

ANNUAL CROP REPORT OF THE FINANCIAL CHRONICLE. The award of the Augusta cotton pool depends upon the completion of the estimate of the crop made by the New York Commercial and Financial Chronicle, recognized authority in cotton circles on the product and movements of the great staple. Some considerable anxiety exists among those having part in that pool to know when the estimates will be opened. We understand that the award will not be made until the full statements of the Chronicle is received. On that point the Chronicle, of the 30th, says: We expect to issue our annual crop report for the year ending August 31, in circular form, on Thursday, the 11th of September. Until that time it is impossible for us to give any estimate which would be of any value of the overland movement or of Southern consumption. We state this in reply to many letters and telegrams asking for those figures. As to the consumption in the Southern States, we hope to present a more exact statement than has ever before been given, as we have, through the kind assistance of the Census Bureau, been able to write to every mill and cotton manufacturer throughout the South, sending out inquiries which promise to furnish us the actual result rather than an estimate. We are pursuing this point the more earnestly because we feel that it is very important to relieve these crop reports of this last vestige of uncertainty. The overland movement we had already referred to a demonstration; hereafter we trust we shall be able to say the same thing with regard to Southern consumption.

VIVE LA FRANCE!—September 5 witnessed the last payment of the war debt of France to Germany. The rapidity with which this heavy obligation has been discharged displays marvelous financial strength. France has before this given evidence of great capacity in this way. No loans ever went begging for bidders in the reign of Napoleon III, and none since; so it is his country the Frenchman has faith in and love for. In 1869, the year before the war, France exported to this country \$51,500,000; in 1870, \$52,000,000; in 1871, nearly \$56,000,000; and in 1872, \$69,500,000. Wherever the great mass of a population are industrious and economical, and the country they occupy rich and fertile, the power of revival is too great for almost any prostration. If France will only be content with the victories of peace, she will be as happy and powerful as she ever can become by the destructive agencies of war.

THE VIRGINIA CANVASS.—The reports from the Virginia canvass indicate a full vote and an overwhelming Conservative triumph. General indignation is felt at the insolent attempt of the Administration to control the politics of the State and organize there another Louisiana. The feeling and the activity of the canvass will probably secure a majority larger than Governor Walker's in 1869, for Kemper, the Conservative candidate. Col. Mosby says that Kemper and the Conservative ticket will be elected by from 20,000 to 30,000. It is said that if the Conservatives carry the Legislature, there will be a general concurrence in favor of returning the Hon. R. M. T. Hunter to the United States Senate.

GETTING HIS REWARD.—Ex-Governor Foote, of Mississippi, who has been engaged for several weeks past in writing Southern reminiscences for a daily paper, will soon, according to current report, be appointed by the President to an important foreign mission in South America. The fiery chronicler of past events, whose denunciations of Jefferson Davis and other Southern men have proved rich reading for the Northern minds for some time past, if the above is correct, is to receive his reward. It is not strange to account for the campaign literature of the ex-Governor, and we may now hope to hear that, like Longstreet, he has received his "thirty pieces of silver" and is satisfied.

BALLOON BETTING.—In New York, there is some betting on the balloon in the sporting circles about town, but it is evident that the betting men don't believe in it. The odds are overwhelming against it, and it is hard to find anybody who will risk anything on it. That the balloon will neither cross the ocean nor get half way across, bets are offered nineteen to one; that it will never go 100 miles away from land, nine to one; that the balloonists will not stay up a single day, five to one; that Wise will never find his Westerly current, three to one; that the whole thing will be a fizzle, two to one; that the balloon will burst, bets are even.

"Three-fingered Jack" is a well known character among yellow-covered literature, but that a "Six-toed Genius of America," is to be seen on the genuine \$500 greenback is rather a novelty.

Special European Correspondence.

VIENNA, AUSTRIA, August 18, 1873.

