

Tuesday Morning, July 29, 1873.

University Versus College.

The beginning of the decline of the University may, we think, be fairly traced to the radical change in its organization, to which we have alluded in a previous article. It was done at a time when education was utterly prostrate in the State, and under conditions the most unfavorable for its taking good effect. This change following close upon the conclusion of a ruinous and devastating war, there was no suitable material out of which the proposed new structure could be built. Many youths had fallen in battle and from disease, who would otherwise have been educated at the College; many more were either unfitted to pursue a course of study, or had been deprived of the means necessary to sustain them in it, or could not any longer spare the time, because of the pressure of toil necessary to aid in the support of the family. We must bear in mind, likewise, the small advantages which boys at home had, during the war, to become fitted for the University course, involving severe previous mental training, the formation of habits of close application, and a proficiency in studies little short of what a college course itself ought to give. Unfit as was the material without to respond to the new demand, there were no changes within to correspond to the high-sounding title assumed. The departments remained the same, the curriculum of studies was not enlarged, no additions were made to the professorships, and there was no infusion of new life or new elements of brain, learning, experience or tact into the system. There was simply a change of name, with relaxation of discipline, with a dissolution of the ties of responsibility on the one hand, and of those of obligation on the other, which hitherto had bound professors and students together, and with a system of examinations for degrees and honors wholly inapplicable to the existing circumstances, or to any possibilities which could come out of them in a score of years. To crown the absurdity of this scheme, to give the *coup de grace* to all preparation for profitable college life, examination for admission to it was dispensed with. Young men without preparation were equally welcome with those with it, to enter the University. And so the classes were formed of heterogeneous and crude materials, differing in their preparation and training, and in the amount of their reading, varying, in fact, in every particular, and conforming to each other mainly, if not exclusively, in the one respect, that they chose the same branch of study and took the same ticket. And, of course, this choice, from the nature of the case, could not be, in many cases, enlightened and suitable. Those who made it, owing either to immature age or unripe judgment, even when old enough, were not competent to determine so grave a matter, involving, first, the question of *regimen* most appropriate to train the faculties to thought, and to store and stock the mind; and, secondly, that of pursuit in life. These were serious drawbacks to success. But the reflex action resulting from the change, was most to be regretted. It produced an impression in the homes whence the students came, and in the schools where they were bred, that was fatal to the success of the latter. The College, under Presidents Barnwell, Henry, Preston and Thoinwell, by severity of examinations and by stringency of conditions operating in those quarters, had produced especially a most excellent effect on the schools. They had been brought up to a point of high efficiency, and the education imparted at several which we could name, even if not supplemented by college terms of study, would have been considered respectable, and were a sure foundation upon which young men of ambition and of ability to apply themselves could successfully build in private. The injury inflicted upon sound education in the State from this cause, was both deplorable and irreparable.

A CONVENTION OF CONFEDERATES AT THE WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS.—We understand that the "Southern Historical Society," of which Rev. Dr. Palmer, of New Orleans, is President, has appointed a convention to assemble at the Montgomery White Sulphur Springs, on the 14th of August next, for the purpose of adopting some general plan for collecting and preserving the materials for a history of the late war, and for having that history written from an impartial Southern standpoint.

This society was organized several years ago, with Dr. Palmer as President, and a Vice-President for each one of the late Confederate States, as well as for Maryland. Gen. R. E. Lee was the Vice-President for Virginia, but after his

death, Gen. J. A. Early was appointed to succeed him.

The plan of the convention is to have a number of delegates appointed for each State, by the Vice-President thereof, in order to secure a proper representation, but it is also desired that there shall be as large an attendance as practicable, of all those Confederates who feel a sufficient interest in the object of the convention to induce them to take part in its furtherance. We are informed that a number of delegates from this State have been appointed, and that General Early, by request of the parent society, will deliver the opening address. The presence of a number of distinguished officers of the Confederate army is anticipated, and among them, Generals Joseph E. Johnston, Beauregard, Bragg, Hood, Hardee, Hampton, and others. The convention will doubtless be one of great interest and attraction.

