each term; for the Districts of Chester, Sumter, and Horry, on the first Monday after the fourth Monday in March and October in every year, to sit for one week at each term; for the Districts of York, Kershaw and Georgetown, on the second Monday after the fourth Monday in March and October in every year, to sit one week at each term; for the Districts of Lancaster and Williamsburg, on the third Monday after the fourth Monday in March and October in every year, to sit for one week at each term. For the District of Charleston, on the first Monday in May, in every year, instead of the second Monday in March to sit six weeks.

Sec. 2 That all suits and process which shall have been made returnable to the Cours of any of the said Districts, at the times heretofore provided by law, shall respectively be legal and valid, to all intents and purposes, for the Courts next to be held in the said Districts respectively, according to the provisions of this Act; and that all persons who have been summoned, or may hereafter be summoned, to attend the Courts of any of the said Districts, as jurors or witnesses, or who now are or who shall hereafter be bound in recognizance to appear at any of the said Courts, at the times heretofore provided by law, shall be and are hereby required to attend or appear at the Courts of the said Districts, respectively, next to be held according to the provisions of this Act.

Sec. 3. That Spartanburg be, and is hereby added to the Northern Circuit.

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An Act to authorize persons practicing Medicine under the Botanic or Thompsonian system to receive compensation for their services.

Sec. 1. Be it enacted by the honorable the Senate and House of Representatives now met and sitting in General Assembly, and by the authority of the same. That hereafter all persons now practicing, or who may hereafter practice Medicine according to the Botanic or Thompsonian system, shall have the privilege of making reasonable charges for their services, and may sue for and recover such charges before any tribunal having competent jurisdiction: Provided that nothing herein contained shall confer upon any person so practicing such privileges unless he be a graduate of a legally organized Thompsonian College of Medicine, and shall confine himself to the use or administration of such Medicines only as properly belong or are embraced in the Thompsonian system of medicine.

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An Act to provide for the more effectual collection of Taxes from Free persons of Color.

1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, now met and sitting in General Assembly, and by the authority of the same, That it shall be the duty of every free negro, mullatto, or mestizoe within this State, between the ages of fifteen and fifty years (except such as shall be clearly proved to the satisfaction of the Collector to be incapable from maims or otherwise of providing a livelihood,) to make due return of themselves to the Tax Collector of the District, in which they reside, for the purpose of paying sueh Capitation Tax as is or may be imposed on them by law; and it shall be lawful for any member of a family to make returns for the other members of the family, or for any female or any sick or infirm person to make return by an agent, and such return shall be received as lawful by the Tax Collector.

Sec. 2. In case any free negro, mullatto, or mestizoe shall not make such return within the time prescribed by law for the payment of the Tax imposed at the present session, or hereafter, upon her or him, such free negro, mullatto or mestizoe shall be double taxed, and the Tax Collector shall be anthorized to issue execution as in cases where any white person shall fail to make return.

Sec. 3. The Tax imposed upon any free negro, mullatoe or mestizoe may be paid by him or her at the time of making his or her return.

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An Act to abolish the punishment of death in cases of forgery and counterfeiting.

1. Be it enacted by the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives, now met and sitting in General Assembly and by the authority same. That in all cases where the punishment of death is imposed by law upon any person who shall be convicted of falsely making, forging, or counterfeiting, or causing, or procuring to be falsely made, forged or counterfeited; or of willingly acting or assisting in the false making, forging or counterfeiting of any writing or instrument of writing, or uttering or publishing as true any false, forged or counterfeited writing, or instrument of writing, or of fasely making, forging, counterfeiting, altering, chaning, defacing, or erasing, or causing or procuring to be falsely made, forged, counterfeited, altered, changed, defaced, or erased, any record or plat of land, or of willingly acting or assisting in any of the premises, with an intention to defraud any person, or of counterfeiting, or uttering, or attempting to pass, knowing it to be counterfeit, any gold or silver coin or of making or keeping in possession any stomp dye or mould for coining; the said punishment is hereby abolished; and in lieu thereof, the person convicted shall be sentenced to be whipped thirty nine lashes, and to be imprisoned not less than one year nor more than seven years, and also, to pay such fine as may be judged expedient, at the discretion of the Judge who may try the case.

PUBLIC MEETING.

The public meeting yesterday morning was very respectfully attended. His Honor the Mayor pro. tem. presiding, and J. H. Dukes, Esq., acting as Secretary. It was ably addressed by Messrs. Memminger, Hunt, Phillips and Seymour, which prompted the passage of the resolutions unanimously introduced by the first named gentleman.

The preamble and resolutions were ordered to be published in the city paper and those of Columbia.

The citizens of Charleston have heard with unfeigned regret, of the suffering in the upper Districts of our State, occasion by the failure of the Provision crop of the last season. The distress which such a calamity must produce, is increased by the fact that our country has been so peculiarly blessed with abundant grain crops, that the people are entirely unprepared to meet so rare and unexpected an emergency. The first and immediate effect which it has produced, has been a hasty emigration of those whose necessities were stronger than the ties which bound them to their domestic hearths. From the District of Spartanburg alone it is ascertained that upwards of two thousand persons have already fled from the destitution which awaited them, to seek in the West some means of support. The condition of many of those who remain may be conceived when it is known, that in the whole district, not more than one-sixth of the usual provision crop has been made, while in many neighborhoods there are entire fields which have produced scarcely a single ear of corn. In this calamity several of the adjacent districts have shared, and though, perhaps, not to the same extent, yet so great is the destitution, that they are unable to provide for sufferers among themselves, much less for those in other districts. Throughout this region of country, with the exception of Greenville and perhaps of Pendleton District, the distress is such as to call forth the active sympaties of our people.

