

**The Killing of Davis at Belton.**

We have read the account of the fatal shooting of John Davis at Belton, by Deputy United States Revenue Collector Mattison, with much pain. In the apologetic statements of the matter, we observe two which seem to be made upon conjecture—one is that the whiskey in charge of Davis and his companions was of illicit distillation; the other that Davis is said to belong to a gang which conducted themselves in some way illegally some time ago. Both statements may be true, or they may not. It will not do to arrest them in this way, before they are legally proved, in vindication of an act which, in our judgment, cannot be defended. The lives of men and of citizens of this country are too precious to be taken from them upon such slight provocation by Government officials. In the discharge of such duties as Darling and Mattison were engaged in, they should have been guided by discretion and humanity. Granting, even, that Davis was guilty of violation of law—admitting that he was reckless and desperate—that he did not stop when ordered—still he was not an outlaw; he was a man, with the rights of a man not forfeited, and dear it may be to some poor lone wife and destitute children or aged and dependent parents. It would have been better to let him escape than to take the God-given life in this harsh and violent fashion, making a desolate home, blackening a name that for aught we know may once, or even then, have been fair, and filling the hearts of those who survive him with life-long bitterness and despair. We protest, with all our might, against such rash cruelty, such hasty killing, and we call upon the Government to institute the strictest search into the whole affair, to declare the men concerned in it innocent, if they are innocent, or to punish them, if they violated its laws and regulations, as they appear to have those of a discreet judgment and a common humanity.

**Deepening the Bar of Charleston.**

The people of Charleston have resolved to deepen the bar by dredging the Pumpkin Hill Channel to the depth of twenty feet at mean high water. In conformity with the suggestion of the Chamber of Commerce, the City Council, at a recent meeting, agreed to enter at once into a contract with Professor Mallefert to execute the work. He is to refit and fully furnish the steam dredge Josephine and employ it in dredging the channel to the required depth, and for keeping open hereafter this and the other channels across the bar. He is to be ready to begin in sixty days. The amount of \$12,000 is to be paid, in monthly instalments of \$2,000, to defray the expenses at the outset; and when, within twelve months, the dredging has been completed so that there shall be created a permanent passage from the harbor to the ocean, nowhere less than 250 feet wide, and nowhere less than twenty feet deep at mean high water, upon turning over to the City Council the steam dredge Josephine in good order, the contractor is to receive the remainder due, namely, \$38,000. It was unfortunate that the Congressional appropriation for the bar and harbor of Charleston was so small and inadequate. In a national point of view, it is desirable that all obstructions and difficulties in the way of the business and success of this historical city should be permanently removed. It is all she needs to spring forward to grasp the sceptre of enlarged commercial power. It is thought by Senator Robertson that Congress will reimburse to the city the money it has so wisely expended. It should do it, certainly, and appropriate as much more in other harbor improvements.

It is stated in a city journal that Collector C. L. Anderson visited the military commander at this post, on Monday evening, to ask him to send troops to Belton. The commandant did not comply with the request. We thank the commandant for his good judgment in this matter. Let Mattison be fairly and impartially tried, but let the military keep to their quarters. They are not here to overawe the people, or stifle those instincts of justice which it ought to be every man's pride to cherish.

From Cuba comes a strange and somewhat astounding rumor, to the effect that Gen. Concha is in negotiation with chiefs of the free Cuba movement for the surrender of the arms and cause of the patriots to the Spaniards. Can it be true?

