

**DEATH OF AN EX-EMPEROR.**—Ferdinand I, ex-Emperor of Austria, who died on Tuesday, and whose funeral obsequies are briefly reported in the telegraphic columns of this morning's PHENIX, had attained the advanced age of eighty-two years. He was the son of Francis I, Emperor of Germany, and was born April 19, 1793. He succeeded his father to the throne of Austria March 2, 1835, and became thereafter the mere puppet of his wily Minister, Prince Metternich. During the revolutionary days of 1848, his imbecility made him sanction and betray the revolutionists and then fly from Vienna, and then Archduchess Sophia, his sister-in-law, compelled him finally to abdicate in favor of her son, Francis Joseph. This was on December 2, 1848. Since that time he has taken little or no part in public affairs, but resided quietly at Prague principally, until the time of his demise, which occurred at that place. He married Princess Maria Anna Carolina Pia, daughter of the late Victor Emmanuel I, King of Sardinia. The nuptials were celebrated in 1831.

**A BITTER RETORT.**—The New York Herald has recently published a series of letters from one of its staff correspondents, Mr. Charles Nordhoff, touching the excesses and misrule of the Radical party in a number of the Southern States where he had been traveling. This exposure exercised a bad effect on the loyal nerves of the Washington National Republican, and it proceeded to characterize Mr. Nordhoff as a "Dutch Jew." In reply, Mr. N. has written an open letter to the Hon. J. M. Edmunds, Chairman of the National Republican Executive Committee, in which he says he is neither Dutch nor Jew, but a German, and proud of his nationality; but if he were a Jew, he "would not be ashamed of it, for the Jews in this country are an intelligent, industrious and peaceable body of citizens." Mr. Nordhoff then adds:

"You ought to muzzle your dog, the National Republican. A recent and notorious over-dose of Government pap has given him an indigestion, and he is snapping at the heels of your friends. If you let him go on, he will presently do the party a damage. The Republican party should have a respectable organ in Washington. But if you cannot get rid of the Washington National Republican, you ought, at least, to change its name. You might call it the National Idiot. I make you the suggestion as a sincere and earnest Republican."

**CONDENSATION IN NEWS.**—That old-established and able journal, the New York Evening Post, one of the editors of which is the patriarch of the New York press, W. C. Bryant, has lowered its price from five cents to three, and has reduced the size of its page from ten columns to nine. The Post has discovered what the PHENIX has always seen, that these spread-out and unmanageable sheets cannot be properly utilized. The mammoth sheets have become more a nuisance through their huge dimensions than a convenience. As the facilities for obtaining intelligence from all parts of the world have multiplied, by telegraph and every other possible active agency, condensation has been rendered even more essential than ever before for the practical uses of the day. It has become more and more an art, and the field, of all others, where skill is most displayed. We have understood this from the beginning, and when asked occasionally by some one who who thought he knew more about our business than we do, why we do not enlarge the PHENIX, have always been able to give a reason, satisfactory to ourselves, at any rate. Not one reader in ten has the time or inclination to read through the contents of the mammoth morning sheets, much of which are of no importance and not worth printing. The reader wants the news in a clear, concise and compact form, with the chaff cleaned out from the wheat.

**A FOURTH OF JULY SUBLIMITY.**—The National Republican (Administration organ) has the following passage in its sermon on the Fourth of July:

"Listening again to the voice of the fathers, we hear the enunciation of the solemn agreement, 'Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof,' and from on high, like a note which fills the world with melody, comes the response: 'But they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig-tree.'"

Under what melodious proclamation was he to have forty acres and a mule?

**"GRACE, MERCY AND PEACE."**—Theodore Tilton was at Plymouth Church Sunday last, and listened to Mr. Beecher's sermon.

**BETTING BAD FOR BEECHER.**—A curious feature of the Beecher trial and its concomitants is the one which embraces the allegation that Mr. Beecher would have been acquitted but for an imprudent remark by the foreman of his jury. The three Tilton jurors had been wearied into an agreement to yield to the persistency of the nine Beecher jurors, and had consented to agree to a verdict of acquittal, when the foreman aforesaid, Mr. Chester Carpenter, imprudently remarked that "his son-in-law had made a bet on the result of the jury's deliberations," whereupon the three Tiltonians relapsed to their normal obstinacy and refused to be Beecherites. All which is a lucid commentary upon the equal and exact justice sometimes meted out by intelligent jurors, as well as of the manner and form in which such jurors come to pertinent conclusions. The Sun, strongly anti-Beecher, heads its article on the result "Mr. Beecher's Temporary Escape by Disagreement," and says:

