

relations as master and slave, must establish mutual confidence, and enable you to put the control of public affairs in the hands of the best men of both races, and cannot but lay the foundation of a prosperous future, that will not be surpassed by any section of the United States; whilst the maintenance of a separate and distinct organization, based upon color and opposition to the former slaveholders, must eventually lead to a complete wreck of whatever prosperity you have attained—for time certainly has developed the fact that you cannot depend upon the influence of Northern politicians to sustain you in any conflict that may arise from your "race, color or previous condition of servitude." I have frequently heard your people demand political recognition and representation, in proportion to your numbers, on the same ground that the adopted citizens of this country from Ireland, Germany and other foreign countries claim it. In this you forget that the second generation of the Irish and Germans are Americans, and have no peculiar traits which distinguish them from other American citizens. But your race have been here for more than 250 years, and still they are Africans; and, should you remain 1,000 years more, you will still be Africans, although you will be American citizens. You must remember that you are a separate and distinct type of man, and that this country is full of the deepest prejudice against all races other than the Caucasian.

You should also remember that many of the leading Republicans of the country, in the earliest history of the organization of the reconstructed State Governments, passed through the South, and returning to the North with the most terrible statements of the opposition of the Southern people to the National Government, and their bitterness towards the colored man, assumed the most radical ground in and out of Congress for political purposes. Some of them even found their own lives in jeopardy in their attempts to give public expression to their political opinions while in the South. And yet, after the lapse of a few years, the same parties have revisited the South and have returned to the North presenting another phase of the picture, completely vindicating the white men of the South and condemning the colored man. This revolution in feeling and judgment can only be understood as an indication of the revolution that has taken place in the political opinion of the North, which is now ready to hold you responsible for their own folly and mistakes, and to unite with the white men of the South in your elimination from the field of politics. And so we find that all these men, who, a few years ago, were the most violent in favor of the negro, are now practically his most uncompromising opponents. This shows a want of knowledge of human nature. They should have known at the time that it was not possible to take a man out of the cotton-field and make him a statesman, any more than you can make a just man out of those who adopt that line of policy.

With the past and the present as I have presented them before you, what is the duty of the colored people of the South in the future? I would say, in answer, that whatever is to your interest is unquestionably your duty. The question, therefore, is: What is your interest? I hold that your true interest is to stand aloof from all political parties. You have little to hope or expect from a union with any political party, any further than its own interest can be subserved by affiliating with you. With this uncertainty as to their support of your interest, and the absolute certainty of the opposition of every politician who believes that he can succeed in his political ambition without your aid, and that he can make more by opposing than by supporting you, my advice to you is to maintain an independent position. If you quietly stand by and see those combinations made by which you are to be sold out, you will make a fatal mistake. If you are to become the subject of barter among political parties, my advice to you is to become a party to the sale yourselves. You can make better terms with your former masters than can the old time Abolitionists; for if they make the sale, you gain nothing by it in the way of political power; but, if you yourselves enter into a combination, you can reasonably hope to secure some share of political power and influence for yourselves and your posterity. Do not tie yourselves to any party which will be certain to sacrifice you whenever it has accomplished its own purpose; but say to all parties in the future that you will support men instead of parties—that you will support the men in whose honor you can trust, and who will guarantee the largest representation for your people, and in whose guarantee you can put the greatest trust for the protection of your rights as American citizens. This course will cause men of all parties to seek your support and influence. They will meet your people with a feeling of liberality, and will concede to you such a representation as will be compatible with good government. I advise this policy because I believe it is for your best interests, and also for the best interests of the country. If you pursue a different course—if you unite your political fortunes with any party, and that party is defeated, you can have no reason to hope that the party which you oppose will concede anything on the high moral ground of justice to your race. Recent events make it highly probable that great changes are likely soon to occur, not only in the administration of many of the State Governments, but in the administration of the National Government itself.

Such are my views on the momentous subject in question. I give them to you in frankness as in kindness. Some of your people may think that I am not sufficiently hopeful in my views; but I believe that the facts I have recited justify my conclusions. The near future will

prove their truth or their falsity. I am, dear sir, very respectfully,
ROBERT K. SCOTT.

COLUMBIA, S. C.

Sunday Morning, June 18, 1875.