**The Importance of Bread and Butter and Purple and Fine Linen.**

The Republican Executive Committee, of which R. B. Elliott is the President, is called to meet next week, upon "business of importance." This important business is defined by our Radical city contemporary to be more especially "the general issue whether all this matter of reform is something terribly in earnest for the salvation and perpetuation of our (its) organization," as its highest object, or something else. This programme conforms to the one given by a prominent candidate for Governor to the New York Times' correspondent "The leaders of the party," said this guide and fag-man, "had arrived at the conclusion that their political success depended upon their reformation." In this outline of projected reform, we find no trace of thought or concern for the State or its oppressed people. The objects to be subverted are the "salvation and perpetuation of our (the Radical) organization," and its "political success." Water conveyed in aqueducts or in its natural channels will rise just to the height of its source. The action of a party, the conclusions which it will reach and carry out in practice, will correspond to its fundamental principle. A party claiming to have 50,000 majority of votes, considers itself to be in desperate straits, and trembles for its "political success." With the whole American people calling to it to do justice to the minority, reform abuses, correct its thousand evils of administration, it can only respond, like a dying man catching at a straw, that it means to be "terribly in earnest" in perpetuating its "organization!" "There, ye wise" Rads, "behold your light, your stars!"

**Whittemore Before His Constituents.**

Parson Whittemore held forth on the 4th of July, at Florence, to a crowd of black and colored people, in a speech which dealt in historical recital, and was void of political bias. This we learn from the *Darlington Southerner*, which says that special and extra trains were crowded with enthusiastic "celebrants." The *Southerner* adds that it would have been well had all the citizens of the County been auditors.

Three things may be noted here. First—the character of the speech. It shows that even Whittemore is beginning to change his tune. Secondly—the numbers who crowded the trains, but who, as we learn from a gentleman who was at Florence that day, did not more than half go to Whittemore's show. Thirdly—the hint which the *Southerner* intimates, of the immense loss which the citizens of the County sustained by not attending it. It is appalling to think of how much wisdom was wasted there that day on the desert air—wisdom which might have greatly aided the weak judgments of the voters in choosing a Senator or member of Congress. We judge, from the circumstances described and from the language of the *Southerner*, that Whittemore bankers after the State Senate again. If it is the same to him, we would prefer that he should run for Congress. As Moses wishes to be vindicated by re-election to the Governorship, so Whittemore ought to get even with Congress for its scurvy trick in turning him out, for merely selling a ship. We cannot but admit, however, that there will be a fitness of things in his coming back here to be present at the great catastrophe.

**EDITOR PHOENIX:** The comet, visible these nights from its different positions in the early and latter parts of the night, may produce the impression and belief with some that there are two different comets; but it is one and the same, and it seems to move in a circle around the North star, like the Seven Pointers, or Great Dipper, as sometimes called. It does not set, as some suppose, but moves some distance in advance of the Pointers and more inward—that is, making a smaller circuit, with the tail inclined inwards. Being night watch at the Asylum, I can have a good open view of it from the third story of the building. On observing it for some nights, owing to a dense atmosphere or haziness near the horizon, it would disappear, and I could not see its course. But a few nights ago, the sky remained clear and bright. I have noticed it throughout the night and could see it all the time. It moved Eastward and quite low, and then gradually began to rise, seemingly keeping a relative distance from the North or Polar star. The last few nights have been cloudy, so I could not observe any more, but judge by that night its course and movements other nights.

**BENNET WALLACE.**

A colored minister, Rev. D. F. Smith, has delivered an encouraging lecture on Liberia, to an attentive audience of his own color, in Charleston. He has been there.

**THE FATAL WHISKEY DIFFICULTY.**

The *Union Herald* has been furnished with the following particulars of the fatal shooting affray, in Anderson County, on the 11th: On Saturday last, Mr. Charles Darling, United States Gauger, and Capt. Mattison, a Deputy United States Revenue Collector, went in pursuit of some whiskey they were informed was being transported out of the village of Belton, in Anderson County. They had proceeded but a short distance on the road, when they came upon the wagon loaded with whiskey of illicit distillation, and immediately seized the plunder, and put the men having it in charge in arrest. Mr. Darling left the men in charge of Captain Mattison, and proceeded a short way to procure a rope to secure the men, who were known to be desperate, telling the captain if they attempted to escape to shoot them, or any of them. Taking advantage of the absence of Darling, one of the arrested parties, named Davis, broke away and ran, when Mattison fired his revolver into him, the ball taking effect in his breast. The wounded man ran but a short distance until he fell dead. The wagon and contents were taken into town, and Captain Mattison was arrested for the murder and partly for protection. He is now in jail, guarded by a company of troops furnished by Gen. J. Miles Sullivan, of Greenville. Mr. Darling left for this city, where he arrived last evening. He reports that the feeling in Belton was very strong against him. Last evening, Collector C. L. Anderson visited the military commander at this post, with a view to have troops sent to Belton. Our informant states the request was not complied with.