"It was simply impossible to convict the Plymouth pastor in Brooklyn." Continuing, the Sun says: "The disagreement substantially proclaims that a man who so conducted himself under a charge of base practices as Beecher did for four years, and who made so poor a defence on the trial, deserves, at least, to be tainted with strong suspicion of guilt. On whatever theory you explain his cowardice and deceit, the result is fatal to his integrity as a man, and destructive of his power as a minister. . . . If he had been a man of sensitiveness, we should have been spared his flippancy during the trial, both in the court room and in Plymouth Church. That he has the effrontery to show himself in the pulpit after the revelations of the last year, shows that he has the hide of the rhinoceros. Whatever he does, however, he is a ruined man, and—very sadly we say it—he deserves his fate."

**CENTRAL NATIONAL BANK,** COLUMBIA, S. C., July 7, 1875.

**EDITOR OF THE PHENIX:** An error, committed by a Columbia correspondent of the Charleston News and Courier, has been reiterated in the leading "editorial" of the PHENIX of to-day, headed "Suspension of the Carolina Bank and Trust Company." The words are: "Governor Chamberlain vetoed the bill, last winter, establishing the South Carolina Bank and Trust Company and the Central National Bank, of this city, the depositories of the State funds." The bill vetoed by Governor Chamberlain proposed, by Act of the Legislature, to establish the South Carolina Bank and Trust Company and the Carolina National Bank, as the exclusive depositories at Columbia of the State funds. The Central National Bank, of Columbia, was not named or referred to either in the bill or in the Governor's veto message. The statement, therefore, is utterly erroneous, so far as this bank is concerned. I respectfully ask for this correction an insertion as conspicuous as the statement which it contradicts. JOHN S. PRESTON, President Central National Bank, Columbia.

**DEATHS IN SPARTANBURG.**—The Spartan says: We learn with regret of the death of Mr. P. B. Brannon, who was killed by falling from a straw pen, as will be seen by referring to our letter from New Prospect. Mr. Brannon was a good man, a first rate farmer, and by his death our County has lost one of its best citizens. He had been a soldier in the Mexican war, and was also in the Confederate army, where he received severe wounds. Mr. Geo. Bishop died at his residence, on Thursday last, and was buried at Boiling Spring. Mr. Bishop was the father of a large family, and a good citizen. Miss Royston, daughter of G. W. Royston, we are informed, was severely shocked by lightning, on Thursday last, about the same time that Mr. Steadman was killed. We are sorry to record the death of Mr. Albert Steadman, who was killed by lightning, on Thursday last, while hauling up wheat in Maj. Henry White's field, near Valley Falls. He was a good, honest citizen, and respected by those who knew him. Maj. White's two mules, which Mr. Steadman was driving, were also killed.

**SHARP TAX EVASION.**—Government securities, or promises to pay, are not taxable, and greenbacks, not being money, are not liable to State or municipal taxation. While this is true as to greenbacks, money is taxable by State and municipal authority as personal property. In some States every man is obliged to make a return, under oath, of the property held by him on a given day. In elucidation of the fact here stated, the Journal of Commerce reports that a citizen of Boston, feeling himself aggrieved by what he deemed a little sharp practice in the collection of taxes, turned all his personal property into greenbacks and made a special deposit of it in bank over the return day. He then returned it as invested in Government securities, and dared the assessors to levy a tax on it. They did not push him to pay, but kept very still about it, for fear the habit might be catching.

The investigation into the cause of the Schiller disaster by the British authorities shows that Captain Thomas must have utterly neglected the sailing directions for that part of the coast; and, indeed, it has been shown that the birthday of one of the ship's officers was being celebrated by a banquet, and the soundings were neglected. The sailing instructions for the vicinity of the Scilly Isles are very specific, and proper soundings would have kept the vessel out of danger.

