

HENRY WAHD BECKER is expected to go to Europe in the spring or early summer on a lecturing tour.

NOTHING is being done in Congress of importance or interest to the public. The Morrison bill will doubtless come up at an early day.

MRS. SPEAKER CARLISLE is said to have presidential aspirations for her husband. She had better let well enough alone.

TALMAGE says that if New York and Brooklyn cities were punished for their wickedness, the Hudson and East rivers would rise higher than the bridge towers.

SENATOR LAMAR pronounces John Logan "a man of remarkable ability." Perhaps so, if you ignore the grammatical restraints of the language is the crucial test of ability and greatness.

SECRETARY LINCOLN's refusal to attend a banquet of the Harvard Alumni in Washington because Professor Greener, colored, was excluded, is said to be a bid for the colored vote.

Is it true that ex-Senator McDonald favors leaving the tariff question to solve itself, and has he committed the Democratic leaders to steer clear of the problem? If so, McDonald, too, must go!

"CHINESE" Gordon before leaving Korosko, in the midst of discontented barbarians, sent this message to a disgruntled chief: "Meet me at Klartown. If you want peace, I am for peace; if you want war, I am ready."

SOME one writing of Wendell Phillips says: "Less massive than Webster, he was more piquant and incisive; less versatile than Clay, he was more classic and polished; less logical than Calhoun, he was more magnetic and stirring."

REP. TOMBS says that Wendell Phillips was "an infernal machine set to music." Tombs and Phillips were representative types of the two extreme schools of politics in 1860—the one a wild secessionist, the other a fanciful abolitionist.

BLAINE's friends claim that he will be placed again before the National Republican Convention for the nomination for the Presidency. It is said that his chances of securing the coveted prize are higher than ever before. May be, but hardly true.

The Augusta Chronicle says: "No place within our knowledge can approach Augusta in the number of cultured, elegant and graceful women." Wholesale ladies this is, and the question is will the ladies of Augusta swallow the dose? Perhaps and perhaps not.

The Secretary of the Navy has acknowledged the services of W. A. Kirkland's order of his Capt. to take command of the Greely tender expedition, but declines the tender on the ground that while the examination showed the captain's physical condition to be generally good, it is not so nearly perfect as to make it judicious for him to undertake that service. The captain suffers somewhat from rheumatism.

WASHINGTON Critic: The probable cost of pensioning the survivors of the Mexican war was stated in the Critic yesterday. It is a mere bagatelle. But the question of cost has nothing to do with it. These brave men should be pensioned. It is a matter of justice and right, and that being so, dollars and cents are not to be considered. A portion of the surplus revenue cannot be better applied, and it is a disgrace to this government that these brave men have had to beg so long for what they are justly entitled to.

THE representative business men of Chicago, St. Louis, Boston, Philadelphia, Cincinnati, Saratoga and other cities are now in Washington prepared to urge the claims of their respective cities for the Democratic National Convention before the National Committee, which will meet in Washington in a few days. Well informed correspondents claim that the issue has been narrowed down to Chicago and St. Louis, with chances in favor of the former.

MR. WATSON, of the Louisville Courier-Journal, has prepared a bill which he will present to Congress—the object of which is to protect newspapers from having the news which they collect and pay for stolen by other papers which do not collect or pay for it. The proposed measure prohibits the use of this kind of news by other papers for twenty-four hours after it appears. After that time it becomes common property. The object of this bill is to prevent stealing news so extensively indulged in by some papers which boast of their "enterprise."

NEW ORLEANS celebrated Washington's birthday by the unveiling of a bronze statue of Gen. Robt. E. Lee, which is said to be the largest bronze statue ever cast in New York. The figure stands sixteen feet high on the plinth, and weighs nearly 7,000 pounds. It was cast in six sections, the head alone weighing 355 pounds. It represents General Lee in an easy, natural position, standing erect with folded arms, as though overlooking the field of battle. He is dressed in full service uniform, with cavalry boots, and the sword strapped at his side measures eight feet from tip to hilt. The stars, according to his wish, are placed on the lapel of his coat instead of on the collar. The figure was modeled in New Orleans by Mr. Alexander Doyle, and the work on the casting was begun last June. The entire cost has been defrayed by subscriptions in the South.

