

Big words are great favorites with people of small ideas and weak conceptions. They are often employed by men of mind when they use language that may best conceal their thoughts. With few exceptions, however, illiterate and half-educated persons use more "big words" than people of thorough education. It is a very common but very egregious mistake to suppose that long words are more genteel than short ones—just as the same sort of people imagine high colors and flashy figures improve their style of dress. They are the kind of people who don't begin, but always "commence." They don't live, but "reside." They don't go to bed, but mysteriously "retire." They don't eat and drink, but "partake of refreshments." They are never sick, but "extremely indisposed." And instead of dying, at last, they "decease." The strength of the English language is in short words, chiefly monosyllables of Saxon derivation, and people who are in earnest seldom use any other. Love, hate, anger, grief, joy, express themselves in short words and direct sentences; while cunning, falsehood and affectation delight in what Horace calls verba sesquipedalia—words "a foot and a half long."

Bazaine is gone. Monsieur le Marechal passed off on a rope ladder Sunday night, and the despatches do not exaggerate when they say there is great excitement in Paris. His prison on the Island of Sainte Marguerite was a secure one, and his escape was evidently not of his own planning. A faithful Bonapartist, it is not difficult to determine the direction from whence assistance reached him. The adherents of the "Prince Imperial" now have an able and experienced General, and if they could give him a strong army, he would help them out of their troubles without the aid of the absurd plebiscite. It seems hardly possible, however, that his liberation will benefit them. Frenchmen cannot forget that he surrendered an army of 173,000 men to the Germans. The stigma of traitor will go with him, justly or unjustly, as long as he lives. It may be that the Republicans can do nothing wiser than to let him alone.

GENERAL KERSHAW'S PLAN TO REDEEM THE STATE.—General Kershaw has written the following letter to a friend:

CAMDEN, S. C., July 27, 1874. MY DEAR SIR: Your valued favor of the 11th instant is before me for reply. I have arrived at certain conclusions in my own mind in regard to the matter upon which you desire the expression of my opinions, and I give them for what they may be worth. The restoration of an honest, economical and competent Government to South Carolina, at this juncture, I consider the paramount duty of her citizens. Such means and such sacrifices, consistent with honor, must be resorted to as may be found necessary, practicable and expedient to accomplish that end. With us, it is no longer a question of Republicanism and Democracy. The struggle is for an honest Government, under which we can live and prosper. In comparison with that, party distinctions should go for nothing. Seeking no political triumph, but simply the substitution of an honest and responsible Government for the horde of plunderers who have robbed and degraded the State and thrown her back at least twenty years in the march of improvement, we are entitled to the sympathy and support of every right-thinking man, whatever be his political opinions. A better feeling pervades the whole country. It is a great pleasure to note the steady growth of more kindly sentiment and feeling towards the South on the part of the North. In act and utterance, we should at all times cordially reciprocate the generous and friendly overtures held out to us so frequently of late by the Northern people and press, without distinction of party, and especially by the officers and soldiers of the Union armies, whose magnanimous and soldierly conduct in honoring the memory of their fallen comrades, on many recent occasions, is the best pledge yet offered of a restored, happy and united Americanism. I am sure that in our effort to rescue the State, we will have the cordial support of the public opinion and press of the North; but, more important, because more immediate than these, the aid of the Federal Executive.

President Grant can do more for the speedy restoration of the State than all other influences from without; and although I have no political information, other than such as is common to all having access to the papers of the day, still, from the perusal of these, I entertain strong hopes he will not withhold his great influence from so good a work. There is no overt hostility to his administration in any part of the South; certainly none of any sort in an organized form in this State. On the contrary, the Conservative element look to him as their chief, if not only hope of good government. Congress has been appealed to, and