**Crops, Etc., in Edgefield.** AUGUSTA, GA., July 5, 1875. Mr. Editor: I have just returned from a trip through portions of Edgefield, Newberry and Barnwell, and I must say that the crops in localities where I have been are exceptionally fine. Our citizens are especially interested in the welfare of your State, for our principal trade now comes from that quarter. For some reason, the neighboring Counties in Georgia are falling behind, and we get scarcely any trade from them. Burke and Jefferson get their supplies from Waynesboro, and the planters of those Counties are said to be in a deplorable condition. The negroes won't work, and are turbulent and insolent. Governor Chamberlain and Mr. Cardozo are winning golden opinions from all the Democrats I have conversed with. The negroes are down on them, and are heeding the pernicious advice of the corrupt politicians. Somebody has circulated a report amongst them that Gov. C. is conspiring with the Judges to have a large number of negroes sent to the penitentiary, so as to prevent their voting in the next election. I think it would be well for the Governor to come out in a letter and deny the charge, as it is to the interest of the State that he retain enough influence in the Radical party to enable him and Mr. Cardozo to make a successful combination with the Democrats next year. Gov. C. should feel complimented, for there are many Georgians who desire to see him a candidate for the Vice-Presidency in 1876. The Attorney-General deserves much credit for the manner in which he has moved against Whittemore, and Smalls, and Cain, McDevitt and others, as he has against Leslie and Parker, and either put them out of the State, or in jail? We expect great things from Melton. It is reported here that ex-Gov. Moses is to remove to our city to practice law. He will be a curiosity here, and wherever he goes, "will draw crowded houses." We have several new cotton factories in embryo, and soon our suburbs will be busy with the hum of industry. The weather is intensely hot. SPARTA.

**THE FIRST CONFEDERATE FLAG.**—AN INTERESTING RELIC.—At a recent meeting, the Charleston Palmetto Guard were made the recipients of the first Confederate flag raised in the late struggle, and as this banner was identified with the career of the company, it is doubly prized as a relic of the past. The donor, Mr. John S. Bird, of Laurens, an old member of the company, in a letter accompanying the flag, thus tersely gives its history: "In 1860, before the passage of the ordinance of secession by this State, Capt. Edward Mills, of the bark Jones, belonging to the Palmetto Line of New York packets, raised this flag at his mast-head in New York Harbor, and his vessel was mobbed, but they could not compel him to strike his colors. On his return, a gold-headed palmetto cane was presented to him by some of the Palmetto Guard, and in turn, he transferred to them the custody of the flag. The secession of the State was quickly followed by aggressive military movements, and the flag accompanied the Palmetto Guard in their various encampments. The field of the flag is white, with a green palmetto tree in the centre, and a red star in the upper corner near the staff."

The death of Hon. Thos. B. Florence in Washington, Sunday, is announced. Colonel Florence was born in Philadelphia in 1812, and made his way into public life when quite young. He edited a Democratic paper in his early years, and was for nine years Secretary of the Board of Controllers of the Public Schools of Pennsylvania. In 1850 he was elected to Congress, and served in the House of Representatives continuously up to 1859. In Washington, he established the National Democratic Review, and subsequently edited the Constitutional Union. More recently, he was proprietor and editor of the Washington Sunday Gazette. Col. Florence always enjoyed a great deal of personal popularity on account of his genial temperament, and his death is greatly regretted.

**THE FLOODS IN FRANCE.**—The story of the great floods in France is rendered more terrible by every successive account. One report states that more than 100,000 people have been made homeless and destitute by this swift and widespread calamity. Throughout France great efforts are being made to help the sufferers, and all Europe will probably share in the good work. In regard to the late disasters, it is perhaps some consolation that the overflow of river banks, as illustrated by the Nile and the Mississippi, is usually succeeded by seasons of extraordinary fertility. If this should prove to be the case with the great freshets in France and Bohemia, it may at least prove the prevention of future famine there.

This is the way the Cincinnati Enquirer puts it: "In 1865, we had about \$2,200,000,000 in circulating medium. The Republican party has contracted it to \$700,000,000. This has practically been a great confiscation of private property. This has been a wholesale robbery of the debtor class. This has caused ruinous decline in prices. This has shut the mills. This has put out the fires of the furnaces. This has closed the stores. This has produced a paralysis of the industry of the country." What we want is a currency issued directly by the Government; a currency which will be fair to all, enough for all and which will hold the Union together under all circumstances.

The Superintendent of Police in New Orleans has issued an order prohibiting such games as banko, roulette, keno and wheel of fortune.

