

The Leaven is Working.

It is rashly taken for granted, and flippantly asserted by a Radical journal of this city, that the movement of the tax-payers has failed to secure the anticipated results. Not so fast, if you please. The wish is evidently the father to that thought. There is and can be no failure about it. On the contrary, it is a brilliant success. Never was a movement more just or timely. It is destined to exercise important influence yet upon the redemption of the State. We can, of course, understand that it is distasteful to certain parties in Washington. They naturally cherish a reluctance to look even in the direction of any genuine reform here or elsewhere. The world might stand still or go on corruptly forever, so far as they are concerned, provided only they continued to get their bread and butter, and their full share of the dividends of plunder and corruption. In the matter referred to they take their cue from the President. He is so constituted by nature, and so moulded by habit, as to listen with much more complaisance to the statements of the Whitemore delegation, pleading for the perpetuation of abuses, and deprecating any searching investigation, than to the earnest, truthful, disinterested and dispassionate disclosures of the memorialists. Some men hospitably entertain truth, but others turn it out of doors. Generous minds readily sympathize with efforts to correct wrong, but there are others who think wrong right. The President might have been of some service to a good cause. He had a fine opportunity to relieve himself of some of the odium which he carries. But he could not rise to any just conception of the dignity of the occasion. He viewed the matters presented to him in the light of their personal relations to himself. The Government is to him a personal matter. A little sharp criticism, uttered by an individual against himself, sufficed to mar, and make distasteful to him, the complaints of the whole Conservative minority of the people of South Carolina. His mind was pre-occupied. The iron of Garey's speech had entered his soul, and had been clinched there by Honest John Patterson.

But we need not repine about that. By some mysterious dispensation of Providence, General Grant has been a power in the United States, but his prestige is now rapidly declining. The sands of his political ascendancy are running down. The elections are telling the tale of the approaching overthrow of that sentiment in the party to which he deserted, which has bred corruption in every branch of the public service, which has vindictively domineered over the prostrate Southern States, and which has shamefully lowered the national standard of honor and integrity. A great day of political reckoning is coming, and the Administration, whose just powers have been transcended, and whose character has been tarnished, is itself on trial. We can afford to wait, if necessary, until that day comes. It will go hard with us, if, in the general redress of evils, in the overthrow of corruption, in the installation of better men in office, and in the inauguration of a more liberal, more just and more enlightened policy, our troubles shall be overlooked or remain undressed.

We look, therefore, beyond the tenure of office and power of the present national administration. We look to that controlling national opinion which is undergoing rapid change, and which, when its revolution is completed, will infallibly look with more favoring eye upon our condition. Even now it might be much better, and could be speedily improved, but for the readiness of the Government to intervene in the affairs of the State upon unjustifiable pretenses, and its reluctance to do the same thing, for good and sufficient cause. We should be content if it would drop its partiality, and not discriminate against us. There is no difficulty in the world, unless its unwillingness be one, in the way of at least its moral force being thrown against mal-administration in this State. There is no conceivable impediment, unless the same be supposed, to a fair, just and searching investigation into the condition of our affairs. It is the least concession that can be made to the demands of the Conservatives. And we are pleased to learn from our despatches, yesterday, that "the disposition to sift the complaint of the memorialists and the answer of the State officials very closely, accumulates in force every time the subject comes up for consideration." That is just what we want. The more thorough the probing, the better for us. And if it should be staved off now, it will only be the more

certainly done at last in obedience to the voice of the whole country, when the leaven of the tax-payers' memorial has leavened the whole mass of American public opinion.

What is Needed to Revive the Prosperity of Columbia.

A great and gratifying change has taken place in Columbia since it lay a heap of ashes nine years ago. It stands again a beautiful city, with many attractions as a place of residence, with the modern improvements of gas, water, drainage, railroad facilities and telegraphic communication with the rest of the world. What it lacks in general, and what it has that might be improved, we need not dwell upon just now. But in looking to the future and considering what resources may be depended upon to sustain its present power and assure its larger development, we confess to some misgivings. Its business cannot be considered altogether satisfactory, or to rest upon a safe foundation. A considerable per centage of its wholesale trade has been lost. It has now only a moderate business in receiving and selling cotton, whereas once this was large and lucrative. There have been some ominous failures, amounting, in the aggregate to \$500,000, within the last six months. If we look to the city government we find it burdened with a heavy floating debt of \$75,000, and bonds to the amount of about \$215,000 issued to build the City Hall and offices, the cost of which is only to be, according to contract, about \$75,000 or \$80,000. To this heavy load we must add the sum (to be paid annually) of \$16,000 for water supply. The city appears to be paying now, just as taxes have come in, 1 1/2 per cent. for money; yet we fail to discern any signs of economy, such as these circumstances would suggest, as the Council has not agreed upon any retrenchment of expenses in the number of police, or otherwise.