Sherman, a Self-Confessed Slanderer.
There have been some terrible exonerations of Sherman's Memoirs, notably by George Wilkes, ex-President Davis, the New York Day Book, Gen. Boynton, Montgomery Blair and Gen. Hooker; but nothing they have uttered paints the man in such black and damning colors as he has portrayed himself. Take this sample, referring to the burning of Columbia, from his recently-published "Memoirs:"

"Many of the people thought that this fire was deliberately planned and executed. This is not true. It was accidental, and, in my judgment, began with the cotton which Gen. Hampton's men had set fire to on leaving the city, (whether by his orders or not is not material,) which fire was partially subdued early in the day by our men; but when night came, the high wind fanned it again into full blaze, carried it against the frame houses, which caught like tinder, and soon spread beyond control. In my official report of this conflagration, I distinctly charged it to Gen. Wade Hampton, and confess I did so pointedly to shake the faith of his people in him, for he was, in my opinion, a braggart, and professed to be the special champion of South Carolina."

Quoting the above paragraphs, the New Orleans Times thus pictures the General of the Armies:

"He says, in the extract above quoted, and in clear and unmistakable language, that when he officially charged General Wade Hampton with burning up his native place, he, General Sherman, knew him to be innocent. He acknowledges to have said this solely to injure a gallant soldier and gentleman with his own people! To every true soldier who wore the blue, this statement of General Sherman must be mortifying in the extreme. How can it be otherwise, when an officer of General Sherman's rank confesses to have knowingly misrepresented a man who had done no wrong to him?"

It required no publication from Sherman, nor even a denial from Hampton, to decide the question of who was responsible for the pillage and burning of Columbia. The military exploits of these two commanders will tell the tale. Hampton's march in Maryland and Pennsylvania shows how he regarded the rights and property of enemies. Sherman's march to the sea is in marked contrast thereto. Towns sacked, houses burned, farms despoiled, property stolen, women outraged—a broad black track of desolation and ruin marked the route of Sherman from Chattanooga to the sea, and from Savannah to Raleigh. But with all these horrid recollections, we were not prepared for the unblushing and shameless confession of baseness and falsehood which is contained in the above extract from Sherman's Memoirs. A self-confessed falsifier, to injure a man who had done him no wrong, will rob his writings of every sting with which he has attempted to wound the most humble and the most sensitive of those who may have provoked his wrath. It is to be hoped that this perjurer and slanderer, before he is called to his long home, will confess the whole truth—that the burning cotton, (set fire to by Sherman's men about noon, several hours after the retreat of the Confederate forces,) had nothing to do with the destruction of the houses; that the cotton fire was extinguished at an early hour in the afternoon; that the houses were deliberately fired, in different sections of the city, by men in blue uniforms; that the frame buildings of which he speaks were in an opposite direction to that from which the wind was blowing; that when he (the champion house-burner) at half-past 3, on Saturday morning, February 18, ordered a stop to be put to the destruction of property by the incendiary's torch, it was done. The following extracts, from the "Sack and Destruction of the City of Columbia, S. C.," prepared shortly after the terrible occurrence, by an eye-witness, the distinguished poet-historian, W. Gilmore Sims, Esq., places the commission of the crime where it properly belongs:

The destruction of Atlanta, the pillaging and burning of other towns of Georgia, and the subsequent devastation along the march of the Federal army through Georgia, gave sufficient earnest of the treatment to be anticipated by South Carolina, should the same commander be permitted to make a like progress in our State. The Northern press furnished him the *cri de guerre* to be sounded when he should cross our borders. "Veni victor!"—wo to the conquered!—in the case of a people who had first raised the banner of secession. "The howl of delight," (such was the language of the Northern press,) sent up by Sherman's legions, when they looked across the Savannah to the shores of Carolina, was the sure fore-runner of the terrible fate which threatened our people should the soldiers be once let loose

upon our lands. Our people felt all the danger. They felt that it required the first abilities, the most strenuous exertions, the most prompt and efficient reinforcements, to prevent the threatening catastrophe.

