MIDNIGHT DISPATCHES.

THE METZ MYSTERY.

YET LIFTED.

WHAT PALIKAO TOLD THE CORPS LEGISLATIF.

THE PRUSSIANS "CHECKED AND RETIRING."

ADVICES FROM STRASBOURG.

Latest from Paris. PARIS, August 16.

The official confirmation of a great victory is impatiently awaited. Large crowds are col-Advices from Strasbourg state that the Prus-

sians seem inclined to retire. Some shots had been exchanged. The people are determined to defend the place to extremity. In the Corps Legislatif, to-day, Deputy Kel-

ler said the troops had been fighting three days, and there was no news as to what had been done. The Corps could not think of any other matter. The meeting must be permanent till the Ministry report.

Minister Palikao said it was not proposed to speak of the defeat the Prussians are said to have sustained. He had no official dispatches touching yesterday's events, but had news from reliable sources that the enemy were checked several times, and was retiring from Commercy. He was full of confidence, but could not give details. In a few days a much greater force would be under Marshal Bazaine, the only and true commander-in-chief.

Deputy Ferry said the Emperor's address to the people of Metz created a bad effect.

The speaker was interrupted by cries of disapproval, which drowned the speaker's voice. The Chambers then voted several laws for the prosecution of the war.

POLITICS IN THE STATE.

Great Rally in Columbia-Speeches by Judge Carpenter, General Easley, Jones Byrd and others.

[SPECIAL TELEGAM TO THE NEWS.] COLUMBIA, August 16. It is rumored that Treasurer Parker is to be sacrificed for party purposes, and he intends

writing a letter exposing the corruptions of the Scott Ring. Judge Carpenter, General W. K. Easley, General Kershaw and Jonas Byrd spoke to twenty-five hundred people in Sydney Park to-day. Two-fifths of those present were colored. A brass band was in attendance. General Butler was absent, owing to sickness. Among those on the stand with the speakers were Alderman Holloway, of Charleston, Colonels Thomas and Pelham, Major Siebels, Rev. Father O'Connell, Rev. P. J. Shand, Generals Arthur and Taylor, and Colonel McMaster. Colonel McMaster presided and made a

graceful introductory address. Judge Carpenter then spoke. He denounced the Ring, and feared that the corruption would extend even into the judiciary. He also denounced Orr's plan of joining the Radicals to reform them. He denounced the re. the member from Lexingten, wanted a place for Ensor, got it, and Dr. Parker was removed to give Ensor an office. He asserted that, under the laws of the State, Scott had no right to accept militia companies; and in doing so, and arming them, he and the adjutantgeneral rendered themselves liable to indictment; and he called upon the attorney-gen eral to do his duty and prosecute them. He said he was willing to meet Scott at any time, and let him commence and close the discus-

General Easley briefly alluded to the existing evils, and the interests of the two races being identical, and of the necessity of the two working together before the State would be pros-

General Kershaw explained the principles of the movement, and depicted the horrible result of the two races keeping up the antag-

Jonas Byrd made a speech regarding the cause, and gave his reasons for joining it, because he believed it was the only way to benefit both white and black alike.

During the meeting, Colonel R. B. Elliott twice wanted to speak, but on being told that Scott would be allowed to discuss with Carpenter, and that this was a Reform meeting to present the claims of Reform, and not to discuss questions with minor speakers, he expressed himself satisfied, and when his colored friends attempted to disturb the meeting, addressed them, beseeching them to be quiet and give the Reformers what the Radicals demanded, the right of free speech. This quieted

The Fourth Congressional District. [SECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE NEWS.]

COLUMBIA, August 16. The Covention of the Fourth Congressional District unanimously nominated to-night Colonel J. J. McKissick, of Union, for Congress. All the counties were represented. Colonel McKissick's disabilities have been removed.

There was a large meeting to-night in front of the Columbia Hotel. Speeches were made by W. L. DePass, of Camden, and J. E. Bacon. of Edgefield. Elliott and Worthington have been invited, and are expected to speak yet.

Rainey Nominated for Congress. [SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE NEWS.]

FLORENCE, S. C., August 16. The Republican Convention, in session here this evening, nominated J.- H. Rainey for the unexpired term of the Forty-first and for the Forty-second Congress. There was no opposition, and the proceedings were harmonious

GOLD AND BOND MARKET.

LONDON, August 16. Consols 911. Bonds 871.

New York, August 16. Money active owing to increased ease in London. Gold generally quiet, opening at 162, advancing to 174, with large transactions at 174, declining to 164, but closing at 17 al7 . Governments opened dull, with a slight advance; closed very dull; eightyones 141; sixty-twos 12. Southerns generally quiet; April and October issue of South Carolinas advanced, 754 bid, 77 asked; new 61. Vir. ginias 60; new 62. Louislanas 70; new 67; levee sixes 711; eights 854. Alabama eights 98 fives 71. Georgia sixes 83; sevens 891. North Carolinas 523; new 433. South Carolinas 80; new 724.

THINGS IN COLUMBIA.

Another Sirocco Cometh.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

COLUMBIA, August 15.

The effort of the Columbia correspondent of the Scott Ring organ to make capital out of the burial of Pleasant Goode is so feeble a thing-so pitiable a falsehood-that nobody would care to mention it were it not that its THE SMOKE OF THE CONFLICT NOT littleness shows to what straits they are reduced. This correspondent stated that the Reform party had refused to pay for the coffin of Pleasant Goode. The coffin was ordered and paid for by private citizens; and the Reform party had no more to do with it than the Scott Ring or the Randolph Monument committee have. The fact that they resort to such! trickery as this invention, shows that they are in a condition when men catch at

> The Reform movement has already made important progress among the colored citizens of Richland County. This will appear at the proper time. But the uneasiness of the anti-Reformers appears in scores of ways.

