

THE FREE CITIZEN.
PUBLISHED AT
ORANCEBURG, S. C.

E. A. WEBSTER, - - - Editor.
A. WEBSTER, PUBLISHER.

TERMS:
ONE COPY, ONE YEAR, - - - \$2.00
Invariably in Advance.

And I will come near to you to judgement and I will be a swift witness against the sinner, and against the adulterers, and against false swearers, and against those that oppress the living in his wages, the widow and the fatherless, and that turn aside the stranger from his right, and fear not me, saith the Lord of Hosts.—MALACHI, III. 5.

NOTICE.
We are not responsible for the views of our correspondents. Advertisements to be inserted in the CITIZEN must be received by Thursday evening.

Advertisements inserted at One Dollar per inch, for the first insertion. Further terms can be had on application to the Editor or Publisher. Communications on matters of State or Local interest, respectfully solicited.

Agents and Correspondents wanted in all Towns of the County.

SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 1875.

Newspaper Law.

We invite attention to the law concerning newspapers:

1. Subscribers who do not give express notice to the contrary are considered as wishing to continue their subscription.
2. If subscribers wish their paper discontinued publishers may continue to send them until all charges are paid.
3. If subscribers neglect or refuse to take their papers from the offices or places to which they are sent, they are held responsible until they settle their bill and give notice to discontinue them.
4. If subscribers move to other places without informing the publisher, and the paper is sent to the former direction, they are held responsible. Notice should always be given of removal.
5. The Courts have decided, that refusing to take a paper or periodical from the office, or removing and leaving it unclaimed, is prima facie evidence as intentional fraud.

The News and Courier Libel Case.

Much interest has been manifested in Charleston and in fact all over the State in the libel preferred against the News and Courier by C. C. Bowen & Co. The case was called in the Court of General Sessions in Charleston on Monday, Judge Reed, presiding. The State being represented by Solicitor Buttz, who is assisted, in the cases in which Sheriff Bowen is concerned, by United States District Attorney Corbin. The accused is represented by Gen. James Conner, the Hon. W. D. Porter, and Henry A. M. Smith, Esq.

Monday was consumed in obtaining a jury. On Tuesday the case was opened by Mr. Corbin for the State. Bowen had been called a murderer by the News and Courier and this was the ground of the indictment. The libellous articles were submitted to the Court and the case was closed for the prosecution.

The defense was opened by Mr. H. A. M. Smith. The following extract from his remarks will show in what manner the defense would attempt to justify: "In the prosecution for the publication of papers investigating the official conduct of officers or men in public capacity, or when the matter published is proper for the public information, the truth thereof may be given in evidence." Now we maintain, and we shall show, that the matter we published was concerning a public officer, a man in public capacity, and of the deepest interest, and necessary for public information."

E. W. M. Mackey and Col. Steel McAlister White, the son of the murdered man, were the only witnesses for the defence on Tuesday. On Wednesday the interest culminated by the defence placing upon the stand the very man who fired the fatal shot, Eli C. Grimes. He stated that he had shot Col. White but at the instigation of Bowen, who, he feared, would do him bodily harm if he did not execute his command to kill Col. White. Before the death of the murdered man Grimes confessed to him, in the presence of others, that he shot him but at the instigation of Capt.

Bowen. The witness sustained himself well through the ordeal of a very searching cross-examination from Mr. Corbin. Much additional testimony was given by other witnesses strengthening Grimes story and from those that were present at his confession to Col. White. It seems to be the general impression that on this indictment the News and Courier will be acquitted. The people of Orangeburg are under especial obligation to this paper for what it has done to unearth corruption in our county. Our people wish the News and Courier a safe deliverance and long continued prosperity. We are sure this war upon the press will bring only discomfiture upon the prosecutors.

We suppose our turn will come next. Barney Williamson thinks that for us to say that he was Hummer's chief clerk and that he was a man of sufficient experience and intelligence to know if things were conducted badly in the Treasury office, has damaged his reputation to the tune of \$20,000. We doubt not that this would be a heading salvo to his reputation. At Court we shall all see what we shall see.

Honesty the Wisest Policy.