The march of the Federals into our State was characterized by such scenes of license, plunder and general conflagration, as very soon showed that the threats of the Northern press, and of their soldiery, were not to be regarded as mere *brutum fulmen*. Day by day brought to the people of Columbia tidings of atrocities committed, and more extended progress. Daily did long trains of fugitives line the roads, with wives and children, and horses, and stock, and cattle, seeking refuge from the pursuers. Long lines of wagons covered the highways. Half-naked people covered from the winter under bush tents in the thickets, under the eaves of houses, under the millroad sheds, and in old cars left them along the route. All these repeated the same story of suffering, violence, poverty and nakedness. Habitation after habitation, village after village—one sending up its signal flames to the other, presaging for it the same fate—lighted the winter and midnight sky with crimson horrors. No language can describe, nor can any catalogue furnish an adequate detail of the wide-spread destruction of homes and property. Granaries were emptied, and where the grain was not carried off, it was strewn to waste under the feet of the cavalry or consigned to the fire which consumed the dwelling. The negroes were robbed equally with the whites of food and clothing. The roads were covered with butchered cattle, hogs, mules and the costliest furniture. Valuable cabinets, rich pianos, were not only hewn to pieces, but bottles of ink, turpentine, oil, whatever could efface or destroy, was employed to defile and ruin. Horses were ridden into the houses. People were forced from their beds, to permit the search after hidden treasures.

The end was rapidly approaching. The guns were resounding at the gates. Defence was impossible. At a late hour on Thursday night, the Governor, with his wife and a large train of officials, departed. The Confederate army began its evacuation, and by day-light few remained who were not resigned to the necessity of seeing the tragedy played out. After all the depletion, the city contained, according to our estimate, at least 20,000 inhabitants, the larger proportion being females and negroes. Hampton's cavalry, as we have already mentioned, lingered till near 10 o'clock the next day, and scattered groups of Wheeler's command hovered about the Federal army at their entrance into the town.

Mayor Goodwyn reports that on surrendering the city to Colonel Stone, the latter assured him of the safety of the citizens and of the protection of their property, while under his command. He could not answer for General Sherman, who was in the rear, but he expressed the conviction that he would fully confirm the assurances which he (Colonel Stone) had given. Subsequently, General Sherman did confirm them, and that night, seeing that the Mayor was exhausted by his labors of the day, he counseled him to retire to rest, saying, "Not a finger's breadth, Mr. Mayor, of your city shall be harmed. You may lie down to sleep, satisfied that your town shall be as safe in my hands as if wholly in your own." Such was very nearly the language in which he spoke; such was the substance of it. He added: "It will become my duty to destroy some of the public or Government buildings; but I will reserve this performance for another day. It shall be done to-morrow, provided the day be calm." And the Mayor retired with this solemnly asserted and repeated assurance.

At about 12 o'clock, the jail was discovered to be on fire from within. This building was immediately in rear of the market, or City Hall, and in a densely built portion of the city. The supposition is that it was fired by some of the prisoners—all of whom were released and subsequently followed the army. The fire of the jail had been preceded by that of some cotton piled in the streets. Both fires were soon subdued by the firemen. At about half-past 1 P. M., that of the jail was rekindled, and was again extinguished. Some of the prisoners, who had been confined at the asylum, had made their escape, in some instances, a few days before, and were secreted and protected by citizens.

And here it may be well to mention, as suggestive of many clues, an incident which presented a sad commentary on that confidence in the security of the convent, which was entertained by the great portion of the people. The Lady Superior herself entertained the fullest confidence in the immunities of the establishment. But her confidence was clouded, after she had enjoyed a conference with a certain major of the army, who described himself as an editor, from Detroit. He visited her at an early hour in the day, and announced his friendly sympathies with the Lady Superior and the sisterhood; professed his anxiety for their safety; declared that he would instantly go to Sherman and secure a chosen guard. He disappeared, and soon after re-appeared, bringing with him no less than eight or ten men—none of them, as he admitted, being Catholics. He had some specious argument to show that, perhaps, her guard had better be one of Protestants. This suggestion staggered the lady a little, but he seemed to convey a more potent reason, when he added, in a whisper: "For I must tell you, my sister, that Columbia is a doomed city!" Terrible doom! This officer, leaving his men behind him, disappeared, to show himself no more. The guards so left behind were finally among the most busy as plunderers. The moment that the inmates, driven out by the fire, were forced to abandon their house, they began to revel in its contents.

