

The Southern Press.

The condition of newspaper enterprises at the South has recently elicited discussion in several of its journals. The fact is apparent that they are far behind the prosperity of journals in the Northern cities. It is true even of places in the two sections of not unequal population. It is worth while to consider the views which prevail as to the causes of this discrepancy. The *Mobile Register* alleges the prime cause to be that the Southern people do not sustain their newspapers as it is their plain interest to do. The *Richmond Dispatch* coincides with this opinion, and traces the lack of enterprise, charged on Southern journals, to want of support on the part of the people. Others concur in this general statement. The *Columbus Enquirer*, in presenting the contrast of Northern success and Southern failure, urges that either from want or indifference, the Southern whites, in proportion to their numbers, do not read as extensively as they do in the North and West, and a glance at the papers of the respective sections will show that the Southern merchants, with few exceptions, do not appreciate the value and importance of advertising. Another drawback to Southern journals is the credit system, damaging their business severely, as much in some cases as thirty-three per cent. The *Augusta Constitutionalist* confirms this conclusion, saying, that "in Northern cities there are very few readers who do not pay for their paper; the reverse is true of the South. If merchants and subscribers in this section supported their papers with half the promptness and punctuality that the same classes at the North support their local journals, the newspapers at the South would equal those of the regions beyond us." So much for the fact and its causes, as viewed from the Southern standpoint.

The *Louisville Courier-Journal*, in considering the matter, concludes that the fault is not altogether with the people. The newspapers of the South, it says, lack both the enterprise and the common sense adaptability, which, added to industry, thrift and care, have built up the great Northern journals. The typical Southern editor harps too exclusively upon politics, to the neglect of current news, miscellaneous information and topics of domestic, financial, scientific, literary and social concern, which, justly handled, add immensely to the number of readers, including women and children. But a part of the fault lies with the Southern merchant, who needs a lesson in enterprise, as well as the newspaper manager or editor. The power of the two, properly instructed, when combined and working to one end, is illustrated by reference to the press and the growth of Chicago. "The press," it says, "has almost created Chicago."

The facts of the small and precarious support of newspapers in the South seem to admit of no doubt. The causes mentioned are all true. There is a lamentable want of paying subscriptions and profitable advertisements, and good judgment and vigorous administration on the part of managers, as well as force and variety on that of their writers, it may be freely conceded, do not always exist. But, looking over the field, it appears to us that there are conditions of high success connected with these important particulars, which can but rarely be found in our Southern communities. To be prosperous, strong and independent, newspapers must make money. To have the use of talents and accomplishments and the benefit of energy and enterprise, they must have the means of paying for them well. Only from large circulation, good advertising and strict management on business principles, can the proprietor's exchequer be made sufficiently plenteous to meet the heavy demands upon it. Circulation is dependent upon population, regarded both as to its numbers, character and intelligence, upon business that is varied and remunerative, and upon the extent of the habit and taste for reading. Here population is sparse, business dull and the reading public limited. This has notably been the case in this State for the last few years. Of the citizens of South Carolina, a considerable number think themselves too poor to pay for newspapers. The larger portion of the population do not read them at all, and cannot be counted as among their supporters. The field is thus a contracted one at best. It might, if fully utilized, sustain a few able journals. But it is divided and subdivided to such an extent between the claimants for its support, many of which are content with bare remuneration and incidental advantages, that but few glean from it a decent income, and

fewer still can achieve reputation or make themselves a felt and acknowledged power in it. It is a special drawback to the success of the legitimate press in this State, that a set of eleemosynary sheets have sprung up all over it, at the dictate of party, are fed from the State Treasury and aided by partisan legislation, which directs advertisements into their columns, and which for political objects are scattered gratis through the length and breadth of the State.

These are some of the discouragements which the journalists of the South have to encounter. They lie in the very structure of Southern society, and are particularly strong in States and sections which have not recovered from the prostration of war, and where the evil influences of bad government and corrupt practices have taken root and been perpetuated. But there is also a bright side to the picture, and noble possibilities to be achieved in this profession, even in our desolate and misgoverned South, which are worthy any man's ambition. It is to our own exertions that we must look for liberation from the evils which shut us in in narrow spheres of activity, and these exertions can be promoted and advanced more efficiently by the pen than by any other agency. The press is now the slave of the South, working in obscurity, poorly compensated, and not always appreciated. But when the country becomes again free and prosperous, when it increases in population, wealth and resources, the press will receive its just meed and rise to its proper position. There is a great future for the press of the South.