Few things are more destructive of the best interest of society than the prevalent, but mistaken notion, that it requires a vast deal of talent to be a successful knave. This position, while it diminishes that odium which out to attach to fraud, in the part of those who profit by it; since there are so many who would rather be written down knaves, than fools. The plain fact is, that to be honest with success, requires far more talent than to be a rogue, and to be honest without success, requires far more magnanimity; for trick is not dexterity, cunning is not skill, and mystery is not profoundness. The honest man proposes to arrive at a certain point, by one straight and narrow road, that is beset on all sides with obstacles and with impediments. He would rather stand still, than proceed by trespassing on the property of his neighbour, and would rather overcome a difficulty, than avoid it by breaking down a fence. The knave, it is true, proposes to himself the same object, but arrives at it by a very different route. Provided only that he gets on, he is not particular whether he effects it where there is a road, or where there is none; he trespasses without scruple, either on the forbidden ground of private property, or on those by-paths where there is no legal thoroughfare; what he cannot reach over, he will over-reach, and those obstacles he cannot surmount by climbing, he will undermine by creeping, quite regardless of the jilt that may stick to him in the scramble.—The consequence is that he frequently overtakes the honest man, and passes by him with a sneer. What then shall we say, that the rogue has more talent than the upright? let us rather say that he has less. Wisdom is nothing more than judgment exercised on the true value of things that are desirable; but of things in themselves desirable, those are the most so that remain the longest. Let us therefore mark the end of these things, and we shall come to one conclusion, the fiat of the tribunal both of God and of man;—That honesty is not only the deepest policy, but the highest wisdom; since however difficult it may be for integrity to get on, it is a thousand times more difficult for knavery to get off; and no error is more fatal than that of those who think that virtue has no other reward, because they have heard that she is her own.

A Free Press. A free press is the parent of much good in a state. But even a licentious press is a far less evil than a press that is enslaved, because both sides may be heard in the former case, but not in the latter. A licentious press may be an evil, an enslaved press must be so; for an enslaved press may cause error to be more current than wisdom, and wrong more powerful than right; a licentious press cannot effect these things, for if it give the poison, it gives also the antidote, which an enslaved press withholds. An enslaved press is doubly fatal, it not only takes away the true light, for in that case we might stand still, but it sets up a false one, that decoys us to our destruction.

A War Upon a Free Press.

Has it ever occurred to the reader to ask himself why it is that corrupt men of all grades and all politics, are always and everywhere found cherishing such a special, cordial, and exclusive hatred for the press? Why it is that the first impulse of an endangered "ring" or a frightened boss is to turn upon the newspaper; to call it hard names; to threaten to crush it; sometimes to attempt to carry the threat into execution? Why it is that every unfaithful public servant; every tainted Congressman or legislator; every bill-stalling judge, every dishonest official, high or low, is loud-mouthed and eloquent on the unbridled license of the press, its propensity for blackening good men's characters, and the need of more effective checks upon its propensity?

The why is very simple. Public robbers and public corrupters hate the newspaper, because they instinctively recognize in it their deadliest enemy. The newspaper means publicity, detection, punishment. Like all of their trade, they have a great aversion to the light. They shun observation. All they want is to be let alone. Now the newspaper refuses to let them alone. It is forever prowling around, lurking on the borders at inopportune moments, catching them in the act, raising the hue and cry at their heels, bringing them generally to grief. If they feel hardly toward it, it must be admitted that they have very substantial grounds. Their hatred is compounded in equal parts of dread and premonition.

That the corruptionists and their next friends should be found railing with foul-mouthed volubility at the newspaper, is not, under the circumstances, a very surprising or unnatural phenomenon. "If you have no case, abuse the plaintiff's attorney." These gentlemen have no case, and the newspaper is not only the plaintiff's attorney, but often its blood and bait. The queer thing is, that honest and reputable citizens, of fair intelligence and blameless private morals, should be found joining in this abuse. They are opposed on general principles to thieving. They have no natural affinity with the thieves. Forged into a corner, they will admit that it is desirable crime of this sort should be exposed and the criminal brought to justice. The great majority of them will be forced to admit, if they are candid and truthful, that they themselves have done little or nothing, and are doing little or nothing, in any practical way, to arrest the spread of this dry-rot of official immorality which has already made such fearful headway.