> Certain stunning revelations about the land commission and his Excellency's connections therewith is expected soon to be published by Treasurer Parker.

Ex-Governor Orr's letter, which is to appear in to-morrow's Phœhix, is understood to be his bid for the United States Senate. Governor Orr does not seem to be aware that his Excellency has promised his influence for at least five other men for the same place; among whom are understood to be Mackey, Moses and Cain, and two other negroes.

WAR TOPICS.

[From the Continental Correspondence of the English Newspapers.] The German Conscription. When I arrived early this morning at Ober-When I arrived early this morning at Oberlahnstein, that station was completely blocked
up, and the large platform before it, viewed
from my carriage window, was a curious and
painful sight, its length, breadth and depth being densely thronged with a living mass of
true Prusslan-blue humanity. All the male
peasants of the old Nassau territory wear
azure blouses, and all the females blue cotton gowns, more or less thickly constellated with white spots; and as there must have been at least a thousand of both sexes, closely wedged gowns, more or less thickly constellated with white spots; and as there must have been at least a thousand of both sexes, closely wedged together in expectation of the train that was to bear off the fighting half of the assembly from its lamenting molety, things looked very blue indeed at Lahnstein. There were the poor, square-faced, sunburnt fellows, trying with a ghastly galety to vindicate their manhood by roaring out staves of patriotic songs, each couplet supplemented by a chorus of sobs from the women and girls clinging around them. So few minutes left, and so much to say before the parting that may be the last on earth! So few minutes, indeed! for, ere we started in the direction of Mayence, the train bound for Cobientz glided swiftly into the station, already half full of "mobilized" men, who, having got over their partings, had railied their spirits, and were cheering, singing and waving their handkerchiefs as heartly as if their goal were not a battle-field, but a wedding. Fine fellows, these, in physique and morule—broad-should-ered, sturdy, bronzed youths, ranging, I should think, from twenty to thirty years of age, and most of them already provided with some outward and visible sign of their military calling. As soon as their train stopped, the poor folks in the station began to kiss and embrace one another almost desperately; and I wish never to hear again a sound like that which reached me from that platform. It was all over in a minute; the men got away, somehow—I dare say they scarely themselves knew how—from mothers, wives, sweethearts and sisters, who were all thrust back to the inner part of the station; then half-a-dozen smart non-commissioned officers, one or two of whom quite simply put their coat-sleeves up to their eyes as they stepped forward, came to the front and told the draft off into the carriages; then the miserable women made a rush to the steps of the carriages, and—but I think I would rather not say anything more about the closing of this tragical scene, if you please. Thank H

All Germany Depopulated for the War. The Prussian system is, as you know, unsparing of persons. Let me give you an instance, out of the many that have come under my notice, of the grim impartiality with which it lays hold of every class. Many of your readers will remember the tail, good-looking and courteous proprietor of the Hotel du Nord, in Cologne—a prosperous, wealthy man, quite a personage in Rhineland, an excellent linguist Cologne—a prosperous, wealthy man, quite a personage in Rhineland, an excellent linguist, and the head of a large commercial enterprise, which he has hitherto successfully managed in person. On Saturday last he consigned eight of his best carriage horses to the army ser-vice; and on Monday he himself was drafted into a culrassier regiment. Here is a man taken away from the conduct of his own interests and from his family, compelled to sacrifice his substance, and to risk his life on the battle-field. Of course his case is not one will more deplorable than that of the humblest peasant, snatched from his field of humblest peasant, snatched from his field or his vineyard; both jeopardize their existence for the Fatherland; but the former, outside that grand equalizing stake, suffers actually a greater material loss than the latter, even taking into account their relative positions. In the towns many of the shops are being shut up; for their occupants are obliged to assume needle-gun and helmet, and there is nobody to keep the business going. The hotels are be-coming forlorn of waiters—a deprivation that is mitigated in its severity by the fact that but few guests are left to require the minis-tration of those obliging polygiottists. The exodus of loreigners from Germany during the past week has been something astonishing. Having occasion to go over to Homburg this evening. I found that essentially British settlement in the way of becoming a howling wilderness. A week ago, so the last of the Mobicans informed me, you could hardly struggle through the crowd on the lower terraces during music time; the glass gallery was in a chronic state of "More chairs," and the play-tables unapproachable under an hour's elbowing. Now, the "gay and glittering" throng" is composed of about half-a-dozen faithful Russians, as many English, three or four tenacious Americans, and a hundred or two of the miserable natives, making hollow presence of enjoying themselves and risking pretence of enjoying themselves, and risking a double florin twice a day to 'keep up ap-pearances." The glory of Homburg-on-the-Heights has departed, scarcely to return this

our freight consisted.

King William in Berlin. In an hour or so we were in Berlin, and emerged into streets filled with men in plain clothes proceeding in some sort of military order, with small escorts of soldiery, to the railway station. Many of these wore decorations—medals, ribbons and crosses—which spoke of service in Schleswig-Hoistein and in Bohemia. They were sober, orderly men in Bohemia. They were sober, orderly men-quiet, unexcited, and perhaps all the more anxious to fight hard to end the campaign, because they had been called away so suddenly from hearth and home—men mostly of 25 and upwards, several in each band belonging apparently to the well-to-do bourgeoise, or better class of artisans. Large cavalcades of horses, in better spirits, were led off in fours in the same direction. Detachments of troops were passing all day, down the Lime-tree-walk, and at 2 o'clock the King drove through the streets to the station in a Russian drosky, and was re-ceived with uncovered heads and a buzzing sort of suppressed cheer as he passed. He "looked every inch a King," plumed and helmeted in strictest soldler tunic—a real monarch of the days when king led subjects to battle. What a fine old head and front it is. The stamp of imperator is there already, and it would not surprise one very much to learn that in an nour of stress that old man, with his piercing blue eye and open brow, and fine lip curved under his massive white moustache, would cut the Cordian knot of a constitution with a swit, sure sword. Certainly he is not the sort of man one would like to worry corum populo in a watering place. And then he has a faith; "he believes" and he is sure that He in whom he believes has placed his cause beyond the

CONFUSED REPORTS.