The money rate in Columbia is ruinously high. This is due chiefly to the heavy taxation on banking capital. It amounts, from State, County and city, to nearly four per cent. That is a heavy drawback to success, and an onerous burden on business, which is mostly done on borrowed capital. This heavy tax, and consequent high price of money, operates to deter capital from coming to our city. There is one most inviting field, however, upon which it might be profitably employed. We mean the utilization and development of our fine water power. Our policy as a city is clearly to encourage, and, as far as our means allow, to engage in manufacturing. It will restore what we have lost, and add a hundred-fold besides. We are surprised that our people will not heed the lessons which our present condition teaches, on the one hand, nor on the other, catch the spirit of advancement upon the new line of manufacturing industry, so forcibly recommended by such exhibits as that of the Graniteville Manufacturing Company, presented in our columns yesterday. Our individual means may be small, but united, will enable us to accomplish much. And it is to be remembered that capital employed in manufacturing, by a law passed at the last session of the Legislature, has been practically exempted from taxation for ten years.

CREMATION AND LIFE INSURANCE.

The life insurance journals take ground against cremation or burning of the dead. They very clearly see that it would utterly destroy the means of determining disputed identification. In the whole range of medical jurisprudence, and especially in its application to life insurance, the Baltimore Underwriter says it knows of no more important element than that relative to identity. Destroy the means of identification through the stature, the teeth, the sex, the hair, cicatrices, fractures, deformities, or peculiarities, and what will be left for the companies in every Goss case that may occur except to pay to the conspirators the amount of their claim?

The United States Circuit Court met at 10 o'clock Friday morning; Judges Bond and Bryan present. The following cases were tried: B. F. Moses against the New York and South Carolina Steamship Company—mistrial. It was ordered that the case of C. L. Casey against K. C. Whitmore be continued, and that the plaintiff pay the costs of this term. The case of Henry Hayward against John B. Bissell and Wm. C. Bee, executors of Wm. C. Hayward, was heard, the Judge reserving his decision. In the case of O. P. Williams against William L. Dawson, Morris E. Fagan, Anna Mitchell and others, the report of the special master, J. E. Hagood, was confirmed, and it was ordered that the master sell the mortgaged premises for the payment of the mortgage debts, &c. The rules prepared by General James Conner and Major Wm. Stone, by order of the last term of the Court, were adopted as the rules of the United States Circuit Court.

Great Crossings in the Mississippi Levees—Plantations Submerged, &c.

MEMPHIS.—There is imminent danger that a fresh stroke of bad luck is impending over Memphis. For some years the narrow isthmus, fifty or sixty yards wide, that separated the Mississippi from Loosahatchie and Wolf Rivers, has been steadily wearing away. If the resistless volume of water moves on a straight line it may sweep away several saw mills and the navy yard. A vast deal of property is involved, and, by bare possibility, even the admirable new Court House.—*Memphis Appeal*.

VICKSBURG.—The high water of 1867, and probably that of 1862, will almost certainly be attained before we find any relief from its subsidence; and from present indications there will be few levees this side of Memphis on either side of the river that will be able to withstand the pressure. Already thousands of acres of the richest and most productive soil of the Mississippi Valley is under water, and the torrent is still pouring down upon us, the levees offering no protection whatever to the planter. Below this city, especially below the mouth of Red River, the situation is very alarming, and the water is nearly even with the top of the banks at nearly all places where it is not actually running over.—*Vicksburg Herald*.