**The Greenville News furnishes the following particulars:**

About two weeks ago, United States Deputy Marshal Robertson and Collector Mattison seized in the upper part of this County, near 1,000 gallons contraband whiskey, the property of one John Davis, which was brought to the residence of Captain Jennings, eighteen miles above this city, and deposited in his cellar for the night. Mr. Davis succeeded in making his escape. About 1 o'clock A. M., the officers were aroused by a party of men, who demanded the surrender of the whiskey, which prudence dictated they should do. Most of the whiskey was hauled off, and nobody hurt. From information received on Saturday morning last, Captain A. Mattison and C. A. Darling, Deputy Collectors, proceeded to Belton, for the purpose of capturing John Davis. On their arrival, they pressed horses into service, and rode about six miles from Belton, where they overtook Davis and his wagon, with three barrels of whiskey. The officers demanded a surrender, both parties drawing arms. After some talk, Davis and Cromer surrendered, delivering up their arms. Mattison was in the road, guarding the parties, when Darling proceeded to the mules to procure a strap, when Davis started off to the woods and was fired at by Captain Mattison. The shot took effect, but Davis proceeded on, and the officer retraced his steps, when they all drove back to Belton, leaving the establishment there, and the two officers, with Cromer in charge, got aboard the train and came to Greenville, when Cromer was lodged in jail.

About 9 o'clock on Saturday night, a telegram was received, stating that Davis was dead, and to have the parties arrested. James E. Schofield, Esq., issued a warrant, which Sheriff Southern executed by quietly arresting Captain Mattison and lodging him in jail, when he will be transferred to Anderson this morning.

From information received, Sheriff Southern deemed it prudent to place a guard around the jail on Sunday night, to prevent a disturbance, but nothing threatening transpired. The report, no doubt, arose from the fact that four persons (a committee from Musby Creek Lodge of Odd Fellows) arrived in town who were appointed to proceed to Belton and bring the body of Davis home.

The coroner's jury in the case of Mattison was wifful murder. Davis was shot in the side, the ball ranging upward through the lungs, and came out about the centre of the breast. The coroner of Anderson forwarded his warrant to Sheriff Southern, and the prisoner will be sent to Anderson jail for confinement. The body of Mr. Davis passed through our city yesterday afternoon, in charge of a committee who had been appointed for that purpose. The deceased was about thirty years old, lived about eighteen miles from this city, and was a single man.

The down train, yesterday morning, for Columbia, carried Deputy Marshal Darling. When the train arrived at Belton, the crowd marched into the train in search of Darling, who had taken refuge in the mail car, and was covered up under the mail bags. Mr. Shelton, the mail agent, closed the door, and stated that the property in the room belonged to the United States, and drew a pistol to defend it. By advice of Capt. G. G. Wells and Mr. Whitner, the crowd was quieted, and permitted Mr. Darling to go unharmed. It is supposed that we will have one *Darling* less in this community for a short while, at least. The excitement about the murder of Davis in Anderson is intense.

**THE VICTORY IN ARKANSAS.**—The result of the recent election in Arkansas cannot but be gratifying to the Democracy of the country. For years past, since reconstruction laws and constitutional amendments turned the Southern States over to the control of carpet-baggers and negroes in 1868, Arkansas has been giving heavy majorities to the Radicals. She seemed to be in as helpless and hopeless a condition as South Carolina. Her thieves were as numerous, bold and powerful, her rings as well organized and unscrupulous, yet to-day her freedom is attested by a majority of 65,000. An election was recently ordered upon the question of calling a Constitutional Convention. The Radicals opposed, the Democrats and Conservatives advocated the movement. The returns show a clean majority of 65,000, and the Democrats elect delegates from every County in the State except two. The convention will do away with all the restrictions upon suffrage imposed by the Clayton Government; there will no longer be disfranchisement and disabilities, and at least 10,000 additional voters will be free to cast their ballots against misrule. We will soon have another Democrat in the United States Senate, and the six votes of Arkansas will be cast for the Democratic nominee in 1876. Oregon, Connecticut, New Hampshire, Ohio, Indiana, Arkansas—pretty good work has been done in the last two years. [Augusta Chronicle and Sentinel.