But the reign of terror did not fairly begin till night. In some instances, where parties complained of the misrule and robbery, their guards said to them, with a chuckle: "This is nothing. Wait till to-night, and you'll see h—ll!" Among the first fires at evening was one about dark, which broke out in a filthy purlieu of low houses, of wood, on Germain street, occupied mostly as brothels. Almost at the same time, a body of the soldiers scattered over the Eastern outskirts of the city and fired a number of dwellings. There were then some twenty fires in full blast, in as many different quarters, and while the alarm sounded from these quarters, a similar alarm was sent up almost simultaneously from Cotton Town, the Northernmost limit of the city, and from Main street in its very centre, and some others, in the heart of the most densely settled portion of the town. The men engaged in this were well prepared with all the appliances essential to their work. They carried with them, from house to house, pots and vessels containing combustible liquids, and with balls of cotton saturated in this liquid, with which they also overspread floors and walls, they conveyed the flames with wonderful rapidity from dwelling to dwelling. Each had his ready box of Lucifer matches, and, with a scrape upon the walls, the flames began to rage.

The work, begun thus vigorously, went on without impediment and with hourly increase throughout the night. Engines and hose were brought out by the firemen, but these were soon driven from their labors—which were indeed idle against such a storm of fire—by the pertinacious hostility of the soldiers; the hose was hewn to pieces and the firemen left the field in despair. Meanwhile, the flames spread from side to side, from front to rear, from street to street, and where their natural and inevitable progress was so slow for those who had kindled them, they helped them on by the application of fresh combustibles and more rapid agencies of conflagration.

Just before the conflagration began, about the dusk of evening, while the Mayor was conversing with one of the Western men from Iowa, three rockets were shot up by the enemy from the capitol square. As the soldier beheld these rockets, he cried out: "Alas! alas! for your poor city! It is doomed. Those rockets are the signal. The town is to be fired." In less than twenty minutes after, the flames broke out in twenty distinct quarters. Similar statements were made by other soldiers in different quarters of the city. In more than one instance, we are told: "We are going to burn this d—d town. We've begun, and we'll go through. This thing began here, and we'll sack the houses and burn the town."

A lady in one of our upper districts, expressing surprise at the treatment of Columbia in the nineteenth, or boasted century of civilization, was answered: "South Carolina has been long since the promised boon of Sherman's army." Masonic brethren told others in the city that an order had been issued to the troops before they crossed the river, giving them license to sack, plunder and destroy for the space of thirty-six hours, and that Columbia was destined to destruction. A sick Federal soldier, who had been fed, nursed and kindly treated by a city lady, told her, on Friday morning, that the place would be destroyed that night.

Ex-Gov. Scott and the Colored People.
We publish in another column an interesting letter from ex-Gov. Scott to Lieutenant-Governor Gleaves, "on the subject of the future of the colored man in the South." There is, perhaps, no one amongst us who is more truly the friend of the colored man, or who is better qualified to speak on the subject of his future than the ex-Governor; and we heartily commend his views to the consideration of the colored people whom he immediately advises, and also to the consideration of the people of our own race. Their future is closely allied with ours.

INDICTED FOR MURDER.—On Wednesday last, the Grand Jury of Georgetown County returned a true bill against C. C. Bowen, Sheriff of Charleston County, and Eli G. Grimes, for the murder of Col. Wm. Parker White, at Georgetown, in 1864. The State moved to continue the case until the next regular term of the court, or until a special term be called for the purpose of trying it, but the motion was resisted by the council for the accused, and after hearing argument Judge Shaw decided to fix Tuesday, the 22d inst., for the trial.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT, CHARLESTON, June 11.—Judge Bryan presiding. The petition of Peter Mellett, of Sumter, for voluntary bankruptcy, was referred to Registrar Seabrook. W. M. Muckenfuss, Esq., was appointed assignee of William M. Thomas, bankrupt, in place of James Birnie, deceased. In the case of R. L. David, bankrupt, the action of the creditors in accepting a settlement at the rate of thirty per cent. was confirmed.

The Grand Jury of Charleston has presented M. McLaughlin, F. C. Miller and R. N. Gregory, formerly County Commissioners; Trial Justices Mishaw and Grant, for official misconduct; and Wm. G. Pinckney for using threats of intimidation against the Grand Jury.

News by way of St. Thomas reports a terrible earthquake in New Grenada; the destruction was the greatest in the valley of Cucuta. It is stated that 16,000 lives were lost.

The main building of the agricultural works at Lebanon, N. H., was burned on the 11th, with valuable machinery and stock; loss \$33,000.

City Items.—Weather hot. The planters complain of scarcity of rain.

