

The Failures Abroad.

The continued depression in business abroad, and the announcement of new failures in London, now amounting to about a dozen, seems to have created an uneasy feeling in financial circles, though it appears to be thought in London that up to the present time the trouble has not reached any house known to be thoroughly sound. The fact that the Bank of England, up to a late date, maintained its minimum rates of discount, with largely increased returns, has been accepted as a symptom that there is no panic or serious apprehension of immediate calamities there. The various liabilities of the firms which have suspended extend from \$1,000,000 to \$12,000,000 each. The failures in London appear to have been caused by the long-continued depression in the iron market and reverses in the Eastern and South American trade. Not a few of these business concerns are supposed to have lost their vitality before the arrival of a day of settlement, which had been delayed by loans from bankers, who for reasons sufficient to themselves discount the bills of houses whose condition they do not scrutinize. This kind of support must be withdrawn some day, and then comes the end. If this explanation of the truth accounts for it, there must have been a good deal of bad paper afloat in London, and there is no knowing what other lines of trade are in the same condition.

The exports of British and Irish produce have been steadily falling off for more than two years past, the decline since 1873 amounting to 12 1/2 per cent. It would be rash to predict that this progressive rate of decrease will continue, yet the obvious tendency of the financial disturbances in South American countries, of the existing state of trade in the United States and Canada, and of the failures which have just taken place in England, is to intensify the universal stagnation.

While our leading banking men are disposed to look upon the subject hopefully, so far as our own country is concerned, we have enough causes for prudent dealing in the uncertain effect of extraordinary ravages upon the crops, without regard to the effect of foreign calamities. To writers who quote these European failures as an argument against specie payments and a sound currency, the *New York World* pertinently replies: "A sound currency is not a panacea against undue commercial credit or bad banking. There is no panacea anywhere. All that we can hope for is a cultivated and naturally sound judgment in business as in all other departments of human activity. But, of all means for depraving a naturally good judgment applied to business pursuits, and for granting mercantile credit recklessly, nothing has yet been discovered so efficacious as a depreciated currency."

EX-SENATOR BAYARD, OF DELAWARE, INTERVIEWED.—EX-SENATOR James A. Bayard, of Delaware, is now on a visit to New York, enfeebled in health. In a conversation with a *Tribune* reporter, on Friday, he stated he had virtually withdrawn from political life. Most of his old colleagues were dead, and age prevented him from mixing in active politics. He contemplated with fear and anxiety the spread of corruption in both parties. He expressed deep reverence for the old constitutional principles which prescribed limitation of powers and forbade the interference of the Federal Government in internal improvements. The abandonment of these principles breeds corruption, and Government interference with railroads or other matters which should be left to individual enterprise, will ultimately lead to its destruction. He believed it was a great mistake to give the right of suffrage to the negro race. They are untutored, full of passions, without deliberation or argumentative powers, and become an easy prey of political demagogues. They did not expect the right of suffrage, but were worthy of equal rights before the law. Referring to Grant's letter, Mr. Bayard's opinion was that Grant would take a third term nomination if he can get it, and would use armed force in the Southern States if he saw a chance of success; but Grant is no fool. Should the full elections go against the administration, nothing more would be heard of a third term. If they go otherwise, Grant will be the Republican candidate for President next year.

An unfortunate difficulty occurred on the plantation and near the residence of Mr. T. B. Braddy, in which he was cut in the head, and his son Daniel was severely stabbed in the back and arms. The parties to this difficulty were Mr. Braddy and son and two Mr. McColls and a Mr. Grey. The McColls did the cutting.—*Marion Star*.

The Navy Department at Washington is to be removed to new quarters, and the old building is to be torn down. It is not likely that a fifth conflagration will occur before the Department is moved and some more papers is burned as in the past. These Department fires are rather peculiar affairs.

Regular Meeting of City Council.

COUNCIL CHAMBER, COLUMBIA, S. C., June 22, 1875.

Council met at 8 P. M. Present—His Honor the Mayor, John Alexander; Aldermen Carr, Carroll, Cooper, Davis, Griffin, Pugh, Purvis, Simons, Thomas and Wells.

Petition of Bettie Douglass referred to Committee on Market; M. E. Carr and J. Hayne, to Committee on Ways and Means; Board of Health, to Committee on Streets, with power to act.