THE BALTIMORE FIRE.—The great fire in Baltimore, on Friday, excited apprehensions which fortunately were not justified by the facts. The loss is large and the suffering has been great, but neither what it was feared it would be whilst the fire was raging. Yet the disaster should serve as a warning, not only to the authorities of Baltimore, but to those of every city. Here are a few extracts from the *American*:

The ground, which was not desirable for dwellings, was eagerly seized upon for a manufacturing establishment, and probably the largest and most complete wood-turning and planing establishment in Maryland was erected in the heart of the city. It was simply an immense tinder-box, packed with sufficient combustible material to set the whole neighborhood in a blaze, if a spark was applied. Unhappily, yesterday morning, a man employed at the engine allowed a live coal to come into contact with a pile of shavings, and four squares of charred and crumbling ruins tell the rest of the story.

After looking at both sides of the question, however, we think that the peril of having a tinder-box in a crowded locality like this is too great, and that it more than over-balances all the advantages. We believe that there should be an ordinance prohibiting the erection of factories in which large engines are used and combustible material handled so near to the business centre of the city. This is only part of the lesson of the fire. A great many poor people lost all their worldly goods, and are homeless and homeless. In due time, an appeal will be made in their behalf, to which we trust there will be a generous response.

UNSELFISH LIVES.—The ex-Empress Eugenie has been lately represented as saying that she and her son "live but for France." That is no doubt what Prince Napoleon, cousin of her husband, is living for. That is why the representatives of the house of Orleans and the house of Bourbon, especially the Count de Chambord, "still live." They live for France. The question whether France is living for them does not seem to be considered. In Spain, Don Carlos is living for that great country at the expense of a great many other men's lives. Bloody battles are fought, involving thousands of deaths, that Don Carlos may continue to live for Spain. A rogue on one occasion plead in exculpation of his offence that he must live, to which the magistrate replied that he did not see the necessity. We do not see the necessity of Eugenie living for France or Don Carlos for Spain.

PROBABLE FATAL ACCIDENT.—Thursday evening last, about 7 o'clock, the train on the Wilmington, Columbia and Augusta Railroad, at Lillingston Creek trestle, about one mile from Brinkley's depot, struck and buried a white man from the trestle to the bed of the creek below, a distance of some twenty to twenty-five feet. The train was stopped as soon as possible, and upon the engineer and others going to the spot, they found that the man had received a severe wound on the head and was badly bruised about the body. He was apparently between sixty and seventy years of age, gave his name as James Byrd, and said he resided at a place called Byrdville. At last accounts, received yesterday afternoon, he was in a very critical condition and his recovery was considered extremely doubtful. No blame is attached to the engineer or any one else on the train.—*Wilmington Star*.

THE COTTON CATERPILLAR.—The *Beaufort Republican* of the 25th says: "The fact is no longer to be disguised, that the caterpillar is upon us. Already we hear of their being on John's, Wardmalaw, St. Helena and Paris islands, and we have no doubt that they are to be found on all the islands and in every cotton field on the coast. Coming thus early, with the crop backward, they will be likely to destroy the whole of the cotton crop on the sea islands, if the weather should be wet and cool."

The proposal to compel all hotels to supply their upper stories with rope ladders, is nothing but a device of Satan. What a provocation to the lofty but curious spirit of some unquiet American, to set the building on fire, just to see how the durned things would work!

A young man in Marietta, Ga., will soon lead to the altar a young lady worth \$50,000. That's an investment that beats a ticket in the Louisville lottery.

Correspondence of the Phoenix.

WILLIAMSTON SPRINGS, July 26, 1873.

This is a village of 800 inhabitants, situated on both sides of the Greenville and Columbia Railroad, in the County of Anderson, eighteen miles South of Greenville and eight above Belton, and about 880 feet above the sea level. It is high, dry and healthy, accessible by good County roads, and easily reached, of course, by rail. It has six stores, doing a moderate business on an aggregate capital of between \$50,000 and \$60,000. 2,000 bales of cotton are shipped here, and 250 tons of fertilizers are received and distributed here. The place has never had a large business. Its chief distinction is as a pleasant and healthful summer resort for invalids and pleasure-seekers, and as the seat of prosperous schools, male and female. Before the PHOENIX arose from the ashes of Columbia, as early as 1856, it contained a large, magnificent hotel, owned by a joint stock company, and capable, with its 200 rooms, of accommodating, upon a pinch, 600 guests. The building was three stories high, covered a great extent of ground, was as large as the Mills House, and cost \$90,000. From a gentleman who visited the place in those halcyon days, we learn that the hotel was often crowded, and gaiety filled the scene by day and night in drives, parties, balls and concerts. It was destroyed by fire in 1853 or 1859. Simultaneously with this thronging of visitors to the springs, Messrs. Wesley Leverett & Manning Belcher conducted here one of the most prosperous male schools in all this beautiful upper country. Williamston still shows the same characteristics, and had it suitable and sufficient accommodation, would probably again be visited in large numbers, seeking health, pleasure and recreation. It needs a well-kept hotel, a bath house, livery stable, bowling alley, reading room, circulating library, a lyceum for lectures, and other means of entertaining visitors and making their time pass pleasantly. Something, too, ought to be done against the fleas and flies, which are in overpowering force here. As it is, there are some good boarding houses, and a goodly company of about a score of agreeable persons now visiting here. Mr. Deal's house is popular, pleasantly situated, and the table well supplied. Mrs. Lynch, in the same quarter of the town, has also several lodgers and boarders.