It is not too much to say, that Vienna is the most magnificently built city on the continent. The houses, both public and private, far surpass those of any city I have yet visited. The finest of their public buildings is the new Opera House. It has been quite recently built, and is very handsomely decorated with frescoing and statuary. On the second floor, adjoining the orchestra chais, is a large balcony, where the audience promenade and enjoy their little flirtations in the intervals of the opera.

Near here is St. Peter's Cathedral, a very old but one of the most costly ornamented churches in Europe. It is not very large, and, judging from its appearance on the outside, you might easily pass it by, thinking it nothing more than an ordinary old Dutch church. But the interior is all embellished with gold-plate representations of the immortals. One of its most curious features are the tombs of an old king and his queen, whose names were unable to learn. On either side of the church are two side altars, under which are glass cases, where lie their skeletons, decked in gold cloth, so arranged as to show the bones. On both, but more especially the queen, were the most magnificent jewelry I have ever seen, except those of the Right Honorable Lady Dudley, of England, and those of Franz Josef, Emperor of Austria, at the Exhibition Hall. Of all precious stones, the pearl alone was missing, on account of its easy decay. Both were half reclining, so as to show the face full to the observer. And what seemed strange, the skin of both was perfect, although only the bones remained of the rest of the body.

But all this may not interest you; so I shall say a few words about that centre of attraction, the exhibition. We know that a child tires for a toy, and having bought it, soon tires of it, and throws it aside; so we in regard to the exhibition. We hear so much of it, especially in America, the great laughing-stoek of Europe. Of all nations, including the little principalities of China and Japan, here represented, we are the very poorest; and of all the States, South Carolina is the worst. The only thing she has here is a handful of sea island cotton brought here by a colored man of Beaufort. Some poor, half-witted school-master, aided by an equally as bright legislature, has built here an American school-house, to show Germany how she should teach her scholars. The idea is so elevated, so grand, so superbly ridiculous, that only an American superintendent of virtuous public schools could have invented it. Why should we make ourselves the laughing stock of all the world for such men? America is disgraced, degraded, and her travelers abroad feel it, and are ashamed to acknowledge themselves her citizens. Thousands of Americans are abroad, flooding the markets with their money, and they are the ones who feel this degradation most painfully. But an ill wind must indeed be bad that blows no one any good. Perhaps this may teach us a lesson, and make us try to redeem ourselves in '76. Our machines have done something towards redeeming the credit of the nation. Of all here, the sewing machine seems to attract the most attention. In this department, the "Secor," of Philadelphia, excels. It sews through forty thicknesses of cotton, or through the wood of a cigar box. With the same machine, you can make finer tucking than can be done by hand. We also have here a machine which can turn out a shoe in three minutes, and one that makes a bucket in even less time. The last was doing a splendid business here, when the Government heard of it, and imposed a tax. Such shabby treatment so angered the proprietor, that he has returned to the United States. Buckets is something entirely new here. They carry their water in flat pails, strapped to the back. The rest of the exhibition is very fine. Austria is best represented. This, of course, is very natural, it being more easy and safer to convey her fine articles to the hall than other nations. The most credit is due to Japan, whom all praise for breaking through their old customs, and entering the arena to compete with other nations, in many instances successfully. The finest of all things exhibited here is the jewelry of Lady Dudley, consisting of rings, coronets, necklaces, hair ornaments, etc., which is valued at several million pounds sterling. Among Franz Josef's is the celebrated Stewart diamond, unpolished. The whole exhibition is nothing more nor less than a fair carried on in grand scale. The whole looks like a large store, with all imaginable articles for sale. The rotunda is very large, and is wider than St. Paul's at London, or the Capitol at Washington. In the centre, a magnificent bronze fountain, cast in Paris, cools the air. From it run eight or ten wings, which are from 200 to 250 feet long. These are all filled with merchandise of the most superior quality, with prices corresponding, loaded by different nations. The exhibition, though grand and imposing, does not repay the trip, especially when the disgrace of the United States is added.