BOTH SIDES STILL CLAIM A VIC-TORY AT METZ.

STRASBOURG NOT INVESTED.

BITSCHE STILL HOLDING OUT.

A STRANGE STORY FROM TOUL.

NO AUSTRIAN MEDIATION.

Reports from Washington. WASHINGTON, August 16. There is nothing official regarding battles.

From the Seat of War. VERDUN, August 16-6 A. M. There is no news from Metz. Nothing has

occurred to-day. All day yesterday cannon was heard between Metz and Verdun. Persons from that direction say that a great battle was fought, and the Prussians lost more than four thousand, and were completely de feated yesterday morning twenty-eight kilo-

metres from the fortifications of Verdun. The

enemy had been seen directing his retreat to the south. Signed : Prefect of Verdun. Though transmitted by authority of the government, we have not been able to verify it, and it is given to the public under reserve by

the Minister of the Interior. The Bishop of Luxembourg and several clergymen have gone to Metz to comfort the

dying. Reports from London.

LONDON, August 16. Two hundred Uhlans appeared before Toul. Shots were exchanged, and the Prussians demanded the surrender of the town. Receiving a defiant refusal, they retired.

Strasbourg is not invested. The French still occupy Bitsche. It is again asserted that the Prussians hold Mulhaus and Besancon. Extracts from the French official bulletins state that the Prussians are not in force before Strasbourg, and Bitsche still holds out.

The bridges at Teigerheim and Basle were lestroyed by the enemy. Prussian dispatches to the Prussian Minister nere are full of triumphs, and express the

greatest confidence in the early result of the English experiments with the mitrailleur ndicate that they are destructive at close

quarters, but troops holding them may be analhilated before they come in range. The Times sympathizes strongly with Prus-

sia, and rejoices in Prussia's successes. Reports from Paris.

Paris, August 16. The Prefect of the Meuse telegraphs to the Minister of the Interior that Uhlans were seen in the neighborhood of Commercy, marching towards Bar Le Duc. The prefect cut the railways in that section to impede the progress of the enemy.

The French journals complain of the brevity of the dispatches from the seat of war. Even the Constitutionel, semi-official, says the information is not precise regarding the posi-

tion of either army. The Journal Officiel declares Cherbourg, Brest, L'Orient and Rochfort in a state of

siege. The French left two dispatch boats in the Tiber on evacuating Rome.

No Austrian Rediation. VIEN: A, August 16. Baron Von Beust denies any attempt on his part to mediate between France and Prussia.

WASHINGTON, August 16. think there were many dry eyes amongst the homeward bound tourists and "availds of whom The State Department has no dispatches regarding the storming of Metz.

The Battle at Metz-Prussian Accoun BERLIN, August 16. The following additional particulars of the ight were received late last night:

"Late on Monday afternoon the first and seventh army corps vigorously attacked the French forces under the walls of Metz. A san guinary conflict ensued. The French were finally driven within the city. The French loss is four thousand. On the same day a grand re connoissance, led by King William, maintained tself for some hours within two lines of the French defences, from which, without effort, part of the French were dislodged. The facts show the utter demoralization of the French."

Another Version.

LONDON, August 16. The Daily News (sensational) has a dispatch rom the Continent that the French have lriven the entire Prussian line. The Telegraph has an editorial arguing Prussian disasters The Times' money article says a French victory is necessary to predispose the Emperor to treat for peace. The Telegraph's Paris correspondent writes

hat the French Chambers are unworthy of public respect. Were the members not elected by fraud and coercion they might be trust ed as a committee of public safety.

The Prince Imperial is certainly in Paris. Blockading Operations.

The British Consul at Hamburg telegraphs that the mouths of the rivers Elbe, Eyder. Jahde and Weser are blockaded by the French fleet. The Governor of the Island of Heligaland has refused to grant a pilot permission to conduct a flag of truce boat to Cuxhaven.

King William's Proclamation. The King of Prussia has issued a proclama-

tion at St. Avold, in which he declares milltary conscription abolished in all French territory occupied by German troops. He also announces that though the French Government should persist in the forcible expulsion of Germans from France, no measures of retaliation will be adopted by him, as it would ne unfair to punish men who belong to a country cursed with a Bonaparte for its sovereign He adds, "Frenchmen in Germany need not be uneasy. They shall, in common with all mankind, be co. inced that Germany moves at the head of civilization."

Awaiting the Issue.

LONDON, August 16. The Saturday Review retrains from specula ion on the war, because, it says, a few days must determine the fate of France and the Emperor. Probably the army will take matters in its own hands, choose a leader, and

Too Quick on the Trigger.