**A NATIONAL CERTIFICATE.**—Among the medicinal successes of modern times, Hostetter's Stomach Bitters has been one of the most remarkable. Its popularity is unprecedented, but cannot be called astonishing, inasmuch as no man of common sense is astonished that the most effective and wholesome tonic and alterative science has ever brought to the rescue of the sick or offered as a safeguard against disease should be in all but universal use. If ever a proprietary medicine received a spontaneous national certificate, Hostetter's Bitters is that medicine. Medical men approve and prescribe it. Wherever it has fair play, it takes the place of the adulterated stimulants which have so long disgraced the dispensary and the hospital, and prominent members of every profession and calling have testified, in the most emphatic language, to its curative and protective properties.

During a triumphant career of nearly a quarter of a century, hundreds of nostrums have been started in opposition to the great tonic, with the hope of attracting a portion of the patronage bestowed upon it. Not one of these preparations has had any permanent success. Many have gone to the limbo of things despised; others are tottering to their fall. Neither fiery astringents nor soul-scouring mixtures have been accepted by a wide-awake public as an equivalent for the gentle vegetable restorative; and as long as Hostetter's Bitters prevent and cure dyspepsia, biliousness, nervous diseases, constipation, fever and ague, rheumatism and general debility, and these empirical preparations do not, the tried specific will be in the ascendant. Truth is mighty, and will prevail. July 12 [1

**SCHEENK'S SEA WEED TONIC.**—In the atmosphere experienced here during the summer months, the lethargy produced by the heat takes away the desire for wholesome food, and frequent perspirations reduce bodily energy, particularly those suffering from the effects of debilitating diseases. In order to keep a natural healthful activity of the system, we must resort to artificial means. For this purpose, Scheenk's Sea Weed Tonic is very effectual. A few doses will create an appetite and give fresh vigor to the enervated body. For dyspepsia, it is invaluable. Many eminent physicians have doubted whether dyspepsia can be permanently cured by the drugs which are generally employed for that purpose. The Sea Weed Tonic, in its nature, is totally different from such drugs. It contains no corrosive minerals or acids—in fact, it assists the regular operations of nature, and supplies her deficiencies. The Tonic, in its nature, so much resembles the gastric juice, that it is almost identical with that fluid. The gastric juice is the natural solvent which, in a healthy condition of the body, causes the food to be digested; and when this juice is not excreted in sufficient quantities, indigestion, with all its distressing symptoms, follows. The Sea Weed Tonic performs the duty of the gastric juice when the latter is deficient. Scheenk's Sea Weed Tonic is sold by all druggists. July 9 [13

**BEAR ARGUMENTS.**—The bear interest of the North is determined that the next crop of the South shall be a large one. They have even discovered that what appear to be misfortunes are really blessings in disguise. The great flood in the South-west, last spring, which covered thousands of square miles of the finest cotton lands in the country and reduced thousands of agricultural laborers to the point of starvation, has really brightened the prospect of a large yield of the staple. The New York *Daily Bulletin* has the amusing effrontery to assert in this connection: "But experience has demonstrated that inundations are not always calamitous; but that, on the contrary, the South is actually benefited by them." The bears will inform us after awhile that caterpillars and the army worm are the necessary adjuncts of a large crop.

By the death of Governor Caldwell, Lieutenant-Governor Curtis H. Brogden, of Wayne, becomes the Governor of North Carolina, to fill the unexpired term ending on the first of January, 1877.