Blood and Thunder.

The *Union* misrepresents General Kershaw in the language attributed to him in Washington. Will the *Union* correct this misrepresentation? What it says about the grange and General Kershaw's testimony to its wicked so-called revolutionary designs, is similar in purpose, but as it is the *Union's* own thoughts, we need not notice it. The *Union* wants some fresh political capital badly, but it can't get it in this way. What it says of the County tax of Greenville ought to make it blush, if it has not lost the art. The tax has been increased because Allen, the County Treasurer, ran away with the County funds. When, after conviction, he was put in the penitentiary, the Governor pardoned him out. And the Legislature released his bondsmen. And so the County has to lose the money, and submit to a higher tax in consequence. Did not the *Union* know all this? What it says of the corruption among the Democratic members of the Legislature is equally outrageous and equally untrue, so far as we have ever heard and believe. Will the *Union* favor us with its views upon the memorial of the business men of Columbia sent on to Washington? It is singular that the *Union* goes so far away for subjects, when one is so conveniently at hand. Let the public know what it thinks of this passage in the memorial referred to:

"We believe that the committee now at Washington to represent the Government of the State of South Carolina, and to counteract the efforts of the committee of the Tax-Payers' Convention, are interested in the continuance of the present system, by which the people are despoiled, and have more or less enriched themselves by their connection with the Government of our State."

UNITED STATES COURT, CHARLESTON, April 16.—This court convened at the usual hour, Judge Hugh L. Bond presiding. A. L. Sanders and Charles S. Bull were appointed Commissioners of United States Circuit and District Courts. Thomas J. LaMotte was removed from the office of Commissioner of the Circuit. The case of Charles P. Williams, of Connecticut, against Wm. L. Dawson and others, was referred to J. E. Hagood, special master. In the case of J. & T. Green against C. H. Baldwin, Receiver of the Exchange Bank of Columbia, and others, the bill was dismissed as to Arthur P. Hayne, deceased, one of the defendants in the case. Wm. B. DeSaussure was admitted to practice law in the United States Circuit Courts. Jesse K. Stone, Wm. McKinney, G. R. Thomasson, D. H. McKinney, W. W. Sims and James A. Barwell received their final discharge in bankruptcy. The report of Registrar Clawson, in the matter of A. C. Sutton, of York, was confirmed.

CLINGING TO THE LOAVES AND FISHES. Humbert, the embezzling County Treasurer of Orangeburg County, seems disposed to hang on to his office. Judge Glover, whose bond was approved by the County Commissioners on Tuesday last, made a formal demand upon the ex-Treasurer that the office be turned over to him, which the latter refused to do. The grounds given for the refusal were that the papers presented by the new Treasurer lacked the seal of the State, and that a regular commission from the Secretary of State would have to be presented before the office could be turned over.

Galveston, Texas, is growing. Its present population is 34,350, an increase of 20,000 in the last three years.

A MOVE IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION.—We published the presentment of the Grand Jury of York County in our issue of Tuesday, the 14th instant. On hearing the report of the Grand Jury, on motion of Mr. Solicitor Brawley, it was ordered by his Honor Judge Mackey:

That so much of said report as recites the unlawful and oppressive acts of John B. Hubbard, Deputy United States Marshal, and John McManus, United States Commissioner, and their assistants, be forwarded by the Clerk of this Court, duly certified, to the United States District Attorney at Charleston, and to Hon. Thomas A. Douglass, Commissioner of Internal Revenue at Washington, D. C.; and so much thereof as relates to the alleged connection of Lieutenant H. H. Benuor with said unlawful and oppressive acts, be referred to the commanding officer of the post at Yorkville.

It is further ordered, that a bench warrant do issue for the arrest of John B. Hubbard, and that he be bound over in the sum of \$1,000, to answer an indictment to be preferred against him, on account of such alleged unlawful and oppressive conduct, at an adjourned session of this court, to be holden on the 21st day of July next.

It is further ordered, that John McManus, United States Commissioner, do show cause on the 21st day of July, why a bill of indictment should not be preferred against him, for aid on account of the unlawful and oppressive acts charged against him in the report of the Grand Jury.