It is not simply desirable, it is supremely necessary, that the country be got out of this way as soon as possible. But it never can be got out of it unless the people are thoroughly awakened to the fact and danger. That is what all American newspapers worthy the name of whatever politics, have been trying to do. They have used the proper and only means to that end. The deplorable thing is, not that they should talk so much about corruption, but that there should be so much corruption for them to talk about. To quarrel with them for their fidelity in the discharge of a most unpleasant but most urgently necessary public duty is as sensible as it would be for the patient and friends to hold the physician responsible for the disease.

That newspapers make mistakes, that they do not discriminate with sufficient care, that they now and then commit injustice, is undoubted, but true. That respectable newspapers purposely and with malice commit injustice, is not true. In the nature of things, mistakes are inevitable. The newspaper cannot devote years to the accumulation and analysis of evidence. It has to take the facts at hand, and make up its best judgment from them, honestly and intelligently. It may be misled. This is the risk which it takes, and has to take. The law courts are open to the aggrieved; so is the court of public opinion. But times like these demand a robust journalism which does not shrink from needful risks, and which is too intent upon discharging its duty to the public to be forever thinking of the possible consequences to itself. The work in hand

is one of tremendous magnitude and difficulty; the workmen are few in proportion; and there is a certain urgency in the premises to which much of seeming carelessness and even recklessness may well be pardoned. Said one one of the most cultured, conservative and revered judges that ever adorned the New England bench: "There will have to be a good many more libel suits before the end of this war upon corruption is reached." And he was right.

A Merited Rebuke.

A writer in the Northwestern Advocate under the non de plume of a Southerner, arraigns M. E. church for advocating the Civil Rights Bill and then truckling to the demon of caste in establishing separate churches for white and colored congregations in its Southern work. He says:

The New York Advocate, in a recent editorial on Bishop Foster's address, stated: "In two or three notable instances the attempt has been made by their Northern pastors to have only mixed congregations in towns; but it has failed in every case—in some most disastrously." If failure to establish mixed churches has been the result of your church with all its prestige and power, bishops, editors, and pastors willing to aid in the enterprise, what will be the result of the recent civil legislation? Certainly, in the congregation of saints, the true worshippers of God should remember the Lord is the maker of them all, and made of one blood all nations and colors, and is no respecter of persons or previous conditions; yet if in the godly judgment of the majority of your church in the South, it is better for blacks and whites to have their congregations generally separate, are the children of this world wiser in their generation than the children of light in legislation and church worship? If Christian people cannot cheerfully sit, stand, and kneel in God's house with any and all of His people, regardless of race or color, where is the charity or consistency in favoring an act that requires others to eat, sleep, sit, or stand with those that they are not willing to associate with in such intimate relations? Surely the gospel gives greater liberty and better privileges than any earthly government! Would any who are not willing to worship an hour or two weekly with colored people have all our children with them hours daily in school?

Beyond Comprehension.

When Daniel Webster was in his best moral estate, and when he was in the prime of his manhood, he was one day dining with a company of literary gentlemen in the city of Boston. The company was composed of clergymen, lawyers, physicians, statesmen, merchants, and almost all classes of literary persons. During the dinner, the conversation incidentally turned upon the subject of Christianity. Mr. Webster, as the occasion was in honor of him, was expected to take a leading part in the conversation, and he frankly stated as his religious sentiments, his belief in the divinity of Christ, and his dependence upon the atonement of the Saviour. A minister of very considerable literary reputation, sat almost opposite him at the table, and he looked at him and said: "Mr. Webster, can you comprehend how Jesus Christ could be both God and man?" Mr. Webster, with one of those looks which no man can imitate, fixed his eye upon him, and promptly and emphatically said: "No, sir, I cannot comprehend it; and I would be ashamed to acknowledge him as my Saviour if I could comprehend it. If I could comprehend He could be no greater than myself, and such is my conviction of accountability to God, such is my sense of sinfulness before Him, and such is my knowledge of my own incapacity to recover myself, that I feel the need of a super-human Saviour.—Bishop James.