is powerless to remedy the evils under which we suffer. The judiciary can afford no relief, for it has no jurisdiction. The Executive alone can constitutionally and legally assist us. It would be the crowning glory of Gen. Grant's administration to effect a reconstruction, and restore to the plundered and ruined States of the South the blessings of good government, and the opportunity to enjoy and to contribute to the future prosperity of the country. I cannot think that he will be indifferent, and I know how gratefully his aid would be appreciated by our suffering South Carolinians. Could he be brought face to face with the monstrous evils which degrade and oppress us, nothing could prevent him from employing every prerogative of his vast power to crush them out forever. After all, however, our relief depends mostly upon our own people. Let them organize and consolidate all honest men who can rise above unworthy prejudices and party slavery, to rescue the State from anarchy, ruin, and, in the end, a bloody despair. Respecting the Republican principles of the colored citizens, we should earnestly seek their co-operation in the movement. The State has been plunged into this ruin by the rapacity and dishonesty of their trusted leaders, who have brought shame and obloquy upon the party, whose honor and interests were in their keeping, and trampled upon every right and interest of the whole people in their insatiable greed for plunder. They owe the State some reparation for the past, and we surely may hope that there are some thousands having sufficient honesty, intelligence and patriotism to join the hue and cry against the robber band. Not many would be required, for the true majority of the Radicals has always been exaggerated. The whites have never been fully polled since the war, and the ballot has never been free from frauds. To secure such co-operation, the honest colored people should be invited to a full share of all public office. Power entrusted to as should be administered without favor or prejudice, so as to secure the best interests of the whole people, protect equally in the enjoyment of his just rights every citizen, however high or humble, and promote the welfare of all alike, so far as may come within the legitimate sphere of government. Upon such principles only can harmony and good government be secured in the present state of society here. Co-operation in this good work would lead to mutual dependence, respect and good will, and tend more to the elevation and development of the colored people than all other possible expedients. I consider these views worth pondering at this time with reference to the tax-payers' movement and the promised reform in the Republican party. Of course, the policy of the people can only be settled by conventions of their authorized representatives, but it is well to take counsel together and to interchange views beforehand, in order that the public mind may settle down upon such measures as may be approved after due consideration. I firmly believe the hour of deliverance is at hand, if we but be true to ourselves. Indeed, the crisis does not admit the thought of failure. Success is a necessity; failure is death and disgrace to the commonwealth. I need not say to you that I do not presume to dictate a policy, and consider my opinions of much less importance than you seem to attribute to them; such as they are, they are heartily at your service. Very truly, yours, J. B. KERSHAW.

A NOVEL LAWSUIT.—A novel lawsuit is pending in Kerhonkson, N. Y. In April last, James O. Schoonmaker made a written contract with Stephen J. Case, tinsmith, as follows: If Case, within three months, would get married, Schoonmaker agreed to board him and wife free for six months, and furnish them free an eight-dollar-a-day "rig," for three days, to make a wedding tour. If Case did not get married within that time, he was to pay double board for six months and \$24, the price of the "rig" for three days. The time was up on the 6th of July. Case was not married and Schoonmaker demanded the terms of the contract. Case refused to live up to his agreement and Schoonmaker sued him.

COLORAD CADET SMITH.—A Washington special to the New York Times says: "The recent attacks of the colored ex-cadet Smith upon the board of visitors at West Point have attracted the attention of the officers of the War Department. They say that the Secretary of War was extremely liberal in his interpretation of the regulations on behalf of cadet Smith, and that he did for him what has never been done for a white boy in like circumstances. The officers also say that he had a fair examination, and that the Congressional Board of Visitors unanimously testified to his incompetency."

A tri-color flag on the summit of Metz Cathedral, which had been a constant eye-sore to the Germans, was recently removed, a reward of \$75 having been offered for the feat, which was attended with considerable danger, as, after the top of the Gothic tower was reached, two balls had to be scaled to reach the flag-staff. A man, named Demange, a house-painter at Metz, lately made the attempt and brought down the obnoxious emblem of French rule, substituting therefor a German flag of black, white and red. Previously, seven Germans had tried to accomplish the task, but two lost their lives and the other five failed.

Mr. Frank Carroll, watchman of the C., C. & A. R., at Augusta, died suddenly, on the 11th.