DEWITT TALMAGE recently preached upon the "Ohio floods and their Lessons." He said: "A cry of anguish has been heard across the continent, and no pulpits, which is not an iceberg, but must heed the cry and sympathize with the distress. The pride of America is its rivers. The first lesson of the flood is the mercilessness of natural forces and the failure of natural religion. What is there of mercy or love in the Ohio flood? It has no more pity for the child struggling in its waters than for a drowning rat; no more pity for a devastated household than for the timbers of the bridge which is away. When the rivers flow in their natural channels they carry prosperity along with them; when they overflow their banks they destroy and devastate. When the great rivers of national prosperity flow in their natural channels all is well. But to-day one-half of the United States is inundated by monopolistic freshets. There are some men to-day who, like the floods, have been gathering together all they can of the wealth of the nation and are waiting for more. They are hoping that other fortunes will melt into theirs, and they are crying to heaven and earth and hell, 'Give, give, give!' See how they swell! They take down all that misfortune throws in their way. They take down all the results of a Wall Street flurry, all the results of a Chicago corner in grain, and they swallow and swallow and swallow, and swell and swell and swell (laughter), and so the great rivers of moral and financial damnation roll through the land."

KIEFER, THE SLANDERER.
Ex-Speaker Kiefer is being sharply criticized by the press for his conduct in reference to the charges preferred by him against General Boynton, the Washington correspondent of the Cincinnati Commercial Gazette. It will be remembered that the charges alluded to were made by Kiefer in the House of Representatives, and that a committee of that body was appointed to investigate and report their truth or falsity. The New York Herald is pungent in its criticism upon that gentleman, says:

Considering the nature of the charges made by ex-Speaker Kiefer against General Boynton, Washington correspondent of the Cincinnati Commercial, it is not surprising that the committee yesterday voted, to say the least, peculiar. His counsel first proposed that General Boynton should prove that the charges had been made. This idea being ridiculed by the committee, in view of what Mr. Kiefer had said in the House and in letters, the statement was made that for the ex-Speaker to prove his charges would involve the taking of a great deal of testimony in and out of Washington, and as some of the persons were in New York, New Jersey and Ohio they could not be immediately produced. As the principal charge was that General Boynton attempted to bribe Mr. Kiefer, the proposition was made in a room where only the ex-Speaker and the correspondent were present, the necessity for a mass of testimony does not clearly appear. A letter was read from one Mr. Kiefer's witnesses—name not given—who could not appear because his wife was sick. The one thing possible, and for which Mr. Boynton expressed himself ready and anxious, was the cross-examination of Mr. Kiefer himself, but this was avoided.

Mr. Kiefer should promptly be taken in hand by his friends, if he has any.

THE OVERFLOWS.
The overflow of the Ohio and its tributaries is spreading ruin, starvation and desolation throughout the river valleys of the West, and the inquiry as to what must be done for the sufferers is looming up as a gray problem for the solution by the government itself. These overflows are now recurring at the spring-tide of every year, and season after season they prove still more fearful and destructive of life and property. They are properly attributable to the rapid melting of the snows upon the "great peaks, where the sources of these untain rivers are found. The dense, dark forests heretofore covering the mountain summits of the Blue Ridge and Allegheny have been, by money-grasping men, cut down and carried away to the lumber markets of the country, and thus the great storehouses of river food are in this way thrown open—the sun unimpeded by the rich foliage of the forest, penetrates, warms up and melts the mountains of snow that would have remained pent up until the hot sun of the summer could in due time feed the dry streams and quench the thirst of the valleys. In view of the overflows then and the causes above assigned, it would be well and proper for the different State governments to buy up the mountain tops and see to it that the forests upon them remain untouched in future by the axe of the woodman. This much is due the country at large, and it is especially due the dwellers upon the banks of these streams. The national government has very properly voted funds for the relief of sufferers of this kind on many occasions, but it is fair to conclude that the money thus expended would in a short time be sufficient for the purchase of a remedy, so to speak.

SIMPLE LAWS.
The great hue and cry about the need of simple laws accomplishes nothing more than to afford some little amusement to that class of intelligent people who can appreciate the impossibility of the demanded reform. That would be better to have the laws simple enough for all to understand and appreciate none will deny. But in the nature of things it is impossible to so condense and at the same time so simplify the many necessary legislative provisions, so as to bring them within the comprehension and mastery of the bulk and mass of the people.