The water enjoys a good reputation for tonic and invigorating properties. It is indicated more especially in cases of debility, dyspepsia and indigestion. It acts pleasantly on the principal organs of the system, causes no inconvenience, gives a good appetite, and is light and agreeable, the temperature being 61½ degrees Fahrenheit. Large numbers of persons have attributed the re-establishment of their health to its use. A gentleman now here—Mr. Whitmore, of Greenville—has, for nearly four years past, been the victim of dyspepsia, neuralgia and rheumatism, has visited several watering places and consulted physicians, but without any sensible relief. He has been drinking the water for ten days, and has improved very much in health and spirits. He speaks highly of it. Other cases of illness show marked improvement in their symptoms from its use, in conjunction with good medical advice. There are two practicing physicians resident here, both highly esteemed and successful in their practice—Dr. B. F. Brown, a native of Anderson, and Dr. H. Epting, from Lexington County, near Columbia. From the catalogue of the Williamston Female College for 1872, we learn that each pint of the water contains 13½ grains of carbonate of iron, held in solution in an excess of carbonic acid, 3½ grains of sulphate of potash, 2½ grains of sulphate of magnesia, a trace of iodine and a trace of sulphur.

We shall have occasion again to refer to the schools, the female college, presided over by Rev. Samuel Lander, A. M., and the male academy, conducted by Mr. J. H. Carlisle, both agreeable, genial gentlemen, capable instructors and enlightened educators. There are three churches—Methodist, Baptist and Presbyterian—well attended. Dr. W. A. McCorkle, in charge of the railroad depot, and as agent of the Express Company at this point, makes everything pleasant in those departments by his efficiency in business and the urbanity of his manners. You have already had some account of manufacturing in the neighborhood, in references to the Piedmont Manufacturing Company, on the Saluda, and to Mr. Pickle's Wool Carding Factory, on Big Creek.

We had the pleasure of hearing a lecture on Tuesday evening, from Dr. Anasapfel, a native of Geneva, Switzerland, and a naturalized citizen of the United States. The Doctor is a man of extensive travel and varied information, speaking the English language well, extremely agreeable in conversation, having a large brain, and withal good-looking. He has been a close observer of the events and scenes in which he has mingled, and presents his reminiscences, views and conclusions in a good English style, with force and effect. In his lecture, he compared and contrasted the characteristics of the French and Prussians with racy humor, leaning with decided partiality towards the former, and concluding with a summary of their paramount claims to the regard and gratitude of the American people, by their devotion to the principles of liberty and their timely, cordial and valuable assistance rendered to the American cause in the great contest of the American Revolution.

Grace Greenwood put the following conundrum to Senator Carpenter some time ago, but at last accounts had received no answer: "If it is hard for a Senator to be a good Christian on \$5,000 a year, what are a poor clerk's chances of salvation at \$1,400?"

Woman ought to do all she can to make this earth a paradise to man, as it was all her fault that he lost the other.