Separate Election Days.—As there has been some discussion relative to separate days of election, the following legal opinion on the subject is published for general information:

COLUMBIA, S. C., August 14, 1874. To His Excellency Governor Franklin J. Moses, Jr.—DEAR SIR: In compliance with your request, I have given my attention to the questions whether, in view of the law now regulating elections in this State, it be necessary to have two elections in order to fill vacancies in elective offices soon to occur, or whether, at one general election, to be held on the 3d of November next, (which will be "the first Tuesday following the first Monday" of that month,) all such vacancies should be filled. After a very careful examination of the law, I have most reluctantly come to the conclusion that two elections are required to effect its purposes—one on Wednesday, the 21st of October, and the other on Tuesday, the 31 of November next. At the election in October, County officers, such as Judge of Probate, County Commissioners and School Commissioners, will be chosen; and at the election in November, members of the General Assembly, the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor and members of the House of Representatives in Congress will be elected. I hold this opinion, notwithstanding I am aware of the amendment to the 11th Section of the 2d Article of the Constitution, and of the Act of 19th March, 1874, passed in pursuance of it. That section is as follows, viz: "The first election for Senators and Representatives under the provisions of this Constitution shall be held on the fourteenth, fifteenth and sixteenth days of April of the present year; and the second election shall be held on the third Wednesday in October, eighteen hundred and seventy; and forever thereafter, on the same day in every second year, in such manner and at such places as the Legislature may hereafter provide." Now, it is too evident for controversy that this section of the Constitution refers solely and exclusively to the general election for members of the General Assembly—Senators and Representatives; and when that election is examined, it is seen that it is confined to the same subject matter, to wit: the general election for Senators and Representatives. The amendment consists in striking out all that portion of Section 11, Article II, following the words "eighteen hundred and seventy," occurring in the fourth and fifth lines, and inserting the following: "And forever thereafter on the first Tuesday following the first Monday in November in every second year, in such manner and in such place as the Legislature may provide."

Thus the only change in the original section made by the amendment is as to the time for holding the general election for Senators and Representatives, without any allusion, either in the original section or in the amendment thereof, to the general election of any other officers whatever. And the Act of 19th March, 1874, is confined strictly to the subject matter of the original section and its amendments, as it simply enacts: "That Section I, Chapter VIII, Title II, Part I, of the General Statutes of the State of South Carolina be, and the same is hereby, amended so as to read as follows, viz: The next general election in this State shall be held pursuant to the provisions of amendment to Article II, Section 2, of the Constitution of the State of South Carolina, on the first Tuesday following the first Monday in November, 1874; and forever thereafter on the first Tuesday in November in every second year; said election to be conducted in the same manner as is or may hereafter be provided by law." To contend that the term "general election," used in the Act, embraces all elective offices, would be to give to the Act a much broader and more comprehensive scope than the Constitution itself. It is to be remarked, too, that although the Constitution, in the 19th, 20th and 21st sections of Article IV, creates the offices of County Commissioner, Probate Judge and Justices of the Peace, and by the 2d section of Article X, the office of County School Commissioner, prescribes the terms and directs the mode of the election, yet is absolutely silent as to the time of such election. The conclusion, therefore, is irresistible, that the time of such election was intended by the framers of the Constitution to be left to the discretion of the Legislature. And this conclusion is triumphantly sustained as correct by reference to the 10th section of Article XIV of the Constitution, which is as follows, viz: "The election of all State officers shall take place at the same time as is provided for that of members of the General Assembly, and the election for those officers whose terms of service are four years shall be held at the time of each alternate general election." Not a word is said about the time of the election of County officers of any description. The provisions of law, therefore, for the election of County officers existing at the time of the adoption of the amendment in question of the Constitution and of the passage of the Act of 19th March, 1874, still prevail in their full force, and are found in Section 1 of Chapter X of Part I of the General Statutes, which is as follows: "There shall be a general election for the election of the following County officers, to wit: Judge of Probate, County Commissioners and School Commissioners, held in each County on the third Wednesday of October, Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and seventy, and on the same day in every second year thereafter; and for the election of Sheriff and Clerk of the