A rain and hail storm, yesterday afternoon, helped matters materially.

The pleasant chirp of the swallow is heard once more in the land.

We never saw such bargains in striped lawns, organdies, piques, &c., as are offered by C. F. Jackson.

If they bite you, call on Jones, Davis & Bouknights, and buy one of those handsome nets, all ready for use.

Jones, Davis & Bouknights advertise fashionable straw hats for ladies and children at fifty cents each.

A few cases more of those fine styles prints at 6¢ cents will be on exhibition Monday morning, at Jones, Davis & Bouknights'.

The "bargain counters" at Messrs. W. D. Love & Co.'s will be a feature during the coming week. The stock is very full, and a reduction is necessary.

Mr. John White has exhibited to us a curiosity in the shape of a twig of an apple tree, with six well-formed apples upon it.

The entire cost of the new Post Office and Court House will be \$415,000; this includes the additional piece of ground recently purchased.

The roof of the building occupied by Mr. Koenig, on Assembly street, fell in, yesterday morning. There was considerable noise, but fortunately nobody hurt.

Mr. Bateman furnishes ice every Sunday morning, for several hours. Mr. Seeger's ice house, just North of the PRINCE office, will be opened this morning, from 7 until 9 o'clock.

President C. J. Ireddell requests us to say that there will be a meeting of the Columbia Choral Union, in the Hall of the Richland Rifle Club, to-morrow evening, at 8 o'clock.

Temperance organizations are declining in Charlotte, but we are pleased to report that they are on the increase in Columbia. New members are taken in at every meeting of the various organizations in this city.

There is great complaint in this city at present of the stringency of money matters, and the assiduity with which collectors are dunning, is only equalled by the assiduity with which debtors don't pay up.

We have been requested by the Committee to state that the Schuetzenplatz will be open every afternoon, (Sunday included.) Active and passive members are cordially invited to attend. The bowling alley is in operation. Refreshments furnished by Janitor Buchar.

The public are getting the benefit of the great break in prices in New York at Jones, Davis & Bouknights'. The prices astonish every one that visit the house.

The attention of the ladies is called to a case of cambric longcloth, cheaper than ever known before in the history of the dry goods trade, at Jones, Davis & Bouknights'.

DEATH OF A CONFEDERATE SOLDIER.—A private despatch, received yesterday, announces the death, in Washington City, after a long illness, of Mr. Samuel B. Bunch, a former resident of Columbia, and a faithful soldier in the Confederate army. He was severely wounded and reported killed at Gettysburg, and a funeral service was performed to his memory in the Baptist Church in this city. Poor Sam. was about to be married to a young lady in Columbia, and the blow will fall with great severity upon her.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES TO-DAY.—Presbyterian Church—Rev. J. H. Bryson, 11 A. M. and 8 P. M. Sunday School, 5 P. M. Trinity—Rev. P. J. Shand, Rector; Rev. J. H. Stringfellow, Assistant—11 A. M. and 6 P. M. St. Peter's—Rev. Father Quilter—first Mass, 7 A. M.; second, 10 A. M. Baptist—Rev. A. B. Woodfin, Pastor—11 A. M. and 8 P. M. Sunday School, 9 A. M.

Marion Street Methodist—Rev. W. D. Kirkland, 10 A. M.; Rev. A. W. Walker, 3 P. M. Sunday School, 9 A. M. Mission (Odd Fellows' Hall)—Rev. A. W. Walker, 4 P. M. Sunday School, 4 P. M. Washington Street—Rev. A. W. Walker, 11 A. M. Sunday School, 9 A. M. Preaching in Irwin's Hall, by Rev. D. B. Clayton, at 4 P. M. Subject—Job's Query—Job xiv, 14.

LIST OF NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.
W. D. Love & Co.—Cheap Goods. Jones, Davis & Bouknights—Netting. Mechanics' & Farmers' B. & L. Ass'n. Dissolution of Copartnership.

HOTEL ARRIVALS, May 12.—Mansion House—O. J. Harris, city; J. W. Ward, Charleston; Miss M. A. Quirk, Ohio; J. R. Ferguson, Pickens; C. H. Rush, N. C.; B. I. Boone, city.

Gen. Duff Green, who recently died in Georgia, was a great politician and lobbyist in Washington during the administrations of Jackson and Van Buren; he was also editor of a political newspaper.