THE BALTIMORE FIRE.—The burned district is bound by Mulberry, Liberty, Lexington and Howard streets, and comprises ten blocks, divided by Clay, Saratoga and Little Pleasant streets, running East and West, and by Park street, running North and South. The following is a list of buildings destroyed, and the losses as far as known:

Commencing on Saratoga street, South side, at the corner of Liberty, every building was burned, including the Central Presbyterian Church; estimated loss, \$70,000; insurance, \$60,000. The buildings adjoining on the West, No. 86, occupied by J. O. Horsey; No. 88, by Miss Mary Curtin; No. 90, by L. J. Baltoman, shoes; No. 92, by Dr. J. Lindsay; No. 94, by Dr. Ramell; No. 96, by Miss Margaret Dieter; No. 98, unoccupied; No. 100, by Miss Middleton; No. 102, by the Sisters of Notre Dame; No. 104, St. Alphonsus's Church and library, which extended to Clay street South. The estimated loss on the two latter buildings is said to be \$80,000, covered by insurance, but in what companies cannot be ascertained. No. 106, boarding house; No. 108, occupied by Daniel Sullivan, gas fitter; No. 110, corner of Park street, by Simon Leon; all these were fine brick store houses, several stories in height, and are a total loss.

West of Park street, on Saratoga street, No. 116, by Clement Ostendorf, cigars; No. 119, by Grawlew, house painter; No. 120, by A. Ostendorf, jeweler; No. 122, J. Lantier; No. 124, Mrs. Houk, confectioner; No. 126, John Weis, lager beer; No. 128, Fred. Neider, lager beer; No. 130, private, frame dwelling; No. 132, Henry Litz, lager beer; all were burned out. Nos. 134, 136, 138, the latter the Central Garden lager beer saloon, were partially burned, at which point the fire was stopped. On Saratoga street, four doors from Howard street, and on the North side of Saratoga street, all the buildings are destroyed but a dwelling adjoining St. Alphonsus Church, occupied by the Redemptorist Fathers, which was deluged with water.

On the West side of Liberty street, South of the Central Presbyterian Church, to the corner of Clay, were three private dwellings, Nos. 58, 60 and 62, which are the only buildings left standing in the block, and are only partially damaged.

On Clay street, on the North side, between Liberty and Park, every building has been destroyed. On the South side of Clay street, between Liberty and Park, James H. & John S. Hogg, carpenters and builders, loss \$5,000; insurance \$1,700; John D. Stewart, Central Stables, loss \$15,600; insurance \$5,000. On the South side of Clay street, West of Park, Joseph Thomas & Son's saw mill, a large four story building, owned by Anderson Banks, built for a silk factory, but unoccupied, and several small dwellings. On the North side of Clay, and West of Park, the buildings destroyed were occupied by painters, carvers, carpenters and cabinet-makers, whose individual loss was small.

On Park street, West side, between Lexington and Saratoga, the principal losers are H. N. Darton, tobacco, No. 31; Thomas C. Barton, house furnishing goods, No. 32; loss heavy. From this point to Clay street, some eight or ten small buildings are completely destroyed, and thence to Saratoga, principally small stores and lager beer saloons. On the East side of Park street: E. Rosenbaum & Co., sewing machines; Criger, shoe manufactory; K. Weisner, machine shop; Fitzerger, shoes; Miller & Sons, marble yard. The loss of the latter is estimated at \$4,000.

The principal loss on Lexington street was the First English Lutheran Church and the parsonage of Rev. James H. Barclay, pastor, with a valuable library, attached to the church; total loss; insured for \$10,000.

On Mulberry street, South side, the University of Maryland and the Maryland Academy of Arts both took fire, but were only partially damaged on the roof, and the former by flooding with water; both covered with insurance. A valuable museum attached to the academy was unharmed. Most of the pictures were removed and saved. On the North side of Mulberry street, four brick dwellings—Nos. 43, 45, 47 and 49—burned out, and Nos. 37, 39 and 41 partially burned.

One does not often read of so sudden and terrible a retribution as that which overtook, last week, a murderer in Cheshire, Conn. Michael Higgins, a farm laborer, on Saturday night, stabbed, fatally, John O'Neil. A search for Higgins being instituted, his dead body was found in a room in the farm house. He had died of heart disease, superinduced by excitement. Nemesis arrested, indicted, arraigned, tried, convicted, sentenced and executed him almost simultaneously. If hangings are impressive, here was a *demonstration* of the tragedy which upon many minds will be more impressive than forty regular strangulations.

TWO MANY BABIES.—Joseph Hastings suicided near Petersburg, Lincoln County, Sunday, by cutting his throat. His wife found him praying some weeks ago with a rope round his neck in readiness to swing into eternity. He was immersed in the Richmond Christian Church during the prevalence of cholera in that locality. The bloody knife was found sticking in the wall of a barn in which he bled to death. He was the father of triplets, exhibited at the Nashville Exposition.