Court of Common Pleas on the third Wednesday of October, Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and seventy, and on the same day in every fourth year thereafter." This section corresponds very nearly with the 1st section of a previous Act of 14th February, 1870, entitled "An Act to provide for a general election of County officers," which provides that "there shall be a general election for the election of the various County officers (elective) held in each County on the third Wednesday of October, Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and seventy, and on the same day in every second year thereafter, the officers otherwise provided for in the Constitution of the State excepted." Doubtless, reference is here made to the office of County Sheriff, Clerk and Coroner, whose terms, being for four years, must necessarily be filled at each alternate general election for County officers. It is too plain to admit of doubt, that both in the view of the framers of the Constitution and of the Legislature, there were to be two classes of general election in the State—one for the election of members of the General Assembly, the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor and other State officers, and the other for the election of County officers. This appears from the explicit language of Section 2 of Article III of the Constitution, relative to the Executive Department, which is as follows: "The Governor shall be elected by the electors duly qualified to vote for members of the House of Representatives, and shall hold his office for two years; and until his successors shall be chosen and qualified, and shall be re-eligible. He shall be elected at the first general election held under the Constitution for members of the General Assembly, and at each general election thereafter, and shall be installed during the first session of the said General Assembly after his election, on such day as shall be provided for by law. The other State officers elect shall at the same time enter upon the performance of their duties." The fifth section of this article directs that "a Lieutenant-Governor shall be chosen at the same time, in the same manner, continue in office for the same period, and be possessed of the same qualifications as the Governor, and shall *ex officio* be President of the Senate." The Acts of the Legislature, providing for the election of County officers, denominate such election as a general election. It should be stated that the repealing section of the Act of March 19, 1874, leaves the Acts providing for the election of County officers untouched. It is as follows: "That all Acts or parts of Acts inconsistent with this Act, for the purposes of this Act, are hereby repealed." The purposes of this Act are to provide for a general election for Senators and Representatives at the time fixed by the Constitution as amended, to wit: "On the first Tuesday following the first Monday in November, 1874; and forever thereafter, on the first Tuesday following the first Monday in November in every second year; said election to be conducted in the same manner as is or may hereafter be provided by law."

Permit me, in conclusion, to repeat, that I experience profound regret in being forced to transmit this answer to the interrogatories submitted to me by your Excellency. I could not, however, give to them any other response and preserve the consciousness of professional integrity. The inconvenience and expense of a double election will be grievous, but I see no remedy for them, except that of legislation. I have the honor to be, your most obedient servant, JAMES D. TRADEWELL.

OFFICE BOARD OF HEALTH, COLUMBIA, S. C., August 12, 1874. The Board met at 1 o'clock P. M. Present—Messrs. Alston, Clark, Fitzsimmons, Gulick, Lee, Richardson and Montgomery. In the absence of the Chairman—Dr. B. W. Taylor—Mr. Richardson was called to the Chair. The minutes of the last regular meeting were read and approved. Mr. Gulick offered the following resolutions, which were adopted: Resolved, That the attention of the citizens of Columbia be called to the necessity of using disinfectants in their out-houses. Resolved, That the Chief of Police be instructed to request Mr. Mayrant, agent of the property in the rear of Pollock's saloon, to have said lot filled up; and if he neglects or refuses to do so in a reasonable time, that it be done by him—the Chief of Police—and the expenses thereof be collected from said agent, as provided by ordinance regulating duties of Board of Health. Resolved, That Mr. S. A. Pearce, Jr., Agent Columbia Water Power Company, be requested to open the gates of the canal for two hours each day, so as to let the water pass through the same. Resolved, That the members of the Board from Ward 1 be instructed to investigate the condition of the butcher pen in said ward, and report at the next meeting. Resolved, That the City Council be requested to fill the vacancies in the Board from Wards 1 and 2. On motion of Mr. Lee, the Overseer of Streets was instructed to cleanse the drains on Taylor street. On motion of Mr. Fitzsimmons, the Board adjourned. WALTER R. JONES, Clerk.