In these circumstance, the people of Charleston, both in the City and on the Neck, would do injustice to their own feelings, if they did not at once unite in giving their expression, and come forward to the relief of their fellow citizens.

Resolved, That the citizens of the two Parishes of St. Philips and St. Michaels, do hereby tender to their fellow citizens of the Upper Districts of our State, their kindliest sympathies for the suffering produced amongst them by the failure of their provision crop, and will cordially ntribute their aid to alleviate that suffering.

Resolved, That a Committee of twenty citizens be appointed in each Ward of the City, and two Committees on the Neck, for the purpose of taking up the contribution of the people two parishes, in aid of the suffering in the Upper Districts; and that the Committees do immediately proceed around in their respective precincts to execute the duty entrusted to them.

Resolved, That the Chairman of these Committees, with the acting Mayor of the city, be constituted an Executive Committee, to receive all the contributions when collected, and to make all proper arrangements for applying the same to relieve in the most effectual manner those who are suffering in the Upper Districts from the existing scarcity of provisions.

Char. Courier.

The Post Office Department.—It does seem surprising that while the Secretaries report from four to six millions as the annual expenditures for the support of the army and navy, without any fear that the extravagance of the appropriations should be condemned or any questions asked asked as to the *cui bono* of this outlay for military purposes, if the expenditures of the Post Office Department exceed its receipts by a few thousands, the Post Master General feels it to be his duty to suggest some mode by which this loss may be made up to the treasury. For what reason we ask again. Is the facility of communication between all quarters of the republic less necessary to its security, or to the comfort and convenience of the people, than an army or a navy? Or can the latter be made useful or effective without the advantage of the former? And if not, why should these be kept up by heavy appropriations made without a murmur, and charged to the general expenses of the government, while this is considered as a matter for the support of which the government should not be called upon to expend a cent?

We say then that the establishment of public mails being necessary for carrying on the affairs of the country—and communicating to all alike the advantages which result from them, should be considered as a part of the necessary expenditures of the Government—that the tax imposed for a partial reimbursemont of the expense of this establishment, which is imposed in the form of postage, should be of the most moderate amount, so that it may fall upon the poor with the least possible hardship—and that whatever of deficiency may arise from this low rate of postage should be paid out of the general treasury fund, and charged to the general expenses of the Government. And we say, in conclusion, that any attempt to raise the postage, whether by charging postages according to the number of pieces of which a letter is composed, or in any other way, would be exceedingly unpopular.—*Chas. News.*

The Summer Ended.—Another summer is ended. Its months and hours are numbered. Its events, and the acts of each individual, are recorded for exhibition at the jugement. Many who read our journal have seen their last summer. To them the autumn and winter of life, with its cold, and frosts, and death, are close at hand. They will see the sear and yellow leaf of autumn fade and fall for the last time. The wintry night winds will moan around their graves, or sweep gently over the place of their repose.—When the spring returns, their slumbers will be too deep to feel its genial influence. The rose and the flowers will bloom again, but their fragrance will not penetrate the narrow chamber where they sleep. The sun will come back again from his southern journey, and shed down on fields of grass and waving grain his genial and ripening rays. His bright beams will look each morning into the chambers where they slept during their sojourn on earth, but the shutters of the chamber where they will then sleep will be too fast closed to admit his rays. The bustle and din of life will advance unheeded as in summers gone by, but no noise at the door of their chamber will avail to disturb their slumbers. The mud walled cottage, where now dwells the immortal mind, will be taken down. That invisible inhabitant will have fled: it will mount on pinions unseen by mortal eyes, to make its way to that mysterious land where spirits dwell.

The next Governor.—The Editor of the South Carolinian has nominated the Hon. David Johnson as a suitable person to fill the gubernatorial chair upon the expiration of the term of the present incumbent. The nomination is an unobjectionable one, though we think it rather premature. It is a growing fault of our country, this system of early nominations. No sooner is a candidate elected to discharge the duties of an office, than the politicians begin to look out for no less than five candidates for the Presidency in 1849, although Mr. Polk has been in office but nine months. It is a custom more honored in the breach than the observance. July is time enough for a gubernatorial nomination, and would then give the State ample opportunity to canvass the merits of the candidates.

Char. Evening News.

Extraordinary Will.—A short time since the will of a John Hedges, Esq., was proved in Doctors Commons. The following is a verbatim copy of this extraordinary will, and we believe unparalleled document.

"The fifth day of May
Being airy and gay,
And to hyp not inclined,
But of vigorous mind,
And my body in health,
I'll dispose of my wealth,
And all I'm to leave,
On this side of the grave,
To some one or other,
And I think to my brother,
Because I foresaw
That my brethren in law,
If I did not take care,
Would come in for their share,
Which I nowise intended,
Till their manners are mended,
And of that, God knows, there's no sign
I do therefore enjoin,
And do strictly command,
Of which witness my hand,
That nought I have got,
Be brought into hotch pot;
And I give and devise,
As much as in me lies,
To the son of my mother,
My own dear brother,
To have and to hold,
All my silver and gold,
As the affectionate pledges
Of his brother—John Hedges."

Judge Garland.—A report was current in the city yesterday that this person had fled to Havana. It is certain that he has not been arrested, and that the officers have been unable to find him.—*N. O. Picayune.*

What with boisters behind and big muffs before our fashionables carry a broad sway just now. A lady in full winter street paraphoualia, now looks like a Dutch meal bag, provided with powers of locomotion. But this is fashion, and if it was made fashionable to walk on the head, it would be heresy to say a word against it—and so we are mum.—*Boston Star.*

What would the Star man have? Is he not willing that the ladies should make themselves comfortable this cold weather?

Before you give way to anger, try to find a reason for not being angry.