Last evening, the Emperor gave a private reception, for gentlemen only, which was attended by Senator Robertson, of our State, and Gov. Jewell, Mr. Orr's successor to Russia. Nothing but persons holding the highest offices can attain an invitation; for he is the proudest monarch in Europe, and boasts of having a clearer genealogy and more regal blood than any king now reigning. This is the first year of the last three or four in which an American has attained the honor of being presented, since never previously has any one visited Austria holding high official honor, except the Minister. After the presentation of about twenty or thirty

foreigners, they had a most sumptuous repast, the best that Vienna could afford. One of the most peculiar dishes was champagne frozen in the bottles, so that when the cork was drawn it would pour out like stars of snow. The Emperor himself is a medium size man; very slender, but straight as an arrow. He has a very small head, which he makes look smaller by wearing his hair shingled close to it.

There is nothing more of Vienna except a few old churches; but when you see one you see them all.

THE UNITED STATES COURT.—The following is a summary of the proceedings of the United States Court, now in session at Greenville, for the week ending August 28:

Barksdale Charles, bankrupt. Ordered that Richard H. Jacobs have leave to withdraw the exceptions to the bankrupt's discharge, filed on 3d day of July, 1873.

In re Barksdale Charles, bankrupt. Ordered that the return of A. Blythe, assignee of said bankrupt, in relation to the homestead set off to the bankrupt, be set aside, and that the said assignee cause a re-appraisal of said homestead, and that John Garrison, Sr., Lelas F. Trowbridge and Wm. A. Pepper be appointed appraisers to this court during its present session, reporting their actings and doings in the premises.

In re Barksdale Charles, bankrupt. Petition for final discharge. Discharge ordered.

In re Nathan McAllister, of Anderson County, bankrupt. Petition for voluntary bankruptcy; filed and order of reference to W. I. Clawson, Registrar.

In re Gaston Terry, bankrupt. Petition for voluntary bankruptcy; filed and order of reference to W. I. Clawson, Registrar.

In re Gideon B. Thompson, bankrupt. Petition for voluntary bankruptcy; filed and referred to W. I. Clawson, Registrar.

RENDER UNTO CÆSAR, &c.—The following just tribute to the sagacity, energy and perseverance of Col. B. Y. Sage, the Superintendent of the Air-Line Railroad, we find in a correspondence of the Greenville Enterprise and Mountaineer: But when efforts are so persistently made to ascribe all credit to a mere clement hour man, and to take it from those who have borne the heat and burden of the day, it would be wrong in those possessed of the facts to keep silence. If the credit and honor connected with the engineering and completion of the Air-Line is to be ascribed to any one man, there can be but little doubt that Col. B. Y. Sage, of Atlanta, is the man, who originated the idea, worked at it for years on his own resources, and without pay, in the midst of good report and evil report, who, while not claiming for himself all the "experience and science" in the world, has patiently waited for results to prove his "energy, enterprise and perseverance." Of all which, in spite of misrepresentation and detraction, the Air-Line Railway is his witness and monument.

A PIONEER METHODIST.—DEATH OF REV. ALFRED NORMAN.—This venerable Methodist minister died at his residence on the 25th ult. Of him the Raleigh Christian Advocate says: For nearly half a century had he carried the banner of the Cross and waged a noble Christian warfare, and though he has fallen after the long struggle, yet it is with the glory of a hero, and the laurels of a victory whose blessed fruits he will never cease to gather. He was widely known in North Carolina and Virginia, where his services had been rendered and where his faith and good works were appreciated. He was truly a father in the church, a link connecting the present with the past generation, a "Pioneer Methodist," who witnessed and took part in the early struggles of Methodism, saw its triumph and watched its rapid growth.

A PARIS correspondent says there is much talk there regarding a proposal to give Marshal MacMahon a lease of power for three years. The Duc de Broglie, who of late has seemed much less ardently Orleanist than formerly, would, it is said, support the scheme. The delay of three years would allow the Prince Imperial to attain his majority; he might then marry the daughter of the Duke of Magenta, who is now thirteen years of age. It is alleged the empress is favorable to this alliance, which would make Marshal MacMahon the father-in-law of an emperor. Her Majesty agrees, however, only on condition that there should be a majority in favor of the project. If not, the Bonapartists will fall back on their old plan of an appeal directly to the people to declare who shall be chief of the executive.