CITY MATTERS.—Subscribe for the PHENIX. Representative Cartridge-box Wallace is in the city. The usual Friday rain occurred yesterday. The storm Thursday morning somewhat cooled the atmosphere, but yesterday it set in hot again. Advertising is to business what steam is to machinery—the grand propelling power. A colored woman in the vicinity of Columbia increased the census by three, a few days ago. Transient advertisements and notices must be paid for in advance. This rule will be adhered to hereafter. There is but one way to obtain business—publicity; but one way of gaining publicity—advertising. The kid gloves for full dress now comes within three inches of the elbow, and has the unusual number of fifteen buttons. The mosquitoes are worse now than were ever known here before—perhaps. Rest is positively impossible outside of mosquito bars. Job printing of every kind, from a miniature visiting card to a four-sheet poster, turned out, at short notice, from PHENIX office. Try us. The members of the German Schuetzen-Verein are notified that the next dramatic entertainment comes off on Wednesday evening next, August 19. The German Schuetzens are making rapid headway in the erection of their buildings. It is expected that the first festival will be held in April or May next. The remains of Rev. David Harris, formerly pastor of the A. M. E. Church in this city, were brought to this place and interred in the colored cemetery, yesterday. There was a large attendance at the funeral. He died in Charleston. The Colonel's Creek Tax Union was formed, several days ago, and the following officers elected: President—Captain S. G. Henry; Vice-President—Francis Hammond; Secretary—L. Gunnells. Another meeting will be held on Monday next, at McLaughlin's Mill. Rev. J. H. Thornwell, son of the late Dr. Thornwell, of this city, has assumed pastoral charge of Poplar Tent Church, N. C. He graduated at the Columbia Theological Seminary in May last. He is a young divine, of more than ordinary talent, and will, no doubt, prove in his ministry worthy the distinguished name he bears. There is a time in the going to sleep of weary men when a noise continued for fifteen minutes deprives the would-be sleeper of an entire night's rest. With a sagacity which is of the devil himself, the dog in the next yard hits upon that particular time to do its barking, and only its owner can rest. President Seegers, of the Schuetzen-Verein, was serenaded by an amateur band, last night, after which he hospitably invited the party to walk in and partake of refreshments. Several little complimentary speeches were delivered, to which Mr. S. responded. The serenading party consisted of Messrs. Kellner, Rosenberg, E. Habenicht, Wehner, Kohneman, Texas, Hiller, Arendt, Mancke and others. THE FLYING M. D.—While an eminent physician of this city was on his way to Columbia from Lexington Fork, a night or two ago, he was hailed by a heavily-built colored man, with a request for a ride to the Broad River Bridge. Having a distinct recollection of the attack on Mr. Geiger, several weeks ago, the disciple of Esculapins tickled his Rosinante with the whip—the only weapon, except his surgical instruments, at hand—and pushed down the steep hill at Gilpin speed, followed closely by the gentleman of color. Arrived at the bridge, he violated the law, and, if possible, increased the speed of his animal, leaving his pursuer far in the rear. Travelers know the red hill on the other side of Broad River, and "go slow," as the railroad directions read, but the M. D. made as near 2.20 time as his animal was capable of. Moral—when you travel, don't forget your "tools." PHENIXIANA.—All pleasures spring from purity of thought. Difficulties are whetstones sent to sharpen our fortitude. If the whole world should agree to speak nothing but the truth, what an abridgement it would make of speech. The worst disease that attacks men is laziness. It is practical mortification—moral, mental and physical dry-rot. If a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush, it is no less true that a thorn in the bush is worth two in the hand.