Paris, August 16. Count Palikao has issued an address to the troops, in which he blames them for firing too quick at Weissenburg. He says they used more ammunition in one day than the Prus sians would in three days. The marshal reminds the soldiers that they are now on a grand line of defence from Thionville to Metz and Nancy, and they must hold their ground. Back of that is the line of the Meuse, then the Argones, then the line of rivers illustrated by the campaign of 1814, and behind all this is

CHARLESTON, WEDNESDAY MORNING, AUGUST 17, 1870. Paris, and behind Paris is all France, with 400,000 armed men and one thousand millions

> of treasure. The French "Stay Law." The text of the decree voted yesterday by the Corps Legislatif has been to-day officially promulgated. It is as follows:

1st. The time allowed to make protests and all acts with regard to appeal concerning all commercial papers negotiated before the pro-mulgation of this law is extended from one month to forty-five days. Payment shall no mount to lort-late days. Layment shall not be required of endorsets or other parties interested during said time. Interest thereon will be due after maturity up to the time of payment. 2d. No law suit shall be carried on against citizens called upon to render mulitary against citizens called upon to render military service during the war in virtue of article second of the law of August 11, 1870, or against the members of the Garde Mibile at present serving under the flag.

Trouble in a New Spot. Algeria is declared in a state of siege. [This probably means that the hostile Arabs have taken advantage of the war and the consequent withdrawal of a portion of the French troops from Algeria to renew hostilities.] Switzerland Trrnquil.

BERNE, August 16. The Swiss Corps of Observation is disbande d. The German Army of Invasion Seven Hundred and Fifty Thousand Men-

Grand Concentration of the French The following special dispatch, received from Paris on Friday night by the Courrier des Etats Unis, the French journal of New York, gives a clear view of the military situstion of Franca, as seen by the people of Paris at that time."

News from the army is now awaited with anxiety; the decisive moment draws near. The information obtained by the War Department shows that Prussia is concentrating a great army of invasion, consisting of seven hundred and fifty thousand men, between Cologne and Rustadt. It is certainly ascer-tained that there are no longer more than two hundred and fifty thousand men in Alsice and

Lorraine.
The leaders of the French army are making preparations to resist this tide of invaders. More than four hundred thousand men will be brought together between the Vosges and the Moselle within two days. The bulk of the army remains concentrated around Metz, where the first detachments of the corps of McMahon, and of that of Do Failly, arrived yesterday. The re-treat of these corps has been effected in very good order. The partial abandonment of Alsace by our

troops gives rise to lively auxiety for the fate of Strasbourg. The city is well supplied with war materials, food and ammunition, but the very imited numbers of the garrison excite fears est they cannot hold it long.

One of the first efforts of the new minister of

war has been to remedy the defects in supplies, which occasioned the demoralization of our troops. Immense convoys of provisions have been sent to the field.

been sent to the field.

Here the situation is much the s-m2; there is less tumult nod more resolution. In all classes of society there is an irresistible current towards the frontier. For example, M. rent towards the troutier. For example, M. Duruy, formerly a cabinet minister, and M. Paul de Cassagnac, the belligerent editor of the Pays, have enlisted, the former in the reserve, the latter in a regiment of zonaves. Paris is transformed into a citadel, the armament of the fortifications is completed; five thousand, marine, publications is completed; five thousand marine crtillerymen arrived this morning from Cherbourg. There is serious ning from Cherbourg. There is serious i h pot threatening agitation at Marsell es, Toulouse and Lyons.

THE WAR OF 1870.

[From the Saturday Review.]

Much reproach has been cast upon militar auda reproaca has been cast upon military crisics for not forecasting truly the results of the last two great wars. Even now men freely say that it is useless to anticipate the events of the coming strugtle, since in 1862 as in 1864, the most able predictions were just those that events falsified the most completely. We were told it is remarked, by expants in the former. events fatalited the most completely. We were told, it is remarked, by experts in the former year that the North would certainly be beated; two years later we saw the North completely triumphant. We were told four years since, by those supposed to know best, that Prussi had no chance against Austria, that the Im perial armies would emerge from Bohemia in a bold offensive, and that the nutried levies of the Hohenzollern would prove altogether un-able to stop the way to Berlin. Exactly the trains were unable to get ready in time to take the offensive; they proved equally unable to meet the Prussians in fair fight; the Prus sian armies, and not the Austrian, dictated peace before the enemy's gates. wo examples it has not unnaturally been detwo examples it has been allowed that the opening of a great war finds the most uninformed and the most skilful writers on a level as regards knowledge of the future, and that the only refuge from falling into error is to reserve all commentary until

Are not the premises somewhat insufficient Are not the premises somewhat instincent for the conclusion? Is it really the case that although sixty-five years since, before the campaign of Jena, it was possible for a theorist at Paris to point to the spot of Germin soil where the battle which was to decide the tate of Prussia should be fought, and for Wellington during the peace of 1814 to indicate the importance of Waterloo in the defence of Belgium, matters are now so changed that the whole progress of any future war must be inscrutable from first to last? These questions may be om first to last? These questions may be best answered by a very brief examination of the causes which set at naught all attempts to prophesy the course of the American and Bo-hemian campaigns, and by seeing how far

hemian campaigns, and by seeing now far these apply to the present crisis.

The American war is now understood by all well-informed Englishmen to have been far more an affair of politics than of mere soldier-ship. No honest Northern writer disputes the genus which the chief Southern commanders showed, or the valor of their troops. The Unionist historians chronicle fairly enough the tremendous defeats which their invading armies at first endured, and the tenacity of resistance which Lee and Johnston should be a supported to the control of the contr sistance which Lee and Jounston showed to the last, when their inferiority threw them entirely on the defensive. But neither genius nor valor displayed on a single front could avail against the preponderating force which the Unionists coul. exert when once fairly roused. The ill-fated counter-invasions attempted by Jefferson Davis's orders were just sufficiently alarming to waken thoroughly the seutiment which is called ambition or patriotism. according to the feelings with which it is ism, according to the feelings with which it is viewed, whilst made without sufficient force to viewed, whilst made without sumcient force to carry out any design of conquest. The splendid obstinacy which the Unionists thenceforth displayed, and the daring policy which made use of the public feeling to gather overwhelming forces by sea and land on every vulnerable point of the Confederacy, did the rest. The South succumbed, fairly overborne by her gingantic enemy, her means of resistance (the feebleness of which was at the first skillully concease the heing autic inadequate to suppore concealed) being quite inadequate to support the repeated shocks which the resources of the North heaped upon her. The victory was emi-nently a political one, and the result was as sured from the moment the greater power besured from the moment the greater power be-gau unreservedly to put forth its strength. No military skill could long avail against such odds when the raw material of the contending forces was so essentially similar in fibre. As the Austro-Prussian campaign, the chief facts known were that both parties had very large suries, the one inexperienced but freak-

