THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

WILMINGTON, N. C.,

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1, 1869.

Justice—New England and the Indian vs. New England and the Negro.

After all New England's humanity, and which she puffs herself daily, she finds never a thought for the poor Indian. Her voice of condolence for all her treachery to him is her other side of civilization—Extermination! Nothing can be done with them. We want their lands! We must have them! We will expend no treasure on them to bring them into the fold of religion and civilization. She can make nothing out of them. Yet, De Smit, the distinguished Jesuit missionary, who has devoted his whole life for the last quarter of a century in teaching them husbandry and the useful arts, finds that if servants of the Government, *faithful* servants, were sent to them, much of the war that is now being waged would have never been begun. New England finds it to her selfish interest to send her *daughters* and her *sons* to live in social harmony with the negroes of the South. We make no objection.—Tastes must not be disputed. But why can't she find it in the bosom of her *mercy*, in the infinitude of her *charity*, in the sublimity of her *sanctity*, in her limitless treasury, to send to those poor untutored savages emissaries of peace and not of war. Ah, no. That would be dispensing from her coffers without an expectancy.

The Amnesty Proclamation.

The Baltimore *Sun* of the 28th instant, remarks that the proclamation of the President, to which we referred on Friday, of general and unconditional amnesty to all who participated in the resistance to the government in the late civil war, seems to meet with a responsive echo in public sentiment, except among those whose political interests lie in the direction of keeping open the gap that the war has made, and not permitting the influence even to heal its wounds. But that great mass of citizens who, whatever their party names, sincerely desire the restoration of unity between the various sections of a common country, will rejoice that this great act has been performed, so as to secure "permanent peace, order and prosperity throughout the land." Unconditionally all who took up arms against the United States, or adhered to its enemies during the late civil war, are pardoned, though this is supposed to have no effect on other than political offenses. The last proclamation of amnesty—that of the 4th of July—left unpardoned only a few prominent civil and military officers of the Confederacy, such as President Davis, Gen. Lee, and others, but they, as well as all others, are embraced in the provisions of the present proclamation, which relieves them from prosecutions for treason, though not from disabilities incurred under the fourteenth amendment of the Constitution. The President's power to pardon is a constitutional prerogative conferred upon him by the second section of the first article of the Constitution. In 1862, July 17, an act was passed containing a section authorizing the President, at any time thereafter, by proclamation, to extend amnesty and pardon, but this section was repealed by an act which passed the House December 3, 1866, and the Senate January 7, 1867. The section repealed was, in reality, only affirmatory of the constitutional power, and no legislation of Congress could either add to or diminish his constitutional authority in that regard. The act of 1862 was designed mainly, it is believed, to announce a policy at that time on the part of the government, as an inducement to those in arms against it to return to allegiance. The next step, in the case of those under indictment, will be for the proper officer of the court to move the dismissal of the indictments, and thus the last formality will be accomplished, by which the merciful operation of universal amnesty will be made complete.

This crowning act of executive clemency and of wise and beneficent statesmanship will give a lustre to Mr. Johnson's administration which will only grow brighter with the lapse of time, when its beneficent results have an opportunity to display themselves, if Congress will refrain from adding new elements of discord to sectional passions, and carry out in good faith the sentiment upon which the incoming President was elected, "Let us have peace."—It is scarcely more a matter of congratulation that President Johnson has issued a proclamation of universal amnesty, than that the condition of public sentiment upon the subject has become such as to warrant him in that important step. The same public sentiment calls upon Congress and the next administration to pursue a policy in accordance with the standard of peace reconciliation which has been set up. The people desire to see amnesty extended by the general and State governments in the universal removal of disfranchisements and disabilities from those who now labor under them, so that the country may begin once more a career of restoration, material and financial, as well as political, and surpassing in prosperity and power the brighest era of its former prosperity.

From the N. Y. Herald December 25.

It has come at last. The universal pardon to the participants in our late Southern rebellion, which President Johnson had been a long time contemplating, was reduced to a proclamation the day before Christmas, so that on this great day of "peace and good will to men" it might be published to the world. It is the President's Christmas gift, "unconditionally and without reservation, to all and every person who, directly or indirectly, participated in the late insurrection or rebellion," of "a full pardon and amnesty for the offence of treason against the United States, or of adhering to the enemies thereof in the late civil war, with a restoration of all rights, privileges and immunities under the Constitution and the laws made in pursuance thereof."

This new free list embraces such hitherto unpardoned Confederates as Jeff. Davis, Breckinridge, Mason, Slidell, Benjamin, Jacob Thompson and other Southern exiles, and throws open the doors of the United States on all sides for their return home whenever they please. Best of all, it puts an end to the farce of the Jeff Davis trial, and releases Messrs. Greeley, Gerrit Smith, John Minor Botts *et al.* of their bail bonds for the due appearance of said Davis before court when called for.—For all practical purposes, so far as his trial is concerned, he might as well have been pardoned a year or two ago. Considering the fact, however, that the capture of Davis, under the President's proclamation of May, 1865, cost the government a hundred thousand dollars, it is probable that Mr. Johnson thought it expedient to get the worth of his money out of his prisoner before finally releasing him.