The thinning out of the employees at Washington has borne most heavily upon the Treasury and War Departments, the former of which lost 700. More than half came from the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, which Congressmen have made use of as a kind of hospital for importunate applicants, who could not be elsewhere bestowed, as the chief of the bureau was not restricted in the number of his appointments. The wages rarely amounted to more than \$50 a month for women, and now Congress has provided a specific sum for the working of the bureau, the same as in other branches of the department. The force, which numbered 1,300 persons, is now cut down below 1,000.

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT, CHARLESTON, July 13—Judge Bryan presiding.**—In the matter of T. H. Colcock and A. H. Heyward, copartners as Colcock and Heyward, petition for the appointment of trustees to wind up the business, &c., it was ordered that all proceedings upon the said petition in bankruptcy be stayed until the further order of the Court. In the matter of the Blue Ridge Railroad Company, rule upon Anson Bangs and others to show cause why the order postponing the sale should not be vacated, the return to the rule was made by Hon. A. G. Magrath, and on motion of McCrady & Son, the hearing was postponed till Thursday, 16th instant.

A colored man insulted Dr. J. E. Durr, of Graniteville, on Saturday last, when he knocked him down. Shortly afterwards a party of his friends armed themselves and went in search of the doctor, but did not find him. A number of white citizens, hearing of the affair, promptly armed and held themselves in readiness to resist the intended attack. The blacks finally drew off; but there was considerable excitement among the residents.

**DOUBLE SUICIDE.**—Mortimer Mohnan, who was prominently connected with the Fenian movement, and of late earning his livelihood in New York by writing for weekly papers, was found Saturday in his room, in a tenement house, dying from the effects of a dose of Paris green. In the same room was the already decomposed body of his wife Mary, who had died from the effects of a dose of Paris green. Poverty drove the people to commit suicide.

**DEATH OF A BRAVE BOY.**—A son of John Babcock, aged eighteen years, was drowned at Pembroke, Me., recently, after he had succeeded in placing four boys on the gunwale of a boat which had capsized while rowing. The boys could not swim, and young Babcock was swimming behind the boat, pushing it ashore, and was taken with cramps. He had dived twice and brought up one of the boys, who lost his hold on the gunwale.

The *Wilmington Star*, referring to the fatal difficulty which occurred at Mullin's Depot, in Marion County, a few days ago, says the young men—Hicks and Gilchrist—were good friends. They had harsh words at a frolic, on Wednesday, which was renewed, when Hicks was struck with a piece of board, from the effects of which he died. Gilchrist is overwhelmed with grief at the result of the affair. Hicks was from Raleigh, N. C.

George Washington, colored, shot and killed a white man, named Dunn, at Texarkana, Ark., on Saturday last. Washington was arrested, and while being taken to jail attempted to escape, and was shot and killed.

Ed. Mackey is for reform. He warns the Republican party of the fate of Georgia, Arkansas and other Southern States which were once under Radical control. He sees the handwriting on the wall.

A destructive rain storm in Philadelphia on Sunday, washed up a number of culverts and bridges, and did a vast amount of damage.

An invention by which four messages can be sent at the same time on one telegraph wire has recently been tested in New York.

A number of colored tax-payers of Charleston have nominated ex-Gov. Wm. Aiken for the gubernatorial chair at the next election.

Meetings are to be held in Charleston, this evening, for the purpose of organizing Tax Unions.

Charles Malder was killed at Chester, Md., on the 12th, by a railroad train.

*Whiffs of Ararat* is the name of a paper published there.

**Grand Concert**  
BY THE  
**COLUMBIA CHORAL UNION**  
ON  
**WEDNESDAY, JULY 22, 1874,**  
FOR THE  
**Benefit of Palmetto Orphan Home!!**

AT PARKER'S HALL.

ADMISSION \$1.00. Secure Reserve Seats at LyBrand's Music Store. Tickets for sale at LyBrand's Music Store, and by soliciting committees. July 15

Something New and Beautiful!

**ABRAMS' PATENT**  
Cast-Iron  
**Grave Covering!**

TERRITORIAL RIGHTS FOR SALE.