It is also ordered, that P. J. O'Connell, late agent of the Catawba Indians, do file with the Clerk of this Court, on or before the 21st of July next, a statement, under oath, of all moneys received by him as agent of the Catawba Indians, and of his disbursement of the same. It is further ordered, that the said P. J. O'Connell do show cause, on or before the 21st of July next, why a bill of indictment should not be preferred against him for his failure to report, annually, to the Court of Common Pleas of this County, his transactions as agent of the Catawba Indians.

It is further ordered, that M. L. Owens, agent of the Catawba Indians, do file with the Clerk of this Court, on or before the 21st of July next, a statement, under oath, of all moneys received by him as agent for the Catawba Indians, and of his disbursements of the same; stating the time when the same was received and paid out, and the amount paid and to whom, and the manner in which the same was paid.

It is further ordered, that the said M. L. Owens do show cause, on the said 21st day of July, why a bill of indictment should not be preferred against him for his failure to make a report of his transactions as such agent, and for his failure to pay over the moneys received by him to the Catawba Indians.

CITY IMPROVEMENTS.—CAROLINA SAVINGS BANK OF CHARLESTON.—The banking office of the old firm of George W. Williams & Co., corner of Hayne and Church streets, is undergoing a thorough overhauling and remodeling, to make accommodations for the Carolina Savings Bank of Charleston, which has been recently chartered by the State Legislature. The work is under the skillful superintendence of J. H. Devereux, Esq. We learn that it is the intention of Messrs. Williams & Co. to transfer the banking department of their extensive business to the new bank, which will be put into operation with ample capital, at an early day. The banking house fronts on Church street, and is in the centre of the block between Hayne and Market streets, which has for so many years been the scene of commercial activity. The approach to the bank will be through a neat vestibule, in which is located one of the vaults of the institution. The apartments to be occupied by the officers are finished with taste and convenience. The cashier's room is lighted and ventilated from the sides and ceilings. The spacious directors' room is on the second floor of the Hayne street building; it will be fitted with the conveniences of a commercial library, maps, charts and the like. The mechanical work in progress reflects credit upon the energetic Devereux Brothers. It is understood that the senior of the firm of George W. Williams & Co. is to be at the head of the new institution; Joseph R. Robertson, Vice-President, and Wm. E. Breese, Cashier. Mr. Williams is known to be one of our most active and successful merchants, and a sagacious, prudent financier, having been for more than a quarter of a century connected with some of the leading banks and railroads of the South. Mr. Williams' long experience in the management of finances, is a guarantee that he will make the Carolina Savings Bank a success. Increased capital and cheap railroad freights are greatly needed to develop the superior commercial advantages and manufacturing interests of Charleston. No investment has proven so profitable since the war as money used in banking. The high rate of interest, however, has not only been a hindrance to the commerce of Charleston, but has also borne heavily upon the agricultural and manufacturing interests of the State. We, therefore, hail with pleasure any effort that is made to augment the banking capital of South Carolina and to increase her railroad facilities.

[Charleston News and Courier.]

STOCKS AND BONDS AT AUCTION.—Mr. W. Y. Leitch sold the following stocks and bonds at auction in Charleston, on the 16th: 150 shares South Carolina Railroad stock at 12½ to 12¾; 8 shares North-eastern Railroad preferred stock at 40 to 40½; \$2,000 second mortgage bonds North-eastern Railroad Company at 80½; 41 shares gas stock at 22½; 20 shares People's Bank stock at 7¾; \$534 City Charleston stock at 53¼; all for cash.

CITY MATTERS.—Subscribe for the PHOENIX.

Business is terribly dull and money scarce.

CASH will be the rule at the PHOENIX office hereafter.

Dr. W. C. Fisher's soda fountain dispenses a genuine temperance beverage. Try it.

Chief of Police Jackson will dispose of a lot of forfeited articles—pistols, etc.—at auction this morning.

The PHOENIX job office is complete in every respect, and cards, posters, programmes, bill-heads, etc., are turned out with alacrity.

Messrs. Hoffman & Albrecht are in receipt of another lot of good things—strawberries, green peas, Bologna and smoked sausages, etc.

Wm. Laidler, Esq., of the old Charleston Courier, is on a visit to the city. He reports things in the up-country as being unusually dull.