This present proclamation restores to Davis and company all their rights, privileges and immunities under the Constitution and laws of the United States, but this does not restore these men to their status as citizens in full communion. The President's full and unconditional pardon only restores the leaders of the rebellion to their rights as private citizens, for they can only be restored to the right to hold an office of any sort, civil or military, State or national, by a two-thirds vote of each house of Congress. And section five of said amendment says that Congress shall have power to enforce its provisions by appropriate legislation.

Not even the Union Leagues, then, can reasonably object to this sweeping amnesty proclamation, and we doubt not that the general public judgment concerning it will be that it is a good thing. We consider it doubtful, however, whether Davis, Mason and Slidell will avail themselves of the privileges of their pardon to return home, in view of the abomination of universal Southern negro suffrage, and the universal reign here of Yankee notions.

Truck Farming.

We desire to call special attention to the interesting and practical report from the committee to take into consideration the cultivation of Fruits and Vegetables, made to the recent meeting of the Cape Fear Agricultural Association in this city, and published in our columns this morning. This business is destined to become one of absorbing interest and great success in this section at an early day, and if the present owners of lands do not immediately avail themselves of the advantages which climate and rapid transportation have placed in their hands, then others will grow rich from their want of energy and enterprise. Nature has done all for us that we could ask. Our lands are adapted to almost any crop, and the salubrity of our climate aids the fertility of our soil. Cotton, rice, ground peas, corn and other standard crops, can be grown with success in fields adjoining the finest orchards and vineyards and truck farms in the world. It requires only intelligent energy to make this whole section of country "blossom as the rose." Will we do it? Will we be deterred by partial failures caused by want of experience and reliable labor? These are comparatively small obstacles in the way of assured success, and we deserve to fail if they prove stumbling blocks in our path.

Let our farmers preserve a copy of this report. It contains valuable information derived from experienced men. It deals not in generalities, but points the way to practical results. We have the assurance that our railroads will make reliable arrangements to transport with certainty and without delay, all the fruits and vegetables which come to them. Published schedules will keep all advised as to departure of the trains, and in no way will failure of theirs interfere with the success of the producer, but all energies will be bent to foster this growing business. Let our farmers give this matter a fair and thorough trial, and they may rely upon the assurance that success will depend upon their own exertions, and that their labors will not be deprived of any remuneration through the carelessness or neglect of others.

Good News from the South.

The Mobile *Register* says that within the last thirty days cotton plantation acres have risen three hundred per cent in value. The present crop will pay the planters all out of debt, and leave them such cash surpluses as they never rejoiced in in the old slave times.

Prize Story.

The Norfolk *Day Book* offers a prize of one hundred dollars for the best original romance, novellet, or story, that may be offered. No restrictions are placed on the writer as to the subject, except the exclusion of sectional politics and antipathies. Stories not connected with the late war preferred, but not excluded if they are devoid of sectional feeling. It is desired to have the story at hand by the middle of February. It must cover three or four hundred pages of foolscap, written at least eight words to a line. The Editor reserves the privilege to publish any or all of the other stories on the payment of twenty-five dollars. Further particulars can be obtained by addressing the Editor of the *Day Book*.

For the Journal.

The Cultivation of Fruits and Vegetables.

The committee to whom was referred the subject of the cultivation of fruits and vegetables respectfully report—

That they have given the subject all the consideration that they were able to bestow upon it, and submit very briefly their views.

We have selected from the great variety of fruits, grapes and vegetables the kinds that have been found to be best suited to our climate and soil, and, while there are many other varieties that may be cultivated with profit, the varieties we describe will amply repay their production and will generally be found most profitable.

We give the following directions as given by Messrs. Cannon & Co.:

PEARS—We plant 200 Dwarf pears to an acre. They cost about 40 cents each. After third year will average one bushel to the tree, and will *always* net $10 per bushel—sent in bushel boxes.

PEACHES—We plant 100 to the acre. They cost about $100 per thousand. After the second year they will average one bushel to the tree, and will sell from $2 to $10 per bushel. This season the Georgia peaches sold out of the New York steamers at $20 per bushel. Wilmington peaches arrive there in much better condition and, if improved varieties are planted, will sell as well or better—sent in bushel boxes.

STRAWBERRIES—We put out 10,000 plants to the acre, which cost about $4 per 1,000, an average yield of 3,000 quarts to the acre, which sell for $1 50 per quart for the earliest and 10 cents for the latest—the average net at Norfolk this year being 30 cents per quart—beginning here May 10th and ending June 10th. Parties have cleared $1,000 an acre this year—in pint and quart baskets.