SHREVEPORT.—From every direction we hear of heavy rains, increasing floods, broken levees and threatened overflows. On the 16th, a terrific storm of wind and rain swept over the whole country. On the line of the Texas and Pacific, trees, fences and houses were blown down, and a freight train of seven cars fell through a bridge on the road undermined by the flood. About Miuden, the country is flooded, bridges reported swept away, the bayou is still rising, and the warehouses in town are in two feet of water, while the cotton stored in them is being removed to the high lands in boats. The waters of the bayou spread two and a half miles in width. At Monroe there have been continual rains, with the Ouachita rising. The planting prospects in that vicinity are represented as gloomy. Upon the whole, things look threatening, and there can be no doubt that this season's flood on the Mississippi will be one of the greatest on record, and it will probably not begin to subside before the latter part of May.—*Shreveport Times*.

HUNDREDS OF PLANTATIONS DESOLATE.

Through a gentleman who has just arrived from the Ouachita River, we learn that the weather has been terrible up there for the last month. The river, from Camden down, has overflowed its banks, and is rushing down in a tremendous flood, ruining the rich and beautiful country and making everything desolate in the extreme. The river is full of drift, dead cattle and wreck of every description, and hundreds of families are rendered homeless by the rapidly increasing waters, the rise being unprecedented and rather on the increase than decrease. Every one appears paralyzed with fear, and nothing is done to save goods of the planters, which are swept away in many instances. This flood, which has been pouring into the Red River, and thence swelling the Mississippi, only a small portion running up through Atchafalaya, is now on the increase, and will add to the vast volume of waters at our doors. Water is covering the fairest spots upon the lower coast, in Lafourche, in Baton Rouge, in Point Coupee; and the great stream pouring through Bonnie Carre has filled the swamps and water courses, until it begins to creep up against our city's rear, and threaten the very thoroughfares on which we pursue our avocations.—*New Orleans Picayune*.

POINT COUPEE.—The river is still rising; at one time during the week, it rose at least six inches in one night. On Thursday, the water was passing over the Jewell, Colomb, Boward and Taylor levees. The people turned out in force and set to work in earnest, patching and raising the levees at these points, so that at nightfall they could be pronounced out of danger. During Thursday night, the levees protecting Waterloo gave way, and the town is now entirely overflowed. The levee in the rear is pronounced safe. On the Grand levee, the water is running over in several places.—*Point Coupee Republican*.

DELHI.—From all around us, the pitiful wail of distress from inundation reaches us. The railroad track for half its length is submerged in water, the Ouachita is full and running over, and the plantations along its banks are covered with sillage water and overflow; the same may be said for a good portion of the Boeuf River and Lake Lafourche country; a portion of the town of Rayville is under water; back water has crept up the ravines and drains of Delhi, rendering some of our streets impassable for pedestrians; the water still covers about half the parish of Madison, while the remainder is in imminent danger of inundation.—*Delhi Chronicle*.

BAYOU SARA.—The water has been creeping with such rapidity over the levees opposite Bayou Sara, that on Thursday, at 3 o'clock in the morning, it was found necessary to turn out an extra squad of workmen to prevent the town from being overflowed. A general alarm was given and the citizens turned out in full force, and after working manfully for several hours the principal breaks were overcome and the town saved, for the present at least.

THE METHODIST CONFERENCE.—The conference convened at the appointed hour, at Bethel Church, Charleston, on the 24th. The election of delegates to the annual conference was entered into, and the following persons were elected: Messrs. V. C. Dibble, George Pierce, N. F. Kirkland and W. B. Warren. Alternates—Messrs. F. J. Pelzer, Dr. A. F. Williams, Dr. J. B. Black and Dr. P. Stokes.

There are over 200 buildings in course of construction in Raleigh.

CITY MATTERS.—Subscribe for the PHOENIX.

Deaths for the week ending April 25, 4 colored.

Our telegraphic and news columns give some appalling details of the terrible overflow in Louisiana.

A good investment—a Singer Sewing Machine. The office is nearly opposite the PHOENIX building.

It is rumored that A. A. Gilbert, Esq., of the Sumter Watchman, is a candidate for Congress from the First District.

Old merchants declare that the past week was the worst for business within their recollection. There's a good time coming, however.

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

If you would make your wife or daughter happy, call at the Singer Sewing Machine office, and purchase one of their new style drop-leaf machines.

We have been presented with a measure of fine new Irish potatoes, by Mr. M. Braunan, as also a sprig with well-formed bell peppers, which is early for this section.