Alderman Carroll, from Committee on Accounts, reported back the following bills, and recommended payment: Streets—Manson Williams (1873) \$131.50; R. Ferguson 91.35; J. E. Dent 131.79. Contingent Fund—J. E. Fry & Co., 15.00; R. L. Bryan 20.70; Independent Fire Engine Company 85.20. Guard House—R. Hannan 39.00; W. Stieglitz 17.50; J. S. G. Mayrant 24.00; R. L. Bryan 3.20; W. Robinson 20.25. Alms, Hospital and Indigent Poor—Fagan Bros. 66.90; Cooper & Taylor (4 months) 704.78; John Alexander 1.00; W. Robinson 218.54; J. S. G. Mayrant 102.00; A. W. Kennedy 5.00; W. D. Starling 110.16; R. S. Young 107.75; Printing—*Union Herald* 5.25. Fire Department—Independent Fire Engine Company 87.50.

Report of Committee on Streets relative to petition of C. Anderson—"It is out of our power to grant the same without the sanction of Council."

J. A. PUGH, Chairman Committee on Streets.

On motion, petition of C. Anderson was granted, provided he comply with the ordinance.

Alderman Wells, from Committee on Fire Department, reported in favor of the application of the Board of Fire Masters.

Reports of Chief of Police for the months of April and May were referred to Committee on Guard House and Police.

Alderman Davis offered the following, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Mayor be authorized to offer a reward of \$200 for the recovery of the pin and cross stolen from the Guard House on Sunday, 2d May last, and \$100 for the conviction of the thief.

Alderman Carroll offered the following preamble and resolutions, which were carried:

Whereas, at a public meeting of the citizens of Columbia, held on Tuesday evening, 8th instant, at Parker's Hall, to take into consideration our municipal affairs, certain resolutions were unanimously adopted, calling upon the Mayor and Council to take such measures as they may deem necessary to verify, explain or deny the published report of a committee appointed by certain citizens, and to make public a full and minute statement of the public debt of the city of Columbia; therefore, be it

Resolved, by the Mayor and Aldermen of the city of Columbia, in Council assembled, That his Honor the Mayor be authorized and empowered to take the proper measures to carry out the object of the said resolutions.

Resolved, further, That the Mayor be directed to submit to Council for their consideration, at the earliest practical moment, a full report of the financial affairs of the city.

Declinations of J. Altee and Dr. F. Green, to serve on the Board of Health for Wards 1 and 2, respectively, were accepted, and J. Henry Altee and Col. S. A. Pearce, Jr., elected in their stead.

Alderman Simons moved that independence day be celebrated on the 5th July. Carried.

The following Ordinances passed a third reading:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE FOR REGULATING THE MARKET."

Be it ordained by the Mayor and Aldermen of the city of Columbia, in Council assembled, That Section 19 of an Ordinance entitled "An Ordinance for regulating the Market," ratified the 9th day of May, A. D. 1871, be amended by adding the following proviso, to wit: "Provided, That any person or persons selling fish who shall have procured the license provided for in this section shall have full power and authority to vend and sell fish at any hour or time most convenient."

AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO GUARD HOUSE.

Be it ordained by the Mayor and Aldermen of the city of Columbia, in Council assembled, and by the authority of the same, That Section four (4) of the Ordinance for the regulation of the City Guard House be, and the same is hereby, repealed; and that in lieu thereof, after the words "Section 4:" "Be it further ordained by the authority aforesaid, That all complaints or grievances made against the Chief of Police or his subordinates shall be adjusted by the Mayor and Committee on Police without further appeal by such fines or dismissals as the nature of the case demands, and the said Committee shall have power to fill all vacancies in the Police Department."

Alderman Carr gave notice of an Ordinance to repeal an Ordinance relating to license for the sale of spirituous liquors in quantities less than one quart, and to reduce the said license to the rate of \$200 per annum from 1st July next.

On motion, Council adjourned at 12 o'clock midnight.

RICHARD JONES, City Clerk.

Public sympathy has turned in the direction of Acapulco, Mexico, where two more orphans have just been added to the long list of the world's bereaved ones. Their mother, aged 132 years, died suddenly the other day, when the oldest one had barely reached his 100th birthday. He and his younger brother, who is only ninety, will now have to stomp it through life as best they can.