A Patient Elephant.

"Tell my grandchildren," writes the Bishop of Calcutta, "that an elephant here had a disease in his eyes. For three days he had been completely blind. His owner, an engineer officer, asked my dear Dr. Webb if he could do anything to relieve the poor animal. The doctor said he would try the nitrate of silver, which was a remedy commonly applied to similar disease in the human eye. The large

animal was ordered to lie down, and at first, on the application of the remedy, raised a most extraordinary roar at the acute pain which it occasioned. The effect, however, was wonderful. The eye was in a manner restored, and the animal could partially see.—The next day, when he was brought, and heard the doctor's voice, he lay down of himself, placed his enormous head on one side, curled up his trunk, drew in his breath just like a man about to endure an operation, gave a sigh of relief when it was over, and then, by trunk and gesture, evidently wished to express his gratitude.—What a lesson to us of patience!"—Life of Bishop Wilson.

The most brilliant fortunes are never worth the littleness often required to obtain them.

ADVERTISEMENTS.
MISCELLANEOUS.

"Complete Pictorial History of the Times"—The best, cheapest, and most successful Family Paper in the Union—

Harper's Weekly.
ILLUSTRATED.

Notices of the Press.
The Weekly is the ablest and most powerful illustrated periodical published in this country. Its editorials are scholarly and convincing, and carry much weight. Its illustrations of current events are full and fresh, and are prepared by our best designers. With a circulation of 150,000, the WEEKLY is read by at least half a million persons, and its influence as an organ of opinion is simply tremendous.—The WEEKLY maintains a positive position, expresses decided views on political and social problems.—Louisville Courier-Journal.
Its articles are models of high-toned discussion, and its pictorial illustrations are often corroborative arguments of no small force.—N. Y. Examiner and Chronicle.

TERMS:

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FIRE!

FIRE!!

FIRE!!!

T. KOHN & BRO.,

—AT—

The Brick Store,

Are selling off their

RESCUED STOCK

Being slightly damaged by removal.

—o:—

The Goods Must be Sold,

And are selling for whatever they will bring.

—o:—

Rare Bargains:

Come at once and secure

Theodore Kohn & Bro.

At McMASTER'S BRICK STORE

Orangeburg, Jan. 21, 1875.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

MISCELLANEOUS.

GRAND OPENING!

I will open this morning a lot of the

Finest Teas,

ever offered in this market, consisting of

UNCOLORED JAPAN OOLONGS,

SOUCHONGS,

YOUNG HYSONS,

and
GUNPOWDERS,

And in order to cultivate a trade for these fine grades I will sell them

VERY LOW.

I have also received this morning another

car-load of
Solomon's Fancy Flour

Fresh ground and Made especially

for me from the

Finest Selected Wheat,

I have never had a complaint of

this brand of flour.

IMPORTANT NOTICE!

Inferior KEROSENE OIL is so dan-

gerous and so many accidents have occurred from its use, I have been induced,

at the repeated solicitation of my customers, to purchase a supply of pure Oil

for their use. I have just received ten

barrels of
PURE WHITE KEROSENE

Of 124 fire test. I will sell this Pure

Oil cheaper than the same grade of Oil

can be sold at in this city. Families using

this Oil are safe. The use of the

common Oils now
FLOODING THE MARKET

is equivalent to bringing into the family

destruction and death!

I have also received:

10 Tierces Fresh Cured Davis' Hams,

10 Boxes Cream Cheese, direct from

the Dairy,

25 Firkins Goshen Butter, direct from

the Dairy, which has all the

freshness and flavor of the flow-

ers.

5 Tierces of Baltimore Sugar-Cured

Strips,

10 Barrels of Extra Mess Mackerel,

averaging twenty ounces.

25 Sacks Laguayra Coffee, equal to

Java.

50 Sacks of assorted Rio, by last Rio

steamer.

With a full supply of

CHOICE GROCERIES,

Fresh and Good.

My stock is full, with prices low and

good times coming.

Thanking the public for their very liberal

patronage, and soliciting its contin-

uance, I will do my best to merit the

ame.

HARDY SOLOMON,

Columbia, So. Ca.