The Singer Sewing Machines are more generally used than any other. The record shows that more of these machines are sold every year than any other.

We are indebted to the committee for a card of invitation to the commencement exercises of the Euphemian and Philomathean Literary Societies of Erskine College, on the 25th June.

The Singer Sewing Machine Company is doing a driving trade. One of their sub-agents, yesterday, disposed of five machines—a good day's work. Other machines were also sold at the office.

Our exchanges, from all parts of the State, bring us accounts of considerable damage to the growing crops, fruit trees, forests and plantations, by the recent and prevailing heavy rains and gales.

The following appointments and removals have been made by the Governor: A. J. E. Minger was removed as Trial Justice for Orangeburg County, and Dr. F. W. Vogt appointed in his place; Wm. Summers was removed as Trial Justice for Newberry County, and Mr. Wm. Deas was appointed a Trial Justice for Beaufort County.

We are indebted to the Committee of Arrangements for an invitation to the banquet to be given by Palmetto Lodge, No. 5, I. O. O. F., on Monday evening, the 27th instant, which is in celebration of the fifty-sixth anniversary of the introduction of Odd Fellowship into the United States. There will be a public address at Irwin's Hall, the same evening, by A. G. Magrath, Jr., W. G. Master of the State.

MAIL ARRANGEMENTS.—The Northern mail opens 6.30 A. M., 3 P. M.; closes 11 A. M., 6 P. M. Charleston opens 8 A. M., 5.30 P. M.; closes 8 A. M., 6 P. M. Western opens 6 A. M., 12.30 P. M.; closes 6, 1.30 P. M. Greenville opens 6.45 P. M.; closes 6 A. M. Wilmington opens 4 P. M.; closes 10.30 A. M. On Sunday open from 2.30 to 3.30 P. M.

REV. A. P. GRAVES.—This eminent divine commenced a series of meetings on Friday last, at the Baptist Church, which will be continued during the coming week—services each day, at 4.30 P. M. and 8 P. M. Services will be held to-day at 11 A. M., 3 P. M. and 8 P. M. Of the many favorable notices of this remarkable preacher, we select the following, written by Dr. A. T. Spalding, of Atlanta:

"In the course of the two weeks, he preached thirty-eight sermons, besides conducting other meetings for prayer, conference and inquiry. This alone will give some idea of the indomitable energy and perseverance of the man who in nine years had conducted meetings in about 800 churches. He seemed never to tire, being 'instant in season, out of season.' He is stoutly built, put up for long and hard service, having capacious lungs, and a throat that bears an immense strain upon its powers of endurance. He scatters throughout the congregation a two-leaved sheet, on which are twenty-nine hymns, from which all the singing is done—he himself leading in a strong voice, and in a rapid, earnest measure. In his preaching, he is plain, practical, pungent and intensely earnest. From his retentive memory, which seems to hold with tenacious grasp everything he ever knew, he draws hundreds of thrilling illustrations. His tone of voice is winsome, pleading; his manner always affectionately tender. He soon wins the confidence of the Christian and of the sinner. One of his striking characteristics is manliness; another straightforward, outspoken honesty; another is the absence of malice or unkindness of heart; another his faith and power in prayer. At times, in his sermons, he becomes masterly, almost overwhelming, as once in his paragraph denunciatory of spiritualism. At the outset of his service, he generally tells what he will desire of the people at the close; and generally they do what he requests, whatever it may be."

GALE.—A heavy gale of wind prevailed here all of yesterday, accompanied by heavy black clouds and rain. The wind did considerable damage in various parts of the city, by dislodging signs, blowing down fences, trees, scaffolding, &c. A portion of the scaffold around the City Hall was blown nearly across the street, and uneasy was the head of him who passed beneath the loose timber. A certain corpulent M. D. created considerable amusement to spectators by his movements in making his escape from the perilous locality.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES TO-DAY.—Presbyterian Church—Rev. J. H. Bryson, Pastor, 11 A. M. and 7 1/2 P. M.

St. Peter's Catholic Church—Rev. J. L. Fallerton, first Mass 7 A. M.; second Mass 10 1/2 A. M.; Vespers 4 1/2 P. M.

Trinity Church—Rev. P. J. Shand, Rector, 11 A. M. and 5 P. M.