Return of deaths within the city of Charleston for the week ending June 19, 1875: Whites, 15; Blacks and colored, 20; total, 44.

THE BILLS OF THE BANK OF THE STATE. According to agreement, the Court first took up the cases involving the receivability of the bills of the Bank of the State in payment of taxes. The Hon. A. G. Magrath appeared for the bill-holders, and Attorney-General Melton represented the State. Mr. Magrath first stated that, as the Court was aware, these cases were sent back by the Supreme Court to the Circuit Court for the purpose of having certain specific issues determined by a jury, in relation to questions which affect the receivability of the bills of the Bank of the State in payment of taxes. In view of these facts, he proposed the following order, which was consented to on the part of the State:

State *ex rel.* the Union Bank *vs.* William Gurney, County Treasurer. State *ex rel.* Wilcox, Gibbs & Co. *vs.* same. State *ex rel.* A. Toomer Porter *vs.* same. State *ex rel.* William A. Courtenay *vs.* same.

Ordered, that these cases be placed on calendar, to be referred to a jury, under the order of the Supreme Court.

Mr. Magrath also proposed the following order, which was likewise consented to:

State of South Carolina, Charleston County—In the Common Pleas.—The State *ex rel.* the Union Bank *vs.* Wm. Gurney, County Treasurer.

In pursuance with the order of the Supreme Court in the above cause, it is ordered that the following issues be submitted to the jury:

1. Is the relator the bona fide holder and owner of the bills tendered the respondent in payment of taxes?
2. Were the bills so tendered genuine bills of the said bank?
3. Were the said bills issued for and applied to the purposes for which said bank was authorized to issue its bills?
4. Were the said bills so tendered issued in aid of the rebellion?
5. Were the said bills issued and received with reference to Confederate treasury notes?

It is further ordered that the finding of the jury be made upon each of the said issues.

These preliminary matters having been completed, the case of the State *ex rel.* the Union Bank *vs.* William Gurney, County Treasurer, was first tried. Messrs. H. D. Alexander and John Alexander were placed upon the stand and proved the identity of the bills, their ownership, genuineness, the lawfulness of their issue, and that they were not issued in aid of the rebellion, but had been issued at a prior period.

Attorney-General Melton stated that he thoroughly appreciated his position; that he could do nothing but to submit, and, as he had no alternative, he proposed rather to submit gracefully than to offer fight and be thrown. The burden of proof lay with the relators, and he had no evidence to contradict it. He confessed, therefore, that the other side had him just where he hoped to have them one of these days. In the meanwhile, he had no choice but to submit, and not delay the Court by an opposition which could not be sustained.

The Judge then gave his instructions to the jury, who, upon the evidence adduced, rendered verdicts for the relators for the issues presented to them.

On motion of the Attorney-General, the Judge then ordered that the bills in each case be sealed and placed in the custody of the Clerk of the Court until the further order of the Court.

Upon this status the cases will now be retaken to the Supreme Court for a decision as to the receivability of the bills in the payment of taxes.

In the case of Dabney, Morgan & Co. *vs.* the President and Directors of the Bank of the State of South Carolina, an order was taken for the distribution of the assets in the Bank of the State among the creditors who have proved their claims.

GEORGETOWN, S. C., June 21, 1875.

MR. EDITOR: Presuming that your numerous readers would like to hear from the ancient city of Georgetown, I have determined to send you a short letter. The course of Gov. Chamberlain meets the approval of all the Conservatives here, but amongst Republicans, both he and Treasurer Carlizzo stand very badly. This they should regard as a compliment. C. C. Bowen, so far from being injured by the cases now pending against him here and in Charleston, has gained additional popularity, and is stronger to-day than he has ever been amongst the negroes, who actually worship him in Georgetown County. The Radicals here have already made up their slate in Georgetown County. It reads thus: Dunn, for Governor; Gleaves, for Lieutenant-Governor; Hayne, for Secretary of State, and Hardy Solomon for Treasurer. Solomon seems to be especially strong down here, which must be attributed to the fact that he generally scatters "denunciation" wherever he goes. Judge Shaw gives very general satisfaction, and thus far has presided with a degree of urbanity that would be creditable to one of our judges of the old regime.