FRAUDULENT RAILROAD TICKETS.—An Omaha paper warns travelers going to the Pacific coast, or to any other point very distant from New York, to be careful where they purchase their railroad tickets. It says that a few days since, a gentleman traveling on the Union Pacific Railroad was stopped a few miles west of Omaha for offering a ticket which the conductor recognized as a fraudulent one. The traveler had bought it in good faith, but, unfortunately for him, had made his purchase at what is called a "scalping office," in New York, and, of course, had been imposed upon. At much loss of time, he returned to Omaha to institute legal proceedings against the men who victimized him. The moral of the story is obvious—purchase your railroad tickets of the authorized agents.

EARLY AND DAVIS.—Gen. Jubal A. Early, in a letter to the Lynchburg (Va.) Republican, expresses his doubts as to the genuineness of a recently published interview between a correspondent and Jeff. Davis, in which Mr. Davis is made to say many indiscreet and foolish things, among others a severe criticism of Longstreet. Gen. Early says that he was with Mr. Davis at the Virginia Springs where the reported interviews occurred, and is on the most intimate terms with him, but heard no such expressions as are attributed to him escape his lips.

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THE SPANISH IRON-CLADS seized by the English have arrived at Gibraltar.

VALIDITY OF CONFEDERATE TAX SALES.

AN IMPORTANT DECISION.—The Holly Springs (Miss.) Reporter, of the 21st, gives the following synopsis of a decision delivered by Judge H. A. Hill, of the Federal Court, in a case involving the validity of tax titles acquired in May, 1861: The Judge holds that the State Government of Mississippi from 1861 to 1865 (during the war) was revolutionary, illegal and unconstitutional. That any law passed by the State Government during that period, imposing a tax on the people for the support of the State Government, was in aid of the rebellion, and necessarily unconstitutional and void.

That all sales of lands for taxes by the Government of Mississippi in 1862, 1863 and 1864, during the period of the late civil war, are null and void. Under his decision, all tax sales of land between 1861 and 1865 are nullities, and will be set aside. It unsettles the titles of purchasers at tax sales to thousands, if not millions, of acres of land in Mississippi. The decision is equally applicable to the sales of lands for taxes in all the other Confederate States engaged in the late war, and hence its vast importance.

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CITY MATTERS.—Messrs. Charles M. MeJunkin and John A. Elkins have purchased the Temperance Advocate, and will hereafter issue it in Columbia.

The Southern and Atlantic Telegraph line has opened offices at Spartanburg and Greenville, at reduced rates.

A tree on Washington street, near Mr. Tozer's foundry, was splintered by lightning Friday night.

Mr. James Smith is out with the first announcement in the way of stoves and grates. It is hot now, but cold weather will soon be along.

Messrs. R. & W. C. Swaffield are in receipt of their fall stock of hats. The prevailing style may be termed "nobby." Mr. Beck, the heaviest man in the concern, wears one of the new style.

The following is the range of the thermometer at the Wheeler House, yesterday: 5 A. M., 78; 7 A. M., 77; 10 A. M., 78; 12 M., 79; 2 P. M., 80; 5 P. M., 82; 7 P. M., 81.

The Charleston Medical College opens on the 15th October. It is unnecessary to dwell upon its advantages, as the people of the entire State are aware of what can be accomplished there.

Messrs. John Agnew & Son are "putting the best foot forward." The stores are being re-arranged, a new front put in, and altogether they appear to be looking forward to a brisk fall business. The senior has gone North, to lay in the necessary supplies, but the junior is on hand, and will faithfully attend to matters and things.

THE PAPER OF THE PEOPLE.—The PHOENIX is concise, direct, active, covering the whole field of news and business and social wants. It is, therefore, the paper of the people at all times, and is so recognized in every household, counting-room, workshop or other place where there is an individual who would keep informed up to the needs of the hour. Advertisers of every class seek its columns in order to reach all the people through a paper just suited to meet all popular wants, and which has consequently a greater circulation than that of all the other city daily papers combined.