J. A. RUMSEY, Agent for South Carolina, can be found for a few days at the store of M. H. Berry, where specimens can be seen. Great inducements offered to parties purchasing territorial rights. July 15

**CITY MATTERS.—Subscribe for the PHOENIX.**

The weather feels more like September than July. We don't complain, however.

Advertising is to business what steam is to machinery—the grand propelling power.

The engagement of the comet will soon terminate. Those who admire the stellar attraction had better make the most of it now.

And now somebody wants to know whether the comet has anything to do with the recent cool nights we have all so much enjoyed.

The *mandamus*-certificate-indebtedness matter still bangs fire. No decision rendered yet. "Hope deferred," etc.

W. D. Love, Esq., has returned from a short visit to Glenn's Springs, feeling healthy, recuperated and in good condition for business.

It is shrewdly observed that sawdust pills would cure a great many diseases, if the patient would only make his own saw-dust.

Ex-Representative Simons requests us to say that he is a candidate for the Legislature again, but on the Nash ticket.

It is said that Tim. Hurley has contracted with brick-makers in Columbia for 2,300,000 bricks for the building of the new theatre on Meeting street, Charleston.

A grand concert will be given by the Choral Union, next Wednesday evening, for the benefit of the Palmetto Orphan Home. Let each of us buy a ticket, and give the Home a large sum in the aggregate. We will have a fine treat in the way of music.

General C. L. Anderson has departed for Greenville, to have his Deputy, Mattison, brought to Columbia. In the present justly-excited condition of the people, it would be as well not to attempt any unusual proceedings.

We have been informed that persons holding past due coupons of the city of Columbia have presented them to the City Clerk, in payment for licenses, and they were refused. It would be advisable to consider this matter carefully, as trouble may arise—a great many of these coupons being held by parties outside the State.

A colored youngster, called "Bob," who figured in the police courts repeatedly, was overhauled by Policeman Miles, on Monday last, while he was overhauling Judge Willard's premises. The young thief has been leniently dealt with heretofore, and severe punishment should now be meted out to him. This last case was one of regular house-breaking.

**'ARREST OF A MURDERER.**—In December, 1865, a difficulty occurred in Butcher Town, between two young men, named Tyler Starling and John Raleigh, (or John Thompson, as he was commonly called,) in which the former was shot and killed by the latter. Raleigh succeeded in making his escape, and nothing was heard of him until several months ago, when he quietly dropped into Columbia, but only remained a short time, and kept close. It is stated that he wanted at that time to give himself up to the officials and stand a trial—feeling satisfied that the punishment would be light. His friends opposed it, and he again disappeared. A despatch was received, yesterday, by Chief Nixon, from the authorities in Philadelphia, that Raleigh had been arrested in that city, and had stated that he had committed a murder in Columbia, and giving the particulars. Last night, Chief Nixon and Mr. Thos. Pope departed for the Quaker City, for the purpose of bringing Raleigh to this city for trial.

**MAIL ARRANGEMENTS.**—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., 1 P. M.; closes 6, 1.30 P. M. Greenville opens 8.45 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.

**LIST OF NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.**  
Abrams' Patent Grave Covering.  
Meeting Richard Lodge.  
Columbia Choral Concert.  
HOTEL ARRIVALS, July 14, 1874.—*Wheeler House*—J. Jenkins, Ga.; C. C. Puffer, Charleston; T. B. Johnston, Sumter; B. D. Townsend, Society Hill, C. A. Darling, city; A. H. Davega, J. E. Wylie, Chester; J. C. Sheppard, Edgefield; T. T. Ware, N. C.; T. S. Goodwyn, Fort Motta; M. Glover, Winnsboro; T. C. James, N. C.  
*Hendrix House*—S. A. Gregg and wife, S. A. Gregg, Jr., W. H. Ross, Darlington; Miss V. Barress, Anderson; R. F. Pogue and son, Charleston; J. H. Flowers, Sumter; D. P. Hartley, Batesburg; J. E. Black, Cherokee Springs.