The rice crops are very fine hereabouts. A large area is planted in that staple. Turpentine, lumber, &c., continue to come in from the upper countries, and is shipped hence to European and Northern ports. It is healthy here now, and not a single case of country fever has occurred thus far.

WINYAW.

Papau, or New Guinea, is expected, will soon form a part of Queen Victoria's dominions. It is described as one of the largest and finest islands in the South Pacific, its length being 1,500 miles, its breadth varying from 200 to 400 miles, its climate temperate, its soil productive, its harbors numerous and good, its natural productions (including gold) varied and valuable, and its native inhabitants resembling the African negroes, being much superior to the aborigines of Australia.

CITY ITEMS.—Subscribe for (don't borrow) THE PHENIX.

Have feet now patter on the sidewalks. Blackberries are selling in this market at five cents a quart.

Only about one month in which to make returns, and save penalties.

It will prove gratifying intelligence to lovers to know that August will have two moons.

Watermelons and peaches are coming to this market, and are being sold cheap in Charleston.

The trees have taken umbrage at the weather, and a jolly green figure they cut over it.

There is no man, however high, but who is jealous of some one; and there is no one, however low, but who has some one who is jealous of him.

The most vigilant people are invariably those who neglect their own business to attend to the affairs of their neighbors.

We are in receipt of the journal of proceedings of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina Good Templars, fourth annual session, held at Charleston, April 27, 28 and 29, 1875.

It will be seen, by announcement in another column, that the City Council offer a reward of \$200 for the recovery of the missing diamond and cross, and \$100 for evidence to convict the thief.

The City Council have declared in favor of celebrating the anniversary of American independence on Monday, the 5th of July; therefore, we presume the 5th will be generally observed in Columbia.

A lady should never consent to be married secretly. She should distrust a man who has any reason to shroud in darkness the act which, in his own estimation, should be the crowning glory of his life.

The weather has been extremely hot for the past few days, and, appreciating our unpleasant feelings, Miss Josephine Smith, the young lady who so attentively serves customers at the store of Mrs. C. Hoffman, refreshed us with soda water.

It can no longer be said that the newspapers are the means of a great many ladies "getting their backs up," though at one time the best conducted papers often made a great bustle among them, and nearly every panner was a newspaper waist basket.

The proprietors of the Greenville *Enterprise and Mountaineer* have secured the services of Col. S. S. Crittenden as chief editor. Being well known, he needs no introduction to the people of the State, either as a gentleman of high character or as an able and forcible writer.

Admirably executed counterfeit \$5 bills on the National Bank of Paxton, Illinois, are being freely circulated, but we have not seen any of them. If the counterfeits are not easily detected, we will receive a few in payment of old bills due this office. Some parties indebted to the PHENIX are invited to settle up in any kind of currency—continental, Confederate, counterfeit or coin.

A PERFECT SUCCESS.—We were highly delighted by a visit to the Opera House, last night, to witness the presentation of "Lost in London" and "Taming the Shrew" by the Columbia Comedy Company. The actors, each and every one, played their roles to perfection, but we cannot refrain from rendering especial praise to May Willmote Lovell, Mr. and Mrs. Cramer and Mr. Lovell, for the ease, grace and success of their rendition. They are worthy of places in the list of first class actors, and we congratulate our citizens in having in our midst such excellent talent. They only desire sufficient encouragement from our citizens to induce them to give frequent entertainments; and we here take occasion to express our gratification at the large, respectable and appreciative audience which assembled at the Opera House, last evening, to greet the company in their new selections.

The object of the entertainment was for the purpose of procuring the new Opera House chair for the building before next season; and we indulge the hope that the company will continue to afford pleasant pastime to our playgoers until their purpose has been accomplished, and even after. Aside from the praiseworthy and self-sacrificing spirit of the company, their renditions are deserving of a crowded house, and whether you wish to laugh or want the heart's tender chords touched, Mr. and Mrs. Cramer and Mr. and Mrs. Lovell have the talent to do either. Again, we express our high appreciation of the plays last night, and the frequent and loud applause of the audience fully attested their delight.

Mr. Cramer continues to adorn the Opera House by a skillful use of his artistic hand.

"Gen. Spinner is charged," they say, "with having too great an affection for pretty women." There was never a more absurd charge. The man who doesn't cherish a great affection for pretty women ought to have died when he was a baby, and the probability is he did.