PHOENIXIANA.—The way of the translator is hard. The most timely of gifts—A watch. Never count your ships before they are hatched. Young ladies' economy—Never throw away a match. The brightest business fellows in the city—The newsboys. A good way to keep out of a scrape—Never go to the barber's. The man who pretends to know everything, generally knows nothing. If "money is hardening," the people may indulge the hope of getting back ere long to specie payments.

Gen. Butler's success thus far in Massachusetts is owing to his promise to put liquor down. And he'll do it. He always did. Captain Jack is in a decline. He declines the gallows. A bore is a man who spends so much time talking about himself, that you can't talk about yourself. What did a blind wood-sawyer take to restore his sight? He took his horse and saw. It is gratifying to observe, after so long and continuous a stagnation, unmistakable signs of a revival of business. This comparative inactivity of trade during the summer months is by no means common or peculiar to Columbia. During the heated term, the same inactivity in mercantile affairs is noticeable in Northern, Eastern and Western cities. The tourist passing through any of the chief metropolises of the Union during the months of July and August, and not infrequently the early part of September, will find such a cessation of the activities of trade as to justify the proprietors of some of the largest mercantile firms rustivating in the neighboring country, or seeking surcease of labor at the watering places or sea-side resorts. Visiting some of our business houses, yesterday, we learned that they were in receipt of so many orders as to call into requisition their whole clerical force. Several establishments exhibited a movement in striking contrast with their late dullness, vigorously packing goods for immediate shipment. This early opening of the fall trade augurs a thriving business season, and our merchants, appreciating the fact, are energetically preparing for a successful campaign.

MAIL ARRANGEMENTS.—The Northern mail opens 6.30 and 10.30 A. M.; closes 8 A. M. and 6.30 P. M. Charleston opens 7 A. M. and 2.30 P. M.; closes 6.15 and 8.30 P. M. Western opens 6.30 and 9.30 A. M.; closes 9 and 6.30 P. M. Wilmington opens 4.30 P. M.; closes 6 A. M. Greenville opens 6.45 P. M.; closes 6 A. M. On Sunday the office is open from 3 to 4 P. M.

RAILROAD ACCIDENT.—The engine of the up passenger train on the Greenville and Columbia Railroad ran off the track yesterday, between Chappell's and Ninety-six. The engineer and one fireman were seriously but not dangerously hurt. None of the cars were thrown from the track. The passengers and baggage were transferred to the down train, which returned from the point where the engine ran off to Greenville; and an engine was sent from Helena to bring the passengers coming down to Columbia.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES THIS DAY.—St. Peter's (Catholic) Church—Rev. J. L. Fullerton, First Mass 7 A. M.; Second Mass 10½ A. M.; Vespers 4¼ P. M.

Trinity Church—Rev. P. J. Shand, 10½ A. M. and 5 P. M.

Lutheran Church—Rev. A. B. Rude, 10½ A. M.

Baptist Church—Rev. J. K. Mendenhall, pastor, 11 A. M. and 8 P. M. Sunday School at 9 A. M.

Marion Street Church—Rev. W. D. Kirkland, 10½ A. M., and 8 P. M. Sunday School, 9 A. M.

Washington Street Church—Rev. O. A. Darby, 10½ A. M. and 5 P. M.

Presbyterian Church—Rev. Richard McIlwaine, 11 A. M. and 8 P. M.

PUBLIC LIBRARY OF KENTUCKY.—We are informed that the fourth concert, for the benefit of this grand enterprise, comes off on the 3d of December next. The three preceding concerts, so successfully and fairly managed, we consider a sufficient guarantee that this one will be conducted with equal satisfaction to holders of tickets. On an outlay of \$500 in tickets, sold by Mr. D. Gambrell, to the last concert, \$1,400 were returned in cash gifts to the ticket-holders. Mr. G. informs us that a few tickets to the fourth concert have been sent him for sale. Price, whole tickets, \$50; halves \$25; tenths \$5.