large armies, the one mexperienced y reorganized for war and armed with a new ly reorganized for war and armed with a new weapon, the other proved in action but weighted by the leaden government of a narrow coteric. The improved organization of the Prussians had not been stadied. The effects of their broech-loader were—as their own printed factional instructions show—misdoubted by their authorities, and appreciated by none but a few far-sighted officers who had served in Schleswig. Had we learnt that in rapid arming they had secured the advantage, had Gablenz's warning to the Emperor been made known that troops armed with the muzzieknown that troops armed with the muzzle-loader had no fair chance against the needlegun, predictions would have seen as freely launched in favor of the Prussians as they undoubtedly were against them. Jomini, in the last paper that ever issued from his fertile pen, attributed the ruin of the Austrians to three distinct disadvantages—to numbers, weapons and strategy. The las of these was necessarily a doubtful element. As to the first, the full superiority of the new Prussian system was altogether unknown save to those who had created it, whilst the other was really a very grand experiment, which had not been fairly

In short, the value of all such forecasts de-

pends not only upon the powers of the diviner, but on the accuracy of his knowledge. To take the famous instance of 1806, before adverted to, it is only possible that such marvellous accuracy as foretold the battle of Jena could be attained when great intuitive skill was favored by practical knowledge of the con-ditions. Jomini had been studying Napoleon's career with the highest critical interest, and had served with the Grand Army in its late brilliant advance to the Danube therefore peculiarly acquainted with the in-strument, and with the genius of him who wielded it, whilst be bad, both as an historian strument, and with the genius of him who wielded it, whilst be had, both as an historian and a French staff officer, become aware that the Prussian army was not only inferior in numbers, but antiquated in its habits. The process of ressoning by which he drew his famous conclusions may be fairly traced somewhat as follows: "N ipoleon will certainly follow his bent and take the offensive. As Austria is closed to him by the late treaty, he must attack Prussl's either from Bavaria or the Rhine. But his army is just now gathered in Bavaria on its way back from Vienna, and he will never waste time in going all round to get upon the Rhine again. Therefore Northern Bavaria will certainly be his immediate base—no doubt the line of the Upper Main, where he is screened by mountains, and has the Upper Danube plains at his back to supply him. Here then he will collect, fronting naturally doe north. The Prussians know nothing of war since 1795, and will infallibly follow the war since 1795, and will infallibly follow the war since 1795, and will infallibly follow the old system and spread out their lesser army fronting his, and facing the south, with their left pointing towards Berlin. Supposing this actually happens, it is quite as easy for the Emperor to fall upon their left as on their cantie or right, with this advantage, that if they stop to concentrate, he will concentrate too, and have his superior force between them and Benlin on their a since defort rell win. and Berlin, so that a single defeat will ruin them. This is what can hardly escape so brilliant a genius as his. Now I observe that brilliant a genius as his. Now I observe that the roads from the Upper Alain into Saxony run well forward through a piece of Bavarian territory which projects northward towards Hof, and is of course a convenience in such a case. Though difficult, this end of the Thuringian Forest is not mountainous; and as there are several highways, two or three days' march will bring the bulk of the French through it. Whilst the columns converge to unite in the lower ground of Saxony, the unite in the lower ground of Saxony, the Prussians, discovering that they are being turned and outflinked to the east of their line, will draw in towards their own left to meet the enemy. The deep valley of the Upper Saale, of great importance in former German wars divides the east end of the Thuringian country from the rest, and will naturally separate the two armies. The passages of the Upper Saale all converge about Jena. It is pretty certain, therefore, that the Prussians, unless much wiser than I take them to be, will have to tight for these passages, and there is therefore fair reason to foretell that a great battle, on which the fate of the kingdom is to depend, will be fought in the neighborhood of Jena."

Such we may suppose to have been the train of thought which led to a prediction, by a then obscure writer, which has made his name more noted than the most elaborate of all his books. But matters are not in 1870 as in 1806. A hundred Jominis, if they were to meet in council at the Tuileries this week could not possibly foresee the resultant of the tremendous forces about to be brought into collision. No one knows exactly the available armies which may be gathered by a certain time. The French boast that they can put 350 000 men on the Ruine in a few days. Very possibly; but the Germans can certainly as-350 000 men on the Ruine in a few days. Very possibly; but the Germans can certainly assemble 390 030 men by corps d'armée in a fortuight. The French declare the Chassepot a better weapon than the Zündnadelgewehr. Very possibly; but the Prusian gun has stood the brunt of war, and bears the prestige of the most rapidly successful campaign on record. The French put faith in their new mitraileurs; all recent experience tends to lessen expecta-tion of great r. sulfs from complicated forms of light artillery. The french believe that the Prussians have lost the practice of one sort of tactics, and not fixed on anything to take its place. The Prussian writer allege that, with any shortcomings, their new system is far in advance of those of other nations in its adapadvance of those of other nations in its adaptation to the breechloader. The French point to the strategy that gave them Magenta, and the tactics that won Solferino. The Prussians say that the one was lost by the paltering incompetency of the Austrian staff, the other by the meddling of Francis Joseph with matters far beyond his grasp. The French are proud of the active intelligence of their democratic rank and fite, and their self-made officers and generals. The Prussians have faith in their patient sturdy soldiers, and the high professional spirit which animates their officers from the King's son down to the youngest ensign. Out of all the war of words and controversies on theory this truth rises clearly up, that no man can at this moment pretend to fathom the probabilities, since no man has the thom the probabilities, since no man has the knowledge which would make his judgment worth the having. The most important element of all in an equal war is the power of the leader. In this case each has been tried in but one campaign, and each against an adver sary whose blunders prepared defeat. The military aspect of the war is in fact as un-certain as its effect upon the politics of Eu-