A GREAT STEAMSHIP.—Among the foreign arrivals at New York, on Monday, was the mammoth steamer City of Chester, of the Inman line. She is said to be the largest steamer afloat, next to the Great Eastern. Length 450 feet, 44 beam, 30 feet deep, nominal horse power 850, but capable of working up to 1,250. She has accommodations for 1,400 passengers. She left Liverpool on the 10th and Queenstown on the 11th.

A forgery mania is raging in Savannah.

Local Items.

CITY MATTERS.—The price of single copies of the PHOENIX is five cents.

Mr. Symmers has come to the front with an array of splendid articles in his line—groceries, liquors, &c.

Yesterday set in hot as blazes, but a rain came down in the afternoon, and cooled the atmosphere.

Mark Twain has secured a patent for a new idea in scrap books. We never saw a new idea in one of them yet.

Messrs. Nathan & Peixotto advertise, this morning, articles serviceable to house-keepers.

The alarm of fire, sounded at 9½ o'clock Sunday night, was caused by a kerosene lamp explosion in a store on Plain street. No damage.

The Secretary of the Treasury has decided to issue the new ten dollar national bank note within the next five weeks. No further issue of new notes will be made until after the meeting of Congress.

It was not a Wheeler & Wilson agent on whom the country people turned their dogs loose. He is always welcome; besides, his sweethearts there would not allow him bitten by the dogs or geese.

We have received from Mr. W. J. Duffie No. 396 of Harper & Brothers' library of select novels, entitled, "He Cometh Not," She Said." It is from the pen of Annie Thomas, author of "Played Out," "A Passion in Tatters," etc.

Several physicians have stated that our information as to the prevalence of typhoid fever in this city is incorrect. We cheerfully correct the statement. In addition, we are authorized to say that the health of the city is very good, for this season of the year.

A new enterprise has loomed up in Columbia. An ice company on wheels—that is, the ice, not the company. It will be delivered at your door, at two cents a pound for five pounds. It is to be borne in mind, that the consumer saves by this new and cool process—what melts the company loses.

OUR HOME GARDENS.—A beautiful cluster of the trophy tomato may be seen at Dr. Heinitch's. Nine tomatoes on one twig, weighing ten pounds, cultivated by Richard O'Neale, Jr., at his gardens. The trophy is the finest tomato raised, and with such fruit, size and quality, the luxury of this esculent plant will be appreciated.

PHOENIXIANA.—Are deformed negroes Black Crooks?

When will wisdom be highest? When Wise "goes up."

A good thing to have in a base ball match—A friend and pitcher.

The only quiet place in New York—The Morgue.

The situation in Louisiana—Out of a situation.

A school board that is never elected—A black board.

Wanted—A needle to sew a patch on the pants of a dog.

A young lady dismissed her lover, the other day, because he said she couldn't bear arms.

Drinkers in this country can hardly be called heathens, but still the great idea with them is jug-or-not.

A debating society near here is engaged in discussing the difference between a horse-radish and a reddish horse.

Free-lovers' maxim—Beget and forget.

How to become a real estate agent—Marry a rich wife.

CONCERNING POSTAL CARDS.—A large number of persons availing themselves of the postal cards, and their importance as a saving in postage, render necessary some explanation of the intent and purpose of the law. Some parties have recently tried to transmit some of these cards with writing contained on the place intended for the address only, which is contrary to law, but the explanation did not satisfy the sender. An opinion was asked of the Postmaster-General, who says that any additional matter other than the address on the face of a postal card renders it unavailable, except at letter rates of postage. The annexed official ruling by the department was made recently, and is important for everybody to know:

The law authorizing the issue of postal cards does not contemplate the addition of any matter other than a communication which may be printed or written with a pencil or ink. If any matter is attached to a postal card, the card should be treated as a letter, and held for postage at the mailing office; but reaching the office of delivery, it should be treated as wholly unpaid, and double letter rates collected on delivery.

LIST OF NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.
Butts & Co.—Kennebec Ice.
E. H. Heinitch—Queen's Delight, &c.
Nathan & Peixotto—Fruit Jars, &c.
Geo. Symmers—Cheese, &c.
Wm. Gorman—Columbia Hotel.

Burglars are on the rampage in Atlanta.