The general of the various acts of the Federal Assembly will, upon the most casual investigation, prove to be plain, simple and intelligible, and pray what more can be demanded of the lawmakers, unless it be to give brains for comprehension and appreciation—another discouraging impossibility. The common law, the statute law and the great mass of decisions by the various judicial tribunals throughout

the country, make up a collection of legal learning to be mastered at the expense of the concentrated energies and labors of a lifetime. And yet quite a large class of people, who call themselves intelligent and thoughtful, affect to believe that the lawmakers and lawyers collude and conspire together for the enactment of laws beyond the intellectual range of the common people. It is true that law has its technicalities, which must necessarily be put before the laymen, yet it is saying no more than what will be found to be true of medicine, of theology and of the various mechanical arts and trades of the country.

The complaint that we are compelled to listen to hired expounders of the Scriptures, or to be subjected to the financial embarrassment of paying for the professional advice of a physician in the hour of sickness, would be as well grounded as the now prevalent demand that the law of the land must be made so simple that its special study will be unnecessary, and an exposition of its manifold provisions within the grasp of the veriest fool that "lives and moves and has his being!" The Newberry Herald in a thoughtful editorial upon this subject says:

A prominent public officer of this State made a public address a few days ago, in which he criticized our laws and lawmakers, because the laws are not simple enough for the people at large to understand them. Such talk is absurd, and the man who uttered it ought to know better. No government has ever devised a code of laws simple enough for the understanding of the people. So far as the letter of the law is concerned, that is simple enough; the words are so plain that the way-faring man, though a fool, can run and read them—but they will be mere words to him. Persons will always be found ready to condemn the law, because they regard it as proceeding directly from the devil or, what is worse in their mind, the lawyers. But all countries have had their lawyers, and we have not reached an era sufficiently utopian to do without them.

NOMINATING CONGRESSMEN.
Mr. Stanyarne Wilson, of Spartanburg, has written a letter to the Spartan, suggesting the substitution of the primary plan for the convention in making nominations for members of Congress. There is no doubt of the great advantage of the primary over the convention for nominations, and, as is well known, THE NEWS AND HERALD has been a strong advocate of the former system for the past seven years. The single question we now have about using this system for selecting the Democratic candidates for Congress, is as to its adaptability to this class of nominations. The first trouble that we see is that the different counties probably have very different standards, in determining who are entitled to vote in the primaries. In Fairfield, before one can vote in the Democratic primary he must be a regularly enrolled member of some recognized club, must have voted the Democratic ticket at the regular election next preceding the primary (unless under age or unavoidably prevented), and must pledge himself to abide by and support all nominations made by the Democratic party, whether for Federal, State or local officers. In many counties some, perhaps all, of these requirements are disregarded. In some counties a majority of all the votes cast in the primary is necessary to nominate, while in others a plurality is sufficient. Indeed, in many particular the regulations are varied in the different counties, to meet the views or the necessities of the party. Of course, in order to nominate a Congressman, there should be one set of rules in force in all the counties composing the district; and this, it appears to us, would be next to impossible.

Another difficulty is that if a majority is required to nominate, a second, perhaps a third primary would be necessary. In such a contest, it is doubtful if there would be more votes cast than there would be in a nominating convention. The people like the primaries, but too many might shirk them. The adoption of the plurality rule is of course out of the question—as it would always give the nomination to the county having the largest number of Democratic voters. The same objection lies to the selection of the two or the three highest in the first primary. This would enable the two or the three largest counties to crowd out the weaker ones, though the aggregate vote in those weaker ones might exceed that of the two or the three highest.

The Greenville News suggests the following plan:

Let the primary elections be held, free to all Democratic voters, directly for candidates. Let the one who receives the greatest number of votes be the nominee, provided that his number is not less than one-third of the total number cast. If nobody receives so many, let each county executive committee select delegates to a Congressional convention, allowing each candidate one delegate for every 500 votes and fraction of that number exceeding 200 that he may have received in his county. Then let the delegates meet, select by ballot three names from the list of candidates voted for and submit those names to the people for a second election, he who receives the largest vote being declared the nominee.