With the views we have announced, it will of the expected that we should attempt to forecast the events now near at hand. It will be our endsavor rather from week to week to sum up the facts, and analyze or apply only as far as means permit. The belige-rents are resolved to keep the world thorough-ly in the durk. Happily this 13 hardly possible, and we will do our best to pierce the cloud, not looking to the political side of the question, nor pointing out whether French ambition of Prussian aggrandizement is the more sinful. For seven long years Count Bismarck has For seven long years Count Bismarck has steadily and successfully pursued a policy which has, step by step, brought his country into a mrre leading position. Step by step he has roused the jealousy of his neighbors. At last Prussia finds herself rated as the first military power in Europe. But that position has loug been claimed by another; and no homilies, nor chapters on political economy, nor declarations on the rights of man and solidarity of the peoples, can avail to put off solidarity of the peoples, can avail to put off the long-preparing contest, which has sprung from causes no nearer their final extinction than when Rome made war upon Carthage. This said in exposition of our purpose, we shall keep henceforward to our task of chronicing and explaining events which must interdeeply even those who deprecate them

NEWS FROM WASHINGTON.

Washington, August 16. The steamer Powhattan has been ordered to be got ready for sea. Admiral Gleason has been ordered to send an American man-of-war up the Elbe and Weser to protect American interests, but to observe the strict rules of

blockade. A delegation from North Carolina is here to confer with the leading Republicans regarding the disaster in that State. They will visit Kelly, of Pennsylvania, and Butler, of Massachusetts.

Congressional Printer Clapp has placed a woman at the case. A defect in the law prevents the payment

of Southern revenue officers who could not take the iron-clad. THE CAUSE OF CUBA.

KEY WEST, August 16. General Ryan, who left Cuba August 6th, says that at present the Cubans feel confident

of their speedy independence and the early

termination of the struggle.

THE NATIONAL LABOR UNION. CINCINNATI, August 16. The National Labor Convention admitted Samuel Flarey to a seat. On a motion to admit John M. Langston, colored, a stormy

time followed. He was finally admitted, three

or four ladies voting aye. An acquaintance of the News took a tri over in the Fork the other day, and report the crops to be in a remarkably line condition the cotton especially. The same gentleman rode over Mr. W. L. W. Riley's plantation, a his request, and declares he never saw a bet ter prospect; that Mr. R. has seventeen acres of cotton planted, and a great portion of it is five and six feet high.

[Orangeburg News,

THE REFORM CANVASS.

MASS MEETING AT LAURENS C. H

The Militia-Do they Mean Fight!-The Leaders of the Militia-General Butler and the K. K. K .- Specimen Radicals.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.] LAURENS C. H., August 13.

THE LAURENS RAILROAD. Yesterday morning our party left Columbia for Newberry C. H., where we expected to take a train on the Laurens Railroad for this place. But as there is only a tri-weekly train on that road, we were fortunately deprived of the privilege of a ride over it. It is true, that Mr. Joseph Crews, who is properly believed to be the owner of the road, offered us a handbe the owner of the road, offered us a hand-car, which we declined with thanks, and when we saw the road we were glad that we had done so, and more than one of us suspected that Joseph must have had designs upon our limbs when he have had designs upon our limbs when he weed to be addressed, and he sends his minions to address the people and circu-late lies about the good people of South Caromade his proffer. However, we concluded to lina. go to Laurens Courthouse by private conveyance, and left Newberry at 12 M. After a ride of sixteen miles, we arrived at Martin's Depot, where we were met by Dr. Wright, in charge of two conveyances, sent by the committee of arrangements from Laurens Courthouse. In these we made the remaining sixteen miles, arriving at the courthouse at 8 P. M. Our route was alongside of the Laurens Railroad. For the first sixteen miles the ties were rotten, and sunk into the ground, the rails jagged, and many only fastened with four nails, two at each end. The weight of the trains passing over the rails had made them lay tolerably close to the ties, and as these were at various heights, the track presented a wave-like appearance. Within a few miles of the Courthouse the road is laid with T-iron rails; but the road-bed is no better than on the other portion of the track. Some of the trestles are very high, and in a dangerous condition. Frequently the trains run off-oh, no, crawl off the track-but very few persons have been hurt. At a meeting of the stockholders, held at Newberry yesterday, Major J. M. Baxter was elected assignee of the road. The people of this section of the country are very anxious for the road to be put in order. The majority prefer traveling by, private conveyance to going over the road in its present condition.