Fresh supplies of strawberries, green peas, asparagus and all the early vegetables of the season; likewise, some prime country butter and eggs, at E. L. Davies & Co.'s.

The Columbia Dramatic Association give three performances in Parker's Hall next week—Wednesday, Thursday and Friday—when the "Octoroon" will be presented.

Persons in nearly all parts of the city were affected by the lightning on Thursday night. One lady was prostrated and severely injured by striking her head against a door.

The rain storm of Thursday night was the heaviest and the most protracted within the memory of the oldest inhabitant. It poured steadily all night and continued at intervals during yesterday morning.

Gold has an attraction for lightning, even. The lightning-rod on Mr. Steiglit's building was struck, during the storm of Thursday night, and the gold tip spirited away. The shock was so severe that, persons half a block off, were affected by it.

As dueling is becoming fashionable once more, and may, probably, become contagious in this section, we desire to inform gentlemen kindly inclined that there is for sale at the PHOENIX office a pair of No. 1 dueling pistols, with the necessary appendages, neatly put up in a mahogany case.

An unusually heavy thunder-clap, on Thursday night, caused the horses attached to the Columbia Hotel omnibus to run off. They were standing in the street, awaiting the arrival of the Augusta train, and ran to the stables, when they stopped of their own accord. No damage done.

"The Blue Ribbon" is the latest production of the author of "St. Olaf," "Meta's Faith," etc. It is an admirable story; the character of the heroine is original and skillfully marked out, and an interest is cast around her which never flags. The sketches of society in a cathedral city are very vivid and amusing. Mr. Duffie has the book for sale—price fifty cents.

FATAL ACCIDENT.—Coroner Coleman held an inquest, on Thursday, over the remains of a colored man named Geo. Williams, who was killed near Acton, on Wednesday last, by a tree falling on him. It seems that Williams and a number of other hands were engaged in cutting down trees, when one fell unexpectedly and caught the unfortunate man, killing him instantly.

SOME PERTINENT INQUIRIES.—A taxpayer, who has promptly paid his tribute of \$500 into the city treasury, writes to us to inquire why the city authorities give notes to the endorsers of their note to secure them? He thinks, and correctly thinks, that if the endorser has to take up the notes of the city, that the city is as much bound to make good to the endorser the amount he has paid in its behalf, as any other note it can make. The second note cannot make the obligation to pay any more binding. Why, then, this complication and possible field for fraud? Our correspondent further asks, what has become of the enormous tax just collected? Is it possible that the city government has not enough on hand to pay a few thousand dollars, without having to borrow at the ruinous rate of 1½ per cent. interest a month? These are questions which taxpayers have a right to ask and to have promptly answered.

PHOENIXIANS.—The late departed—last winter's bonnets.

Custom may lead a man into many errors; but it justifies none. Fashion articles explain to the average man what the average woman wears. The ladies need very little information on the subject. They eye one another and hook all their new fancies. It has been remarked that ladies have generally a great fear of lightning, and this has been superficially ascribed to their natural timidity; but the real truth is that it arises from their consciousness of being attractive.

TRIBUTE TO THE MEMORY OF DR. LA-BORDE.—On the second day of the session of the Medical Association of South Carolina, just held in this city, the following preamble and resolution, offered by Dr. Talley, were adopted and ordered to be sent to the family of the deceased:

Whereas, to perpetuate the memory and to record the virtues of our honored dead, is a sacred duty and a grateful task; and whereas, since the last annual meeting of our association, we have been called on to deplore the loss by death of Dr. M. LaBorde, one of our earliest and most esteemed honorary members:

Resolved, That in the decease of Dr. LaBorde, the South Carolina Medical Association recognizes the loss of one who has contributed much to the elevation of the standard of medical education and ethics in our State; of one who to rare culture and exalted character added a genial temper and a benevolence that knew no limit short of his utmost capacity to do good to his fellow-men. Dr. LaBorde was one of the few survivors of the first class graduated in the South Carolina Medical College, and to the day of his death, his pride and his affection for his *alma mater* continued unabated. The early years of his professional life were spent in active practice; and though, by the current of after events, he was diverted from its pursuit, his deep interest in and his ready co-operation with whatever tended to the advancement of medical knowledge were conspicuous. His work on "Human Physiology," though he did not claim for it the consideration due to more elaborate treatises, was fully abreast of the elementary works of the day on that subject. As a writer, his style was easy, ornate and perspicuous, and his pen, like his purse, was ever ready to second the promptings of his generous heart. As a shining example of ennobling qualities and an ornament of our profession, we will tenderly cherish his memory.