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 5.45 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. George Symmes—Groceries. Cottage House to Rent. Oliver Diton & Co.—New Music. Walter R. Jones—Health Notice. HOTEL ARRIVALS, August 14, 1874.—Wheeler House—T. C. James, Wilmington; W. P. Starke, T. F. Gaillard, Mr. and Mrs. L. Hagood, S. C.; G. E. Wilson, S. A. S. Charlotte; J. S. Browning, J. S. Pinkusshon, Charleston; W. R. Cathcart, W. J. DeBrul, W. H. Possett, city; H. Edwards, J. McDonald, Wilmington; W. S. Powell, J. S. Carle, Baltimore; E. H. O. Field, N. C.; W. H. Pyott, N. Y.; T. W. Carwile, Augusta; T. B. Boozer, Newberry; J. B. Moore, Stateburg; E. M. Clarkson, T. Weston, J. Adams, York. Hendrix House—G. M. Brown, Ga.; J. A. Price, Bamberg; J. S. Cathcart, Winnsboro; J. T. McCullough, Fairfield; W. Daniel, N. C.; H. A. Meetze and lady, Lexington. WATER SPOUT AT LANGLEY.—We learn that a large water-spout occurred at Langley Mills, last Saturday afternoon. The spout was situated about the middle of the pond. An immense quantity of water was drawn up into the clouds—the pond, which covers 300 acres, being lowered two inches by actual measurement. The clouds afterwards drifted off without any rain falling. No damage was done. This is the first time that a water-spout has been seen in that vicinity. The mysterious death of three servants in a New York family, some weeks ago, was at the time attributed to eating chow-chow. The report of the examining chemist, however, shows that the cause of death was Paris green. The poison had been originally introduced into the kitchen a year previous, and it was found that the knives, dishes and spoons in daily use were saturated with it in a diluted form. Dean Stanley preached to the volunteers at Wimbledon, his subject being David's fight with the giant of Gath. In the course of his sermon the reverend gentleman remarked that what gave them such a charm to the biblical incident from which he took his text was the fact that David, "a young volunteer, sneered at by the regular army, redeemed the honor of his country." Senator Hamlin, of Maine, is an office-holder of about thirty-five years' standing. When last elected to the Senate, he pledged himself never to ask anything more; but he has thought better of it. He apologized for the Credit Mobilier swindlers, sustained the district ring robberies, and voted for the recent law to destroy the liberty of the press. The Reverend Cowan, of the New York heavy artillery, has been caught in trying to deceive the Government with a mutilated South American bond. Had he the sensitive soul of a more less prominent person he would tie himself to the mouth of a Gatling gun and get somebody to fire it off. The editor of the Klowin (Kansas) Chief is a man to be envied. He can look out of his West window at any time and see a buffalo grazing in the distance, and a fellow with a slouched hat strung up to a telegraph pole across the street. A MACHINE DUEL.—Atlanta is the city of all cities of sensations. The latest development in that line is a savage war of words between two first class sewing machine agents, which promises to end in a duel. A lion recently made its escape from a traveling menagerie in New York, and for a time there was great excitement; but finally a calf was killed and thrown into a car, when Leo jumped in and was captured. A LIFE OF LEE AT LAST.—The work which Gen. Lee positively declined to do for himself during his life has been done for him by his nephew, Mr. Edward Leo Childs, who has, for many years past, resided in Paris. It is said that Barnum has offered Weston \$600 to walk against time. "Why can't somebody offer him \$3,000 to walk against a stone wall or buzz saw?" asks the Boston Globe. Private letters from South-west Georgia state that in the last four days caterpillars have made their appearance in large numbers. The farmers are in great fear for the cotton crops. Mr. McDade, a native of Augusta, Ga., was crushed between two cars in Jackson, Miss., a few nights ago, and instantly killed. A colored man, named Capell, recently escaped from the Kinston, N. C., jail and was drowned in attempting to cross Neuse River. Mrs. Gunn teaches school for girls and boys in Alabama. An excellent weapon, we should think, with which to teach the young idea how to shoot. Mr. Thomas Maher, a native of Ireland, and for the past forty years a resident of Charleston, died on the 13th. The storm of Thursday night, struck Augusta about half past 3 o'clock. Maryland hangs more negroes than any other State in the Union, but doesn't lynch them. One Long Branch woman bathes in white kid gloves and another in silk stockings.