

[From the Columbia Union-Rad.]

Cumulative voting seems to be the only safe remedy against large and overbearing majori-ties. Under the plan of cumulative voting, the minority could always be represented just in exact proportion to their numbers, and this is the very basis of our Republican form of

is the very basis of our Republican form of government. The minority are, as much en-uited to representation as the majority, and unless this is allowed, a Republican govern-ment is only Republican in name, but the veriest despotism in fact. Nothing can be more tyrannical than large majorities. The plan is simple in the extreme, but applies only where there is more than one officer for the same county or town. For instance, in Rich-land, there are five members of the General Assembly four representatives and one sena-Assembly, four representatives and one sena-tor. The Republicans cast 3500 votes and the Democrats 1400. Now if the Democrats, being entitled to vote for each of th. se five candidates, throw all their votes for one of them, they would be sure of elec-ting their candidate, so that they would then get one representative out of five, where they get none now. Where the majorities are smaller or in other words, where the parties ting their candidate, so that they would then get one representative out of five, where they get none now. Where the majorities are smaller, or, in other words, where the partles are more evenly divided, the plan is still more strikingly illustrated. Take the County of Edgefield for instance, on the vote of last year. That county sends seven representa-tives to the General Assembly. The Republi-can vote was 4500, and the Democratic 3700. If the Democracy had been permitted by law to cast seven votes to which they were entitled, all for three men, instead of for seven men, they would have elected that number to the Legislature, so that the delegation would have stood four Republicans, as now. instead of seven Republicans, as now.

Greenville sends four representatives and one senator to the General Assembly. If the cumulative plan of voting prevalled, and the parties held the same relative proportions as last fall, viz: Democrats 1800; Republicans 1400; the Republicans all throwing five votes 1400; the Republicans and throwing her votes for two out of the five candidates, instead of voting for the whole five, would succeed in electing that number, leaving the Democrats the other three. Both parties would then be represented in exact proportion to their numerical strength or numbers. This would be in accordance with the spirit of Republican institutions, doing justice to all parties and in-

Institutions, using fusice to an parties and in-justice to-none. The plan should be agitated until some fa-vorable action is taken by legislative bodies all over the country. We believe this system of "minority representation" is the panacea for all our political troubles; for if representation only is desired, this secures it fully.

A FEARFUL FATE. *

BOSTON, April 25. The debris found in the bay indicates certainly that the bark Merrimac, from Boston for Montevideo, was run down by some outward bound vessel, and all on board lost.

A SYSTEMATIC SWINDLE

The French Consul at New York and Others Implicated.

NEW YORK, April 25.

The Sun says a gigantic fraud has been discovered, and asserts that Victor Place, late French consul, with one Hector Chanvitan, and some prominent personages, made large amounts illegally from the French Government by the exaction of commissions and over charges on arms and provisions purchased in this country. One operation in beet alone is said by the Sun to have netted the ring three hundred thousand dollars. The total contracts amounted to over ten millions, on which two per cent. commission was levied. The Sun adds that fifty to three hundred per cent. profit was charged on large amounts of guns purchased of the United States Government, and that a profit of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars was made on thirty-five batteries of Napeleon guns alone. Place has been relieved by M. Bellaigue De Bughas, late consul of Charleston. A committee of inquiry has been ordered to investigate all the transactions.

ne at Point Monoir, west of Baton Rouge and one on the McDonough estate, below the city, are reported." NEW ORLEANS, April 25.

the further spread of this direful calamity

avoided. I have i sed our tug to assist some

of the distressed planters in removing their

household furnifare. Two other crevasses,

Communication with the North by rail temporarily severed by the Bouvet Carre crevasse. The embankment of the Jackson road for fourteen miles, together with the telegraph lines along the track, have been entirely swept away by the flood. The entire country as far as Lake Pontchartrain is submerged. At 11 o'clock last night the crevasse was about a thousand feet wide. About five thousand men, including the railroad laborers, are at work upon the embankments, and hopes are eutertained that the further widening of the breach may be prevented.

The latest from the crevasse reports a break seven hundred feet wide. Nothing of icial has been received from that point this norning. The water is running over the truck of the Jackson road between the thirteen'i and fourteenth mile posts at Kenner's. Volunteers have turned out to throw up works to stop the water coming from the rear.

Chief Engineer Thompson has just received official information that the Wallace crevasse, in St. James, has been effectually stopped. The Merero and Villero crevasses have both been closed. Men and material have gone to the McDonough crevasse, which is expected to be closed by night. Nothing has been received from Poverty Point to-day. General Thompson asserts that there is no danger of the city being overflowed.

SPARKS FROM THE WIRES.

-Heavy frost on Saturday night in Missouri and Kentucky has damaged the fruit. -William Marsh, engineer of the Belle of

Alton, has been taken to New Orleans charged with burning that steamer.