**Col. Long, formerly of the United States army, now in the Egyptian service, has arrived in Paris from his second expedition to the Niam Niam country, where he is extending the authority of the Khedive. He brought to Cairo five specimens of anthropophagi, including a female of the Akka or Tieketicke dwarf race; the Khedive decorated with the order of Medjidie two negro soldiers, who aided Col. Long in a desperate encounter at Lake Moole, which Col. Long believes to be one of the many sources of the Nile. Col. Long leaves shortly for the United States.**

**ARRIVAL OF GERMAN EXILES.**—On the 30th of June, ninety German religious exiles arrived in New York, expelled from their native country by the Falck law. Several weeks before their departure from Germany they were ordered by the Prussian and German policemen to leave the country. Although they were offered missionary fields in other European countries they resolved to come to America. Twelve of them are Roman Catholic priests, sixty are theological students and fifteen ladies. They will settle in the West.

The Guelphs and Ghibbelines of the Cherokee Nation have succeeded in getting up twenty-seven murder cases, which were recently tried before the United States District Court at Fort Smith, Ark. As a result of the trial, seven of the semi-civilized will be hung in a batch on the third day of September. This will be the largest wholesale hanging since the execution of the thirty-three Sioux Indians at Mankato, Minnesota, in 1862.

John Condon, a laborer, of Chicago, while at breakfast, on Tuesday, drew a revolver and shot across the table at his wife, killing her instantly. Condon then shot himself, inflicting a wound which will doubtless prove fatal. He stated to a reporter that he was perfectly conscious of the extent of his crime, and that he had just cause for it. Jealousy is supposed to have been the cause. Condon was sixty-five and his wife forty years old.

The Journal of the Telegraph reports that the "duplex system" of telegraphy has been successfully applied to the combination printing telegraph instruments. The first objection to its practical use was the mutilation of the printed slips by "breaks" from the distant stations, but this has been overcome, and the system has been in practical operation on the New York and Boston circuit for the past two weeks.

The first session of the newly organized Mexican Senate will convene September 16th. In the meantime, all the members thereof have to be chosen. Like the Senators of the United States, they have to be elected by the Legislatures of the several States, of which there are nineteen in Mexico. Each State choosing two Senators, and the Federal City of Mexico two, will make the Senate composed of forty members.

The citizens of Waterloo Township, Laurens County, adopted the following resolution: That we endorse his Excellency D. H. Chamberlain in his reform movement, and that we confide not only in the sincerity of his purpose, but also in his ability, provided he receives the earnest co-operation of all good citizens, irrespective of party, to achieve substantial good for the State.

The Patrons of Husbandry in Saline County, Missouri, propose to start a bank at Marshall, with a capital of \$100,000. The Missouri Farmer thinks this a good move, as the bank will lend only to farmers, and at a less rate of interest than is customary. The Farmer thinks the high rate of interest is eating the farmers up faster than grasshoppers or chinch-bug.

**THE FOURTH IN PARIS.**—The French are not so scrupulous as the Americans in the matter of celebrating national events on Sunday, and on the 4th M. Caubert, an eminent French Judge, gave a banquet in honor of the day. Minister Washburne and other distinguished Americans were present, besides many eminent Frenchmen friendly to America.

It should not be a matter of doubt what substance Keeley, the motor man, finds powerful enough to support the awful force which his great invention generates. Mr. Keeley's cheek, we should guess, is strong enough to support a pressure of at least 600,000 pounds to the square inch.

Capps and Lane, two colored men, were the happy recipients of the reward offered for the capture of the outlaw Applewhite. They returned home from Raleigh a few days ago. It is now reported that the notorious Henry Berry Lowrey, who has been killed several times, has again turned up.

The New Haven Register says the Winsted pin factory turns out nearly 6,000,000 pins per day, 36,000,000 per week, or about a pin for each man, woman and child in the United States. Now, then, "what becomes of all the pins?"

The Edgefield Advertiser begs Mr. Chas. Nordhoff, of the New York Herald, to go to Edgefield, where Radical ignorance and rascality will open wide his unaccustomed eyes.

The noted trotter, Kitty Wells, died at Hamilton, Ont., on Saturday, of congestion of the lungs, the result of injudicious running. The owner valued her at \$20,000.