LIST OF NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Chief Jackson—Sale of Property. P. Cantwell—F. M. Beef. Meeting Stockholders G. & C. R.

HOTEL ARRIVALS, April 17, 1874.—

Columbia Hotel—W. K. Blake, Spartanburg; Judge M. Moses, C. H. Suber, W. W. Milam, Newberry; S. Swandale, Greenville; W. H. D. Gaillard, Pendleton; J. S. Land, G. & C. R.; J. M. McIntosh, Newberry; P. P. Phillips, Pa.; R. L. Jordan, N. C.; Mrs. J. W. Dickinson, Mass.; J. W. O'Brien, Charleston; M. O'Brien, Ga.; W. Laidler, W. D. Kennedy, Charleston; M. Walls and lady, S. L. Quattlebaum, S. C.; J. F. Newmeyer, Ill.; A. C. Cotchett, Ga.; J. C. Lambert, Ohio; P. L. Phillips, Ala.; J. R. Davis, La.

Wheeler House—A. M. Bell, Md.; N. K. Sawyer and wife, A. Cushman and wife, Maine; E. Peck, G. J. Bogart, N. Y.; W. B. Spooner and wife, Mass.; P. L. Perry and wife, Miss Alice Perry, Conn.; A. N. Talley, Charlotte; Dr. S. R. Lewis, S. C.; D. Foster, Savannah; J. L. Chambers, Chester; J. H. Adams, Richland; H. G. Blackwell, N. Y.; S. H. Mellichamp, T. B. Jenkins, Wilmington; J. J. McClure, Chester; N. S. Baldwin, N. J.; Dr. A. H. Davega, S. M. Davega, Chester; Miss H. Moore, Charleston; C. P. Townsend, Bennettsville; C. L. B. Marsh, N. C.; S. A. Arstein, N. Y.; W. Scott, Ga.; D. Wyatt Arkin, Miss E. Aiken, Abbeville; S. Kopper, N. Y.

Hendrix House—Luther P. Smith, J. B. Watson, Miss T. Watson, Miss K. Watson, W. S. Sharp, wife, four children and servant, W. F. Barr, Mike O'Neal, Robt. Stork, Anderson; J. W. Starnes, Doko; W. J. Davis, Ridgeway; J. H. Denck, city; Wm. M. Smith, Augusta.

Testimonials.

I unhesitatingly testify that Dr. T. G. Lane has cured me of stammering and can cure any case that will give him their attention for a few days. My first interview with Dr. Lane was Monday night, and I have not stammered one time since.

ROBERT Y. LEAVELL.

COLUMBIA, S. C., April 15, 1874.

Professor T. G. Lane has cured me of stammering. If I stammer now it is my fault, and not his.

GEORGE W. FETNER.

COLUMBIA, April 8, 1874.

The doctor has cured many cases in Columbia, and many for nothing, and will cure any one that stammers, even if they are too poor to compensate him, by an immediate application to him, as he will only be in the city a few days longer.

COLUMBIA HOTEL, April 16, 1874.

A Washington letter says: The Senate Committee on Claims has before it a singular petition from one Frank Arnim, of Arnim's Heights, S. C. Arnim claims that he captured the last ledger of the Southern Confederacy and delivered it to the Treasurer of the United States in 1867. He says that through the information contained in the ledger the Government obtained a lot of Confederate gold which had been secretly transferred from Andersonville to Augusta. He intimates that he ought to have \$6,000 for this. The committee applied to Gen. Spinner, the Treasurer, for information on the subject. Gen. Spinner writes that the gold spoken of was captured two years before the ledger was received by him, although he says the ledger contained some valuable information.

London is literally built on a foundation of pipes. One gas company supplies two districts with nearly 400 miles of pipes. Then there are the underground telegraph pipes, and 2,500 miles of drain pipes, the lead and iron pneumatic tubes, the sewers, the water-pipes and the underground railway.

Nothing makes a person laugh so much as a set of new teeth.