This scheme contemplates, in the first place, the selection of a candidate by a minority. This might far more objectionable than a nomination by a convention, and far less likely to embody the popular will. In the next place, it is suggested that the county executive committees respectively choose delegates to a nominating convention. These delegates, we think, should, in every instance, be chosen by the clubs themselves or by a convention composed of delegates chosen by the clubs. Finally, the plan of the News looks to a choice by a plurality vote—which, as we have already said, seems to us no more certain to express the people's preference than a convention.

The nearest practicable approach to a primary would be to have the delegates to the nominating convention elected in each county by the Democratic voters directly, instead of

choosing them through a county convention. And this, it would certainly appear, would accomplish little more than to do the county conventions as at present constituted.

The primary system is certainly the right one. But it is well-nigh impossible to extend its advantages beyond the several county organizations. The next best plan is to exercise such care in the selection of the delegates to the nominating convention that they will all be free from improper considerations and that their decision shall indeed be the will of the people themselves. Let the different counties look well to the choice of their delegations, and there will be no need to trouble ourselves about a primary.

TEXT BOOKS.
Messrs. Editors: My attention has just been called to the communication of "A Teacher" in your weekly paper of the 23rd of January, in which it is said: "The Appletons agree, if the Board (i. e., the County Board of Examiners) recommend (virtually adopt) their books, that they will be so favorable unto us as to sign a contract to let their books remain at introductory prices for five years." This is a mistake. The Appletons have never agreed, have never proposed, to do anything. They do contract to furnish their books at introductory and exchange prices for ninety (90) days from the opening of the schools, and they guarantee that the retail prices of their books shall not be increased during the period of the adoption. A copy of this contract was left with the County School Commissioner, and can be seen at any time by any of your readers who may be interested.

"A Teacher" has much to say in well-merited praise of the gentlemen who compose our State Board of Examiners. From this no one of our readers can dissent. As to the action of the State Board in adopting four sets of Readers there may be much difference of opinion. Many think that the purpose of a State adoption is to secure uniformity of text-books in the schools of this State, and that this uniformity cannot be secured by the adoption of so many different books.

"A Teacher" says: "A publishing house is sending an agent to the different County Boards of Examiners asking them to purchase his books. If as is well known, THE NEWS AND HERALD has been a strong advocate of the former system for the past seven years. The single question we now have about using this system for selecting the Democratic candidates for Congress, is as to its adaptability to this class of nominations. The first trouble that we see is that the different counties probably have very different standards, in determining who are entitled to vote in the primaries. In Fairfield, before one can vote in the Democratic primary he must be a regularly enrolled member of some recognized club, must have voted the Democratic ticket at the regular election next preceding the primary (unless under age or unavoidably prevented), and must pledge himself to abide by and support all nominations made by the Democratic party, whether for Federal, State or local officers. In many counties some, perhaps all, of these requirements are disregarded. In some counties a majority of all the votes cast in the primary is necessary to nominate, while in others a plurality is sufficient. Indeed, in many particular the regulations are varied in the different counties, to meet the views or the necessities of the party. Of course, in order to nominate a Congressman, there should be one set of rules in force in all the counties composing the district; and this, it appears to us, would be next to impossible.

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Under the Daikes.
I have just been learning the lesson of life.
The sweet, and lesson of loving.
And all that teaches for pleasure or pain
Been slowly, sadly proving.
All the things that I have dreamed of
And that I have longed for
Are a handful of dust and a coffin lid—
A coffin under the daikes.

And so I am glad that we lived as we did
Through the summer of life together.
And one of us tried and lay down to rest,
For the coming of winter weather.
For the sadness of life is its growing cold,
Yet 'tis one of its surest phases,
So I thank my God with a breaking heart,
For the coffin under the daikes.

And thus forever throughout the world
I love a sorrow proving
There are many sorrowful things in life
But the saddest of all is loving.
Life often divides far wider than death,
And it often raises
But better far than two hearts estranged,
Is a coffin under the daikes.