A fire in Charleston, on the 6th, destroyed a brick warehouse on North Atlantic wharf. Several bales of Sea Island cotton were also destroyed.

**CLY ITEMS.**—Read your own paper—don't borrow.

Thinking, not growth, makes perfect manhood.

The Choral Union will meet at Carolina Hall, this evening, at 8½ o'clock.

Our neighbor, Mrs. Hoffman, keeps peaches—ripe peaches, juicy peaches; we know it, we have tried them.

*Nota Bene*—"He that giveth to the poor, lendeth to the Lord." Office hours—all day.

If generous impulses were followed, one would run up to half the ladies on the street and tell them they were losing their hats.

If you would bring up a child in the way he would go, occasionally skirmish along ahead of him and point out the way.

A regular old-fashioned rain-storm, accompanied by thunder and lightning, cooled the atmosphere delightfully, yesterday.

One of the best proofs of the nation's progress is the papers keeping up with every change in the style of ladies' stockings.

The dog-days begin this year on the 4th and end on the 12th of August, during which time occurs the heated term of the year.

The Hampton Legion have a re-union in this city and Orr's Rifles at Abbeville, on the 21st—the anniversary of the battle of Manassas.

Now save your bedbugs. It has been discovered that, soaked in a solution of nitrate of potash, they produce a delicate, delicious and penetrating perfume for the handkerchief and toilet.

Prof. Tice is unkind enough to predict a "Venusian perturbation" between the 10th and 18th of the present month. Let us hope that the cyclone earthquake or what-not will skip this city.

The commencement exercises of Carolina Collegiate Institute begin on Wednesday evening, July 14, at 8 o'clock, and will be continued during the next day.

Mr. F. W. Helmich, music dealer, of Cincinnati, Ohio, has presented us with two very pretty pieces of song-music, "Darling Aroon" and "Pretty Little Jakey," the price of each of which is 35 cents. Mr. Helmich's musical programme is extensive and varied.

**REDUCTION OF SUBSCRIPTION.**—The WEEKLY GLEANER, a large family paper, containing from thirty to forty-eight columns of closely printed reading matter, will be furnished from this date at the low price of \$2 per annum, postage included. Old subscribers will have the time extended in proportion. The desire is to furnish a good readable weekly journal at a low rate to every family within the State. The GLEANER is issued every Wednesday, and will contain the latest telegrams to date of publication. Specimens furnished.

**FIRE AT LANGLEY.**—A special despatch to the PHENIX from Augusta, says:

The warehouse of the Langley Cotton Factory, containing 600 bales cotton and 200 bales goods, was struck by lightning, burning it down. The pumps burst and assistance is urgently required. Three engines were taken on special trains. Numbers of stockholders left by accommodation train. Wires down. Heavy rains over this section.

**COURT OF COMMON PLEAS—SPECIAL TERM.**—The Court met at 10 A. M., yesterday, Hon. R. B. Carpenter presiding.

The case of the State of South Carolina, plaintiff, against Niles G. Parker, defendant, was continued. Ex-Gov. R. K. Scott was called and examined as a witness on the part of the State. Treasurer F. L. Cardozo was also examined on behalf of the plaintiff; also, Capt. J. L. Little, formerly a clerk in the Treasurer's office. A summary of the testimony for the plaintiff will be given at its close. The Court adjourned until 10 A. M., to-day.

Now is the harvest time of the ice water fiend. He is doing great execution in the national stomach. His chilly little shrines are erected in thousands of places whereat one may ruin one's digestion and freeze one's vitals without money and without price. For a temperate nation, this is remarkably intemperate in its wholesale consumption of tiny icebergs in a state of semi-solution, and it is not, by any means, impossible that this cold water movement, carried too far, may some day bring upon us the romance of "Ten Nights Near a Water Cooler," not inferior in fluid honors to the standard story of "Ten Nights in a Bar Room." No good thing is destined to moderate use; so that the second centennial will probably see the typical American fiercely attacking a frightful triangle of apple pie, and washing it down with constant deluges from a glass crammed with ice and prospective stomach-ache.

**LIST OF NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.**—Meeting Knights Templar. Geo. L. Dial—Real Estate at Auction. Merchant & Co.—Portland Cement. Taylor & McCullough—Hay. A. S. Kelly & Co.—Elastic Japan Paint. W. W. Davies—Schedule S. & U. R. R.