-The Memphis Avalanche states that two negroes, charged with destroying a part and stealing a part of the papers of the sheriff's office, at Dresden, Miss., have been hung by masked men.

-Boder, the alleged fugitive forger, will be retured to Prussia upon the President's extradition warrant.

-The Newmarket stakes, in England, were won by "Bothwell;" "Sterling" second, and 'King of the Forest" third.

-It is reported that the ship Queen of the Thames, bound for London from Melbourne, has foundered at sea. Many lives lost. No

particulars. A CHAPTER OF CASUALTIES.

NEW ORLEANS, April 25. A heavy thunder storm prevailed yesterday. A house in St. Cloud street was struck by lightning, instantly killing Mrs. Glese, and seriously injuring Mrs. Helmke. The tugboats Aspinwall and Admiral while racing on the river yesterday, ran into the harbor police boat, knocking it to pieces, and instantly ki ling Officer Douglass. Three other

officers saved themselves by swimming ashore. THE STATE OF THE WEATHER.

WASHINGTON, April 25. It is probable that on Tuesday night the barometer will continue to fall over the lake district, and that on Wednesday cloudy and rainy weather will be very generally experienced from Wiscousin to Alabama, and eastward, with brisk winds, in the Middle and Eastern States.

civilization could never wholly eradicate the appetites formed by long residence in the wil-derness, and that sometimes, while here, the longing for his Esquimaux relish comes over him so irresistibly that he is forced to take himself into some secluded corner and go through his gallon of whale oll. Science cer-tainly imposes martyrdom on its votaries. On the first of May next a great change is to come over the relations between New York and Brooklyn. It is nothing less than the re-duction of ierriage for foot passengers to one

down daily with grease. He has passed many years in the irozen regions, and has been through this process before. In his Brooklyn lecture, the doctor said that contact with

n could never wholly eradicate the

lecture, civilizati

and Brooklyn. It is nothing less than the re-duction of ierriage for foot passengers to one cent during the busiest hours of the day. This may look like a trivial matter abroad, but it is not. Brooklyn, which is compelled to go to New York. (though New York is not compelled to come to Brooklyn, except to be burled.) is as much exercised over the reduction in ferri-age as it would be over the announcement of the breaking ont of a war with Eugland. The abatement cuts down the expense of crossing the river one-half, and saves Brooklynites half a million dollars per annum. The travel over a million dollars per annum. The travel over Fulton Ferry has increased to such an enor-mous extent that the boats, though they leave every three minutes and c: carry from

every three minutes and c: carry from a thousand to fifteen hundred persons, can hard-ly accommodate their customers. People are packed like sheep in the cabins and on the decks, during the hours of the rush, and experience some of the horrors of the historic middle passage. Nobody expects relief until the great bridge

die passage. Nobody expects relief until the great bridge is built. The work is progressing rapidly. The foundation for the tower on the Brooklyn side is nearly fluished, and the engineer is en-gaged in laying the foundations of the New York tower. From these hure piles of stone will depend the long graceful bridge of wire, etretching from shore to shore, without in-tervening support, and swinging far above the tallest masts of passing ships. The bridge will be wide enough to admit of two avenues for cars, two for vehicles, and two for foot passen-gers. When the foundations of the towers are finished, the remainder of the work will proceed with greater speed, and the estimate is that the bridge will be completed in about five years. Projects for bridges over the North River to the New Jersey shore, and for a passenger and freight tunnel under the East

a passenger and freight tunnel under the East River, are taking shape. The tunnel company, I believe, was incorporated by the recent Legslature.

Laura Keene's efforts to re-establish herself In New York, in which, filteen years ago she was the reigning favorite, have failed. She leased the theatre in Fourteenth street, origin-ally the Theatre Francais, and christening it with her old familiar name, opened two weeks ago with a sensation melo-drama. At the end of her first week she quarrelled with her lead-

of her first week she quarrelled with her lead-ing man, Mr. Creswick, and he withdrew. Her seats were empty this week, and lor lack of patronage she was obliged to close her doors. This is the Laura who used to play to great the law is the Laura who used to play to great houses and rejoice in mighty receipts at the box office in Broadway. It is unprofitable to actresses to grow old. NYM.

LAWS OF THE STATE.

Acts and Joint Resolutions, Passed by the General Assembly of South Carolina, Session of 1870-'71.

[OFFICIAL.]