CROOKED DEPUTY.
Inspector Ballin Gives Further Insight Into the Crookedness of South Carolina Marshals and Deputies.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 21.—Ralph Ballin in his testimony to-day before the committee investigating expenditures in the Department of Justice, said that there were more than sixty deputy marshals in South Carolina. He said he had examined the accounts of more than thirty of them and found that two-thirds of these had made false and fraudulent statements. He also testified that he had examined into official conduct of United States Marshal Blythe, of that State, and found that he had ignored the instructions of the Department and the laws enacted by Congress for the guidance of marshals and disbursing officers, that he was personally responsible for reporting only one-fifth of the amount of fees and commissions earned in civil cases. He had frequently transmitted to the Treasury Department to be allowed in his favor receipts and vouchers from witnesses of the United States and jailors in charge of prisoners without having paid to such creditors of the United States the full amount specified in such receipts and vouchers, and had made untrue statements in explanation of the reasons why he did not pay their claims, that he had applied money intrusted to him for purposes other than those intended in the act used in the appropriation, that he had rendered to the Department weekly itemized reports of the disbursements which did not show all the payments made and the weekly statement of the public funds in which he reported fictitious balances, and that he had knowingly prepared to the Treasury Department for approval accounts for fees and expenses of deputy marshals containing false and fraudulent items and had given an excuse that he did not examine the receipts when he made oath as to their correctness.

Ballin also testified that twenty-seven deputy marshals had rendered false, fraudulent and fictitious accounts for services rendered by them. The following names were given: C. E. Phillips, John A. Stevens, Alfred Harris, J. Pearson, Wm. M. Mattag, Wm. Bridges, A. G. Smith, C. A. Carson, J. E. Sage, C. W. Cummings, J. Turner, M. S. Alexander, W. P. Gray, J. W. Kennedy, E. Evans, T. R. Fisher, W. C. Fisher, R. J. Sprattley, M. L. Case, R. M. Case, J. B. Dill, T. J. Barrister, W. D. Good.

THE MEXICAN VETERANS.
Proceedings in the House of Representatives, on the Bill to Give Them Pensions.

WASHINGTON, February 18.—In the House this morning the rules were suspended and a resolution was adopted providing for night sessions on Friday evenings for the consideration of pension bills. Three motions to adjourn were voted down. The pension committee was called, and Mr. Hewitt, of Alabama, moved to suspend the rules and adopt a resolution making the Mexican pension bill the special order for the 21st inst. On this motion many Republicans refrained from voting, thus leaving the House without a quorum. A call of the House was ordered and the sergeant-at-arms was ordered to take the absentees into custody and bring them before the bar of the House.

The House, at 10 p. m., was still filibustering, no business being transacted.

At 1:45 a. m. the House was still engaged calling the roll and bringing in absent members, with every prospect that daylight will find it similarly employed.

WASHINGTON, February 19.—The House remained in session all night, and at 8:15 this morning, the Democrats having secured a quorum and further proceeding under the call having been dispensed with, the question returned on seconding the motion made by Mr. Hewitt, of Alabama, to suspend the rules and adopt a resolution making the Mexican pension bill the special order for the 21st inst., which was seconded, 165 to 1.

The House was in no mood for a thirty minutes' debate by the rules, and Mr. Warren, of Ohio, simply expressed opposition to the bill because he thought it would be unwise to change the ground of pensions from disability to service. The resolution was adopted—yeas 174, nays 35. The announcement of the result was received with applause on the Democratic side, and the House, at 8:55, adjourned.

A GREAT FLOOD IN CALIFORNIA.
Hundreds of Miles of Railroad Track Washed Away.

SAN FRANCISCO, February 20.—A great storm on Sunday night caused a dam in Los Angeles River to burst, producing the most disastrous flood ever experienced. The lower part of the city was completely inundated and hundreds of families were obliged to abandon their homes and seek shelter on the hills. The loss amounts to \$150,000. From Los Angeles to Mojave, a distance of one hundred miles, hardly a mile of the Southern Pacific Railroad remains in place, and east to San Francisco, eighty miles, the devastation is equally great. The California Southern Road from Colton to San Diego is also washed out in many places. Travel in all directions is suspended. It will probably be two months before communications can be properly established. Reports received from towns in the southern portion of the San Joaquin Valley announce the heaviest floods ever known in that section.

THE HOUSEWIFE.
A popular domestic journal for American homes, will be sent for one year free to every lady who will send three names and address of 10 married ladies, and 30 cents in one cent stamps for postage. Best paper for either young or old housekeepers is supplied. This is made only to secure names to whom to send sample copies, as we know every lady who once sees THE HOUSEWIFE will subscribe for it. Regular price \$1.00 per year. Address, THE HOUSEWIFE, Rochester, N. Y.