LIST OF NEW ADVERTISEMENTS. Jacob Levin—Gas-Light Bills. Mech'n's & Farm's B. & L. Assoc'n. D. Gambrell—Shares for Sale. Jacob Levin—Shoes. Convention Knights of Pythias. Medical College of South Carolina. D. C. Peixoto & Sons—Auction. Meeting Palmetto Lodge.

HOTEL ARRIVALS, September 6, 1873: Columbia Hotel—S. Zorn, Ky; W. Boykin, Va; J. J. Adger, J. W. O'Brien, Miss Kate Lynch, Charleston; A. A. Ornabutt, Ga; R. D. Brown, N. C.; H. Moore, S. B. Smith, Md.; F. McSwegan, Ga; A. F. Newman, N. Y.; S. F. Hanner, Ga; J. James, city; C. P. Gardner, Charleston; Mrs. W. E. Benson, Ga; W. S. Sprinkle, G. W. Thames, N. C.; J. H. Stelling, S. C.

Wheeler House—W. A. Metts, Yorkville; T. Booth, Ga; F. Belanger, Edgefield; H. H. Nathan, Charleston; Mrs. M. O. Lewis, Ga; O. W. Cowles, R. Landon, H. H. Adams, U. S. Army; W. A. Bradley, Ga; T. S. Clarkson, N. C.; J. S. Thomas, E. W. Everson, city; F. H. Barnhart, J. K. Kyer, U. S. Army; W. L. Hand, N. C.; W. H. Epperson, Sumter.

NERVOUS DEBILITY.—A DEPRESSED, IRRITABLE STATE OF MIND; WEAK, NERVOUS, EXHAUSTED FEELING; NO ENERGY OR ANIMATION; CONFUSED HEAD, WEAK MEMORY, OFTEN WITH DEBILITATING, INVOLUNTARY DISCHARGES. The consequence of excesses, mental overwork or indiscretions. This NERVOUS DEBILITY finds a SOVEREIGN CURE in HUMPHREYS' HOMOPATHIC SPECIFIC, No. 28. It tones up the system, arrests discharges, dispels the mental gloom and despondency, and rejuvenates the entire system; it is perfectly harmless and always efficient. Price \$5 for a package of five boxes and a large \$2 vial of powder, which is important in older serious cases; or \$1 per single box. Sold by ALL Druggists, or sent by mail on receipt of price. Address HUMPHREYS' SPECIFIC HOMOPATHIC MEDICINE COMPANY, No. 562 Broadway, N. Y. For sale by GEORGE & MCGREGOR, Columbia, S. C. Ap14 1873

SHE WOULDN'T SELL.—A man stopped a Tennessee woman, who was driving her family through the streets, en route West, and tried to buy her "rig," getting this reply: "Stranger, yer'er a wastin' ov yer breth, talkin' to me 'bout sellin' that creeter. He's too nobil a animal, and he comes down from ancestors datin' back to their time what I can't remember. Money can't buy that donkey, and yer mou't 'bout tradin'; besides, when I smokes I smokes, and when I trades I trades, and I ain't in a bit of tradin' humor jist now. So, stranger, yer mou't as well close up yer fly-trap."

HENRY WARD BEECHER preached in a White Mountain hotel on Sunday. In the course of his sermon he remarked, "Religion is God's hotel table, where the guests call for what their particular inclinations suggest." We hope he did not continue the parallel, and maintain that the ministers are like hotel waiters, who dispense of the blessings of the table in greater or less abundance, as they may be moved by present or prospective fees.

"What's your business?" asked a judge of a prisoner at the bar. "Well, I s'pose you might call me a locksmith." "When did you last work at your trade?" "Last night; when I heard a call for the police, I made a bolt for the front door."

Hiram R. Revels, colored, formerly United States Senator, has resigned his office of Secretary of State of Mississippi, probably intending to confine himself in the future more closely to the discharge of his duties as President of Alcorn University.

A young lady in Elyria, Ohio, is learning the carpenter's trade.