An Acr to yest the right and title of the State, in and to certain escheated property, m certain persons therein named. SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the Sanste and

House of Representatives of the State of South Carolina, now met and sitting in General Assembly, and by the authority of the same: That all the right, title and interest, which the State muy have in a certain tract of land, containing two hundred acres, more or less, situate and lying in Marlboro' County, lately

held by John Rose, deceased, be, and the same is, hereby vested in John Witherspoon. executor of the last will and testament of the said John Rose, in trust, to dispose of the

and shall have power to make such by-laws, not repugnant to the laws of the land, and to have, use and kcep a common seal, and the same to alter at will, to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded in any court in this State. and to have and enjoy all such property, real and personal, as may be given, bequeathed or devised to it, or may be in any manuer whatsoever acquired by the said corporation : Provided, The amount so held shall not exceed the sum of twenty-five thousand (\$25,000) dollars. SEC. 3. That the said corporation may, from ime to time, invest their funds, moneys, assets and all other property, stocks, public or private notes, bills, bonds, with or without security, by mortgage of real or personal property, or by surety, in such sums and on such erms and conditions as they may deem proper, and it shall be lawful for the said corporation. from time to time, and at all times, to sell, convey, mortgage, assign or transfer all of its property, real and personal, as and when it may

SEC. 2. That the said corporation hereby cre-

ated and established shall have succession of

officers and members according to its by-laws,

South Carolina.

be deemed proper and expedient, and to make and execute bonds under their corporate seal, with or without mortgage, for the purch use of

real or personal property. SEC. 4. That this act shall continue in force for the space of twenty years, and that the same shall be taken and deemed a public act. and may be given in evidence without being specially pleaded.

Approved March 7, A. D. 1871.

AN Acr to incorporate the Winyah Guards, of Georgetowa, S. C.

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of South Carolina, now met and sitting in General Assembly, and by the anthority of the same: That J. Harvey Jones, George Pawley and Br ss Richardson, under the name and style. of the Winyah Guards, they, and their successers and associates in office, be, and they are hereby, incorporated, and made and declared a body politic and corporate, in deed and in law, and as such body politic shall have the power to use and keep a common seal, and the same at will to alter, to make all necessary by-laws not repugnant to the laws of the laud, and to have succession of officers and members, conformable to such by-laws, to sue and be sued. plead and be impleaded in any court of competent jurisdiction in this State, and to have, use and enjoy all other rights, and be subject to all other liabilities incident to bodies corporate.

SEC. 2. This act shall be deemed and taken to be a public act, and shall continue in force for the space of fifteen years from and after its

passage. Approved March 9, A. D. 1871.

An Acr to incorporate the Mechanics' Union No. 1, of the City of Charleston; S. C.

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of South Carolina, no v met an 1 sitting in General Assembly, and by the authority of the same: That Henry Canceville and such other per sons as may now, or hereafter shall be associated with him, are hereby made and declared to be a body politic and corporate by the name and style of "The Mechanics' Union, No.

1," of the City of Charleston. SEC. 2. That said association shall have succession of officers and members according to its by-laws, shall have power to make by-laws (not repugnant to law) and to have and use a common seal, and the same to alter at will, to said property, and to distribute the proceeds sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded in

SECTION 1. De it enacted by the Senate and DOGARTIE'S BOOK DEPOSITORY. House of Representatives of the State of South Carolina, now met and sitting in General Assembly, and by the authority of the same : That Burns D. Myers is hereby authorized and empowered to adopt and make his lawful heirs H. Margaret Grimes and W. Burns Grimes, and that the name of the said H. Margaret Grimes shall be changed to H. Margaret

Grimes and W. Burus Grimes, and to chauge

the name of the said H. Margaret Grimes to

H. Margaret Myers, and the name of W.

Burns Grimes to W. Burns Myers.

Myers, and the name of the said W. Barns Grimes shall be changed to W. Barus Myers. SEC. 2. That should the said Burns D. My-

necessary and expedient.

SEC. 3. That this act shall be deemed and taken to be a public act, and shall continue in force for the term of twenty-five years. Approved March 9, 1871.

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Grimes shall be changed to W. Barns Myers. Szc. 2. That should the said Barns D. My-ers die intestate, the said H. Margaret Myers and the said W. Burns Myers shall inhers of the said Barns D. Myers, his estate, both personal and real. Approved March 9, A. D. 1871. An Acr to incorporate the Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, in Darlington Counly, S. C. Escortox 1. Be it enacted by the Sonate and Honse of Representatives of the State of South Carolin, now met and sitting in General As-seembly, and by the authority of the same: That the members of the said society be and are hereby incorporated, and are hereby de-sion of offisers and members, and shall have succes-sion of offisers and members, and shall have social system and style shall have succes-sion of offisers and members, and shall have social system, with an introductory by power to surchase, receive and hold any real of porsonal estate, not exceeding in value the sum of twenty thonsand dollars, and to soli, convas and dispose of the same, and by its cor-portate name to eue and be sued in any court of this State, and to make such rules and by its cor-porate name to eue and be sued in any court of this State, and to make such rules and by laws, not repugnant to law, as it may consider necessary and expedient.

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