A Special from Clintonville, Wis., says that St. Joseph's Catholic church and school at Kenosha was burned at three o'clock on Saturday morning. Seventy pupils and six sisters escaped in their night clothes, a number of narrow escapes being made. The loss is not stated.

C. BART & CO.,
CLEARLINGTON, S. C.
THE LARGEST IMPORTERS OF FOREIGN FRUITS IN THE SOUTH, OFFER
FOR SALE A WELL SELECTED STOCK OF
Apples, Lemons, Oranges, Raisins, Bananas, Dried Figs, Cocoanuts,
Lemons, Potatoes, Cabbages, Peanuts, Onions, Nuts,
And Everything Else that a First-Class Wholesale Fruit Store
Should Have.
COUNTRY ORDERS FILLED WITH DISPATCH.
Oct 24-26m

REMEMBER.
The buyer of our house, Mr. J. L. Minnaugh, has left for the Northern markets to purchase our SPRING STOCK, and in a few days we will be receiving new attractions, which we will take much pleasure in showing those who may favor us with a call.
Respectfully,
J. L. MINNAUGH.

A GREAT BANKRUPT SALE AT THE GERIG BUILDING.
\$2500 WORTH OF CLOTHING AT 10% NEW YORK COST.
A LARGE LOT OF JACKETS, CLOAKS, HALF PRICE.
DRESS GOODS AT 10% AT CO.
GREAT BARGAINS IN B. CAPS,
BLANKETS, QUILTS AND COMFORTS TO BE SOLD REGARDLESS OF COST.

These goods must be sold to make room for SPRING STOCK. The public may think we are only passing, when we offer to sacrifice these goods at such prices. We can afford it. We bought this stock of \$8,000 at fifty-five cents on the dollar. Come and see and price the goods, and you will surely be convinced.
Respectfully,
A. WILLIFORD & CO.

NEW FALL AND WINTER STOCK
L. SAMUELS.

RESTAURANT!
FRESH OYSTERS EVERY DAY.
I BEG TO ANNOUNCE TO THE public that I have taken charge of the store one door north of that of Messrs. W. R. Doty & Co., where I shall conduct a FIRST-CLASS RESTAURANT. All the delicacies in season will be kept on hand, and will be served in the best style. I will also keep on a good stock of Cigars, Cigarettes, Tobacco, Pipes, Canned Goods, Etc. THE PUBLIC PATRONAGE IS REQUESTED.
Jan 24-13m
FREDERICK BOLDT.

B. JUGENHEIMER
HAS REMOVED HIS BAR ROOM TO RIDGEWAY, S. C.
Where he will always keep on hand a fine assortment of liquors, including XXXX GIBSON RYE, OLD CROW WHISKEY, SWEET MASH CORN, N. C. CORN WHISKEY, Together with all grades of Wine, Gin, etc., etc.
All goods sold at COLUMBIA AND CHARLOTTE PRICES.
LAGER BEER AT \$1.00 per Dozen.
ORDERS SOLICITED.
SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.
Jan 8-
ONCE MORE.

THE LIGHT-RUNNING "DOMESTIC"
That it is the acknowledged Leader in the Trade is a fact that cannot be disputed.
MANY IMITATE IT—NONE EQUAL IT!
The Largest Armed. The Lightest Running. The most Beautiful Woodwork. AND IT IS WARRANTED.
To be made of the best material. To do any and all kinds of work. To be complete in every respect.
For Sale by J. M. BEATY & CO., Winnsboro, S. C. Agents wanted in unoccupied territory. Address DOMESTIC SEWING MACHINE CO., Richmond, Virginia.

WANTED.
COTTON SEED! COTTON SEED!!
I will pay (15c.) fifteen cents cash per Bushel for 10,000 Bushels SOUND DRY COTTON SEED, delivered to me at this place before the first of next November. Will exchange Cotton Seed Meal for Cotton Seed.
Oct 17-23m
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J. M. BULLIOTT, GERMANKAINIT
AND OTHER FERTILIZERS!
TONS GENUINE GERMAN KAINIT, direct importation, and all other Fertilizers for sale by J. MANN BULWINKLE, Kerr's Wharf, Charleston, S. C. Dec 23-30m