There is quite a large force of colored miti-tia in this county. They are well armed, but poorly drilled. They are under the control of Joseph Crews and Y. J. P. Owens, the former member of the House, and the latter State senator; but more of them hereafter. Under the advices of their leaders, the militia have committed a number of outrages, but none so outrageous as firing into the Town of Clinton about two weeks ago. On our route we passed rageous as firing into the Town of Clinton about two weeks ago. On our route we passed through Clinton and saw the marks of the bullets on the houses and through the windows. They had been drilling without interruption during the day, and when the drill was over marched to the top of a hill, about two hundred yards from the centre of the village, and without warning fired, thus endangering the lives of the inhabitants, who were on the street and in the houses. The leaders of the militia advised the colored people not to attend the Reform meeting held to-day, telling them that it was a plot to get them together, quarrel with and shoot them. During the day two companies of militia were drilled on the edge of town, and in the evening, one company edge of town, and in the evening, one company under charge of Thomas Howerton, paraded through the streets. A number of colored men who joined the militia became disgusted, men who joined the militia became disgusted, and will possibly withdraw from their companies. They state that when invited to join they were told that as soon as they signed their names, they would be furnished with arms, uniforms and regular army rations and pay, but that they have only received their arms, and have been prevented from working by the constant drilling which they have to undergo. Several of the colored men are undergo. Several of the colored men are highly indignant that the colored people should had be armed by Governor Scott and weapons restrained by Governor Scott and weapons restrained by the courtfused the white men.

"DO THEY MEAN FIGHT ?"

The action of the militia in this county has had the effect of creating considerable un-easiness in the minds of the white people, who apprehend that they intend creating a dis-turbance. The whites, of course, have no fear of the result of any disturbance, but desire that there should be harmony, and will bear much to prevent a breach of the peace. Last much to prevent a breach of the peace. Last week a citizen met one of the militia on the road, and thinking to have a jest, said: "Have you heard of the fight at the courthouse between the militia and the white people? The militia commenced the fight, and were whipped, but many on both sides were killed and would woulded." It which the militiamen we and wounded;" to which the militiaman replied that he had not heard of the fight, and he was surprised that it had commenced so soon, as he understood that it was not to com-

mence until the 30th of August. THE LEADERS OF THE MILITIA. As we have stated, Joe Crews and Y. J. P. Owens are the leaders of the militia in this county, and the fomenters of all disturbances. When we state that Owens was a deserter from the Confederate army, we say enough to make him stink in the nostrils of all honest men. Besides this damning record, he has been engaged in numerous dirty tricks, which seem to come natural to Scott's minlons. As a senator, he voted as he was told, not having ense enough to know how to cast his vote. Joe Crews is a shrewd, cunning man, and, it is generally believed, does all of the dirty work is generally believed, does all of the dirty work for the Scott Ring. According to popular belief, he and State Treasurer Parker were in partnership during the last session of the Legislature. When the members would go to Parker for their pay, he would tell them there was no money in the Treasury. Parker would then give the money to Crews, who would lend it to the members at the rate of twelve per cent, a month, they giving him warrants on the Treasury as security. As we are informed by citizens, Joe was not in the Confederate army, but he hired a substitute, and gave formed by citizens, Joe was not in the Confederate army, but he hired a substitute, and gave his note to the wife of the substitute. The substitute was killed, and the widow still holds Joseph's note. Of Howerton, who led the millita this afternoon, there is little to say beyond the fact that while a member of Company D, First South Carolina Regiment, stationed at Battery Marshall. on Sullivan's Island. l at Battery Marshall, on Sullivan's Island, he was publicly flogged on his naked back for stealing watches, and that he spent a number of days strapped to a gun for cowardice, and "pure cussedness" generally.

THE MEETING TO-DAY.

At 11 o'clock to-day, in a grove at the upper edge of the village, Judge Carpenter, General Butler and the Hon. W. D. Simpson addressed

edge of the village, single chieffer, otheras, and the Hon. W. D. Simpson addressed a crowd of over two thousand persons, including about three hundred colored people. The brass band of the village was in attendance, and discoursed some excellent misic. On the stand were Colonel B. W. Bail, Hon. W. D. Simpson, Hon. H. C. Young, Rev. Mr. Robinson, R. P. Todd. Esq., the candidates of the Reform party, and others.

After a fervent prayer by Rev. Mr. Robinson, Colonel Ball said the people had met to listen to the speeches of the distinguished citizens of South Carolina, who were put forward as the standard bearers of the Union Reform party, which was not in antagonism to accomplish facts of the present, but in the interest of the luture. The Reform party looked to the hereafter and the defeat of the great evils of the State government which embarto the hereafter and the defeat of the great evils of the State government which embarrassed both the white and black alike. But the Reform party above all had for its object the removing of the prejudices existing between the white and colored people; to close the gulf which had been created by the enemies of South Carolina, and bring the two mies of South Carolina, and bring the two races together, and drive out of office the men who had taken advantage of the existing pre-judices and preyed upon both white and black.

GENERAL BUTLER AND THE KU-KLUX. After a graceful latroduction by Colonel Ball, General Butler made a stirring speech, addressing himself mainly to the colored people. He thoroughly convinced them that the Scott Ring,

instead of being their friends, were their worst enemies. In alluding to the charges made against him, the General said that during his campaign he had deemed it his duty to make certain specific charges against Governor Scott, he had made them deliberately, and expected he had made them deliberately, and expected to produce specifications and proofs; but pending these specifications and proofs, a third party, said he, intervenes and makes certain charges against me. Who this third party is, charges against me. Who this third party is, I do not know, but I will say en passant, for his consolation, that if his charges against me are true, and I am the monster he makes meg-have murdered as many colored people as he pretends; have committed the crimes which he lays to my door, Governor Scott is a very dere-lict Governor, else he would have had me arrested by his constabulary, tried, convicted, sentenced and hung. If they are not true, the author of them is simply a liar. Which horn of the dilemma will Governor Scott select?