Lutheran—Rev. A. R. Rude, Pastor, 10 1/2 A. M. Sunday School, 4 1/2 P. M.

Baptist—Rev. A. P. Graves, 11 A. M., 2 P. M. and 8 P. M. Sunday School, at 3 P. M.

Washington Street Methodist—Rev. A. Coke Smith, 11 A. M. and 7 1/2 P. M. Sunday School 9 A. M.

Marion Street Methodist—Rev. W. D. Kirkland, 11 A. M. and 7 1/2 P. M. Sunday School, 9 1/2 A. M.

Ladson Chapel—Rev. H. B. Garriss, 11 A. M. 7 1/2 P. M.

Second Baptist Congregation—Services in Palmetto Engine House, at 11 A. M., by Rev. A. M. Cartledge, Pastor. Sunday School, 10 A. M.

LIST OF NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Chas. Barnum—Notice. Meeting Myrtle Lodge, K. of P. Meeting Columbia Lodge. Odd Fellows' Celebration.

HOTEL ARRIVALS, April 25, 1874.—Wheeler House—Jno H McDewitt, Edgfield; A Cce, N J; R Crowley, England; B O Mauldin, Charleston; J W Swearington, Edgfield; W L Marshall, Abbeville; E J Clark, Mo; J E Duval, Md; J S Browning, Charleston; L B Cheatham, N Y; B F Bryan, N C.

Hendrie House—F C Ford, N C; W K Clond, Doko; Mrs T F Wesson, W T Bardsall, N Y; W G Humart, Ridgeview; W Herreuson, F Lilly, city.

DR SCHENCK'S STANDARD REMEDIES.—The standard remedies for all diseases of the lungs are SCHENCK'S PULMONIC SYRUP, SCHENCK'S SEA WEED TONIC and SCHENCK'S MANDRAKE PILLS; and, if taken before the lungs are destroyed, a speedy cure is effected. To these three medicines, Dr. J. H. Schenck, of Philadelphia, owes his unrivaled success in the treatment of pulmonary diseases.

The Pulmonic Syrup ripens the morbid matter in the lungs; nature throws it off by an easy expectoration; for when the phlegm or matter is ripe, a slight cough will throw it off, the patient has rest, and the lungs begin to heal.

To enable the Pulmonic Syrup to do this, Schenck's Mandrake Pills and Schenck's Sea Weed Tonic must be freely used, to cleanse the stomach and liver. Schenck's Mandrake Pills act on the liver, removing all obstructions, relax the gall bladder, the bile starts freely, and the liver is soon relieved.

Schenck's Sea Weed Tonic is a gentle stimulant and alterative. The alkali of which it is composed mixes with the food and prevents souring. It assists the digestion by toning up the stomach to a healthy condition, so that the food and the Pulmonic Syrup will make good blood; then the lungs heal, and the patient will surely get well, if care is taken to prevent fresh cold.

All who wish to consult Dr. Schenck, either personally or by letter, can do so at his principal office, corner of Sixth and Arch streets, Philadelphia, every Monday. Schenck's medicines are sold by all druggists throughout the country.

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 over-work or indiscretions. THIS NERVOUS DEBILITY finds a SOVEREIGN CURE IN HUMPHREYS' HOMEOPATHIC 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 old serious cases; or \$1 per single box. Sold by ALL druggists, or sent by mail on receipt of price. Address HUMPHREYS' SPECIFIC HOMEOPATHIC MEDICINE COMPANY, No. 562 Broadway, N. Y. For sale by GEIGER & MCGREGOR, Columbia, S. C. Mar 20 112m

PRIZES FOR THE FIREMAN'S TOURNAMENT.—The prizes for the tournament of the steam engines, which takes place on the 8th of May, are as follows: First prize, a handsome silver water set, consisting of a silver pitcher and two goblets; second prize, a pair of solid sterling silver goblets; third prize, a solid sterling silver goblet. The various companies in the department are making active preparations for the tournament, and a handsome parade and a close contest may be expected.

[Charleston News and Courier.]

MISGENERATION.—A white woman, by the name of Polly Stephens, was married to a negro man, by the name of Charles Allen, in this County, in January last, by a negro preacher, by the name of Orymes. This is the first intermarriage of the colored and white race in this County, and we hope the last. [Pickens Sentinel.]