Round trip tickets will be sold at the different stations on the line of the Greenville and Columbia Railroad for first class fare one way, on Friday and Saturday, the 25th and 26th of June; good to return at any time up to Thursday, the 1st of July, inclusive, but no longer.

ARRESTED.—Frank Wright, colored, who stands charged with the murder of a colored boy in his employ, was arrested on the Shiver plantation, where he resides. Wright's wife and mother were also arrested and held as witnesses. The prisoner offered no resistance, but hitched up his team and drove the party to Godsdon, including Constable Stratton, who served the warrant.

SENTENCED.—Thomas M. Kimbrough, Esq., writes from Augusta, Ga., on June 21, 1875, that Daniels, the thief who stole his property, has been sentenced to the penitentiary for fifty years. He also writes that for the return of his pin and cross to him, by express C. O. D., or otherwise, within ten days from that date, he will pay twenty dollars, and ask no questions; but if they are not returned within that time, he will come to Columbia and here remain until he sends the thief to the penitentiary. The letter is addressed to the Chief of Police, Columbia, S. C.

HOTEL ARRIVALS, JUNE 23.—*Mansion House*—Alex. G. Clarkson, S. C.; N. W. Trump, city; S. M. Perkins, Ga.; J. C. Eason, S. C.; John T. Arthur, Camden; J. F. Murphy and wife, S. C.; W. T. Butt, Augusta; S. L. Fellers, Prosperity; J. B. Stockman, Newberry; J. S. Hair, Newberry.

LIST OF NEW ADVERTISEMENTS. C. R. Franklin—4th July Sports. R. L. Bryan—New Books. Agnew & Son—For Rent. C. R. Franklin—Notice. Peixotto & Son—Estate Sale. Wineman's Camphor Choral. R. Jones—Notice to Fish Dealers. Meeting Acacia Lodge. John Alexander—\$300 Reward.

THE BULL AND THE BULL'S EYE.—Our first news of the shooting in Ireland came in a shape characteristically Hibernian. It is conceded that the Americans are the superior marksmen, but the Irish have won the match. The Irishmen make the best score, but the Americans are the best shots. When an affectionate mother, by way of instruction, told her boy that if he cut the cake, he must give Johnny the larger of the two pieces, because "that was polite," the apt pupil in the hollow ways of the world immediately proposed that the duty of dividing the cake should at once be turned over to Johnny, that he might himself have the benefit of the politeness of the case. We confess to a similar aspiration in regard to the division of the case between us and Ireland. By all means, let the Irishmen themselves be the best shots, but let our fellows win the match. [*New York Herald*].

A serious schism is impending in the Missouri Constitutional Convention, owing to the rejection by the "country members" of a proposition providing for the representation of the section of the State in the Legislature on a basis of population. At latest reports the St. Louis members were debating the propriety of withdrawing entirely from the deliberations of the body.

NO NEW CARDINALS TO BE DECLARED.—A despatch from Rome says his Holiness Pío Nono has changed his mind with regard to the declaration of new cardinals of the church. No cardinals will be declared in the consistory which will be held in the Vatican on the 25th of June. Bishops only will be preconized on that occasion.

It is said that an Indiana woman was recently struck and killed by lightning "while in the act of shortening three pie crusts with a pound of lard." The lady was certainly a little extravagant, but we shouldn't have thought it was any of the lightning's business.

Mrs. Martha Peden, widow of Scipio Peden, died in the lower portion of Greenville County, on the 13th instant, aged seventy-six years. Mrs. Celia Rodgers, widow of James Rodgers, died in the same section, on the 8th instant, aged eighty years.

KILLED BY LIGHTNING.—A colored woman and two dogs were killed by lightning on Gibbs' plantation near Florence, last week. They had taken refuge from the rain under a tree. Another warning to avoid trees in a thunder storm.

Bessie Turner is making quite an income out of the scandal trial. Large quantities of her photographs are sold in New York, on which she receives a royalty. Bessie would probably like to keep up the excitement on this basis.

It took some red-nosed gentlemen in a Georgia bar-room two hours and a half the other day to become convinced that a black snake which was found crawling across the floor was a real live one of flesh and blood.

If the Uruguayans stay much longer in Charleston specie payments will be resumed.