But my charges are made against Governor Scott. Why does he not answer them? His responsibility to the people of South Carolina is ten-fold greater than mine; my fight is against him. Will he meet me on the stump, before the good people of the State, and reply to them? Will he meet me in the public

has.

As regards the Ku-Klux, I do not believe there is one in the State; If there is one, I do not know of it; and I believe that they exist only in the fevered mind of this picket-line Governor. He knows that the murders he has charged upon the Ku-Klux are on his own shoulders, and that he instigated them or consisted existence of them for political effect.

nived at them for political effect. Y. J. P. OWENS SEVERELY HANDLED. In referring to the leaders of the Radicals In referring to the leaders of the Rancais who were doing incalculable mischief to the colored people, the General spoke of Joseph Crews and Y. J. P. Owens. The latter, he said, had purchased for \$30 a claim of a school-teacher against the State amounting to \$70. He had then put the figure 1 in front of the 70, thus making the claim \$170, and had attempted to collect that amount from the State, but the school teacher, hearing of it, had exposed the school teacher, hearing of it, had exposed the swindle. After thus exposing the swindler Owens, the General proceeded to show the people how the educational matters were conducted by the "Ring." He mentioned that two thirds of the educational fund was exhausted in salaries, and asserted that few, if any, persons conducting schools for the colored people, outside of the countless and the countless and the countless and the countless are sufficiently as the countless are suff the school teacher, hearing of it, had exposed the swindle. After thus exposing the swind ed people, outside of the courthouses, were paid.

SPECIMEN RADICALS.

Judge Carpenter followed General Butler. and spoke at length of the corruption of the Scott Bing, and gave brief sketches of some of the men who composed it. He told how Hoge first wanted all of the negroes confined in a ten acre lot, where he could play upon them with artillery until the last one was killed; had with artillery until the last one was killed; had then used them to elevate him into office; afterward called them brutes for not renominating him, and endeavored to get into the Reform party, and now was promised the United States Senate by Scott—the twenty-sixth one he had promised. Of Wallace, the Judge said that he was the only man he had ever heard of who had attempted to sell the free colored men into slavery. Whittenore ever heard of who had attempted to sell the free colored men into slavery. Whittemore, said he, was kicked out of Congress twice, and not caring to risk being kicked out the third time, had been promised by Governor Scott the office of State senator from Darlington County. These men, said the Judge, are the men who, with Scott, Neagle, Parker and others, are engaged in plandering the State of South Carolina and disgracing her citizens.

ANOTHER CORBIN. It is a notorious fact that outside of a few men (five-sixth white) who live about the county seat, no one is appointed to office by Governor Scott. These men constitute a small Ring inside of the Scott Ring, and receive all of the offices and emoluments distributed from the larger ring, and some of them hold three offices. At this place there is a white man named Freeman who is county auditor, school commissioner, census taker, &c. Judge Carpenter called the attention of the colored peo

ple to the above fact, and asked them why the Governor gave all of the offices to a few men, mostly white, about the courthouse, and gave

transactions. He prefers to have the courthouse Ring.

GENERAL J. B. KERSHAW. GENERAL J. B. KERSHAW.

In concluding his speech the Judge said he knew that a great many in the audience were disappointed in not seeing and hearing the gallant, distinguished soldier and patriotic citizen, under whom many of the audience had served during the war, and whom they lovingly called "Old Joe." [Cheers.] But he was unable to be present. He had labored earnestly and effectively in the cause of the Union Reform movement until he broke him-Union Reform movement until he broke himself down, and then went home to rest and and pray for the success of the movement which was so dear to his heart. He will come back again. He prays before he fights; and all of us know that a man who does that is an ugly customer to handle, and when he again returns to the stump you may look for some telling blows for Reform. [Enthusiastic ap-

At the conclusion of the Judge's speech Colonel W. D. Simpson, who was elected to Congress, but was not allowed to take his seat, made a long speech in support of the movement, and predicted the most successful

results. LOYAL LEAGUES AND GOVERNOR SCOTT: The meeting to-day was one of, if not the most successful we have yet had, and its effect most gratifying, especially with the colored people. After the meeting the loyal leaguers had a session, when several colored men arose and announced their intention of leaving the eague forever, and then left. They state that they were advised not to leave, and their lives were threatened if they did. One of the arguments, according to their statement, used by one of the speakers to keep them in the league and prevent others from leaving, was that if they remained in the league and worked for Scott, he would pardon them out of the penitentiary if they committed a crime and

ere sent there. LAURENS COURTHOUSE

is a village of about eight hundred inhabitants, with two hotels, several fine stores and dwellings. The courthouse building is the most imposing building of the kind in the State. It is far superior to the county courthouse in Charleston. The whites here and in the county will all vote for Carpenter and Butler, as also a large number of colored men. In the county there is a majority of about two hundred colored men; but at the last election, when there was a fair test, several hundred colored men voted with the white people and defeated the Radical ticket.

A Row in the Radical Camp.

NEWBERRY C. H., August 14. On Saturday last the colored people had a grand picnic at Jalappa, about seven miles from here, on the Laurens Railroad. About one thousand colored and about six white people were present. These white men had circulated a report that the white people intended to break up the picnic, and induced the negroes to bring their arms. During the picnic politics were discussed, and the crowd divided on some local issues, and commence à quarrelling. While thus engaged, a colored man accidentally shot an opponent dangerously in the thigh. The friends of the wounded man opened fire upon the man who had inflicted the injury; his friends returned the fire. This was kept up for a few seconds, and both sides left the field hurriedly. No one was killed, but a few were mortally-scared.

PLEMING'S WORM CONFECTIONS.

They are purely vegetable, safe and sure. The best in use. For sale by Dr. H. BAER, No. 131 Meeting street, Wholesale Agens.