BLACKBERRIES—Most desirable is Wilson's early for the South. Their average yield is 2,500 quarts per acre, and, this year and last, those sent from Jersey shore averaged over 40 cents per quart. They require but little cultivation, it being done entirely with the plow. 2,000 vines are generally set to the acre, and they remain in good bearing condition for 20 or 30 years. They ripen immediately after the Strawberries, and they are stripped in the same boxes and crates used for Strawberries.

PEAS.—Peas should be planted in January at Wilmington, 1½ bushels to the acre. The Hancock Pea is best. Price $10 per bushel. Average yield 60 to 90 barrels in hull to barrel (3 bushels) seed planted.—Price $15 for early, to $5 for late—average about $10—sent in ventilated barrels.

SNAPS.—Plant as early as possible after frost is over in Spring—1 bushel to acre. Early Valentine is preferable—costs about $16 per bushel and yields about 100 for one, and sells for about the same as peas—sent in ventilated barrels.

TOMATOES.—Always plant the seed of the *large, smooth red*—never plant any other. The seed must be sown early in January, in hot-beds—must be set out as early as the frost will permit, and be planted about 4 feet by 4 feet, or 2,500 to the acre: earliest sell for $10 per bushel, then down to $1 for the latest, and averaging here $200 to the acre. Always shipped in slatted boxes containing 1 bushel.

CUCUMBERS.—Plant the Early Frame as soon as frost will permit, in Spring. Manure highly in the hill, send to market in 1 bushel slatted baskets; earliest sell for $20 per bushel from Florida, and $10 per bushel from here this year. They are usually planted 4 by 4 feet, or 2,500 to the acre.

IRISH POTATOES.—Plant the Early Goodrich Dikeman and White Sprout, average yield of the Goodrich 35 bushels for one, the other varieties about half that quantity; earliest bring about $8 per barrel, and the latest about $5. This year the average net yield to the acre here was $200.

RASPBERRIES—We think will not ship from Wilmington.

GRAPES.—Plant the Concord, Hartford and Clinton cuttings, about 400 vines to the acre. They cost about $60 per 1,000—After second year they will yield half bushel to the vine, and will sell from 10 to 20 cents per pound, shipped in paper and wood boxes holding from two to five pounds to a box.

The foregoing directions for planting and the prospective increase are given for what they are worth, and we hope they will be found valuable to our farmers.

Assuming that what has been done elsewhere, can be done here, in the fruit and vegetable culture, and in many cases far better here than elsewhere, let us look at the results in some of the cases given.

PEARS—Will yield an average of one bushel to the tree after the third year and will readily bring ten dollars per bushel, and with 200 trees to the acre we can see a gross income of $2,000 per acre, and not less than $1,500 net income to the acre. As a practical fact, half an acre of pear trees, ten years old, upon the Eastern Shore of Maryland, have produced for the last three years fruit of the annual value of $800.

PEACHES—After the second year will average one bushel to the tree, and will sell at an average of $5 per bushel, and early ones for not less than $10 per bushel, say 125 trees to the acre, we have from $650 to $1,000 income per acre, or say an average of $700 per acre net income.

STRAWBERRIES—Yield about 3,000 quarts to the acre and over; early ones will average half a dollar a quart or $1,500 an acre, but $700 to $800 net income.

BLACKBERRIES—Will yield about 2,500 quarts to the acre and will bring 40 cents per quart, or $700 to $1,000 per acre, and require but very little cultivation. The vines will last twenty to thirty years.

They ripen in our climate directly after the strawberries, and go to market in the same crates and boxes.

RASPBERRIES—Can be cultivated here to great advantage, but it has been thought they cannot be transported in good condition to market.

We think, however, that they will be cultivated and means for their transportation will be provided after a while.

They will yield about as abundantly as blackberries and sell at higher prices.

GRAPES—Will yield the largest income of any of the fruits per acre, and to follow out the facts to a conclusion seems so much like the fables of the Arabian Nights that few are disposed to believe the half that is told them. They produce 18,000 pounds to the acre—a fair average for good lands—and sell them as we readily can do, if early in market, at 20 (twenty) cents per pound, and we have $3,600 for the income of a single acre.

If we make wine, say 1,200 gallons to the acre, we can readily see how large an income per acre can be realized even at fifty (50) cents per gallon.

The yield from peas, tomatoes, cucumbers and Irish potatoes will vary from $500 to $900 per acre.

Therefore we can all see that there is money in great abundance in the culture of all these articles, if we will go into the business intelligently and with a determination to succeed.

We must not put our hands to the plow and look back. We must not, in other words, give up a work so great and so valuable because of a few failures in the outset; because we do not fully understand the work to be done.

This work is destined at no distant day to make our section prosperous and thrifty. It will bring to our aid the most reliable white labor, as well as all the industrious colored laborers that are disposed to make an honest and thrifty population, and we want no other kind.

Your committee could dwell upon this subject at much greater length and tell you what a Future there is before us, but we will close with a few remarks upon the question of labor that we need most here, and what the country can sustain.

It has been estimated by an English writer that our whole Southern country contained previous to the late civil war but about two and-a-half millions of laborers, and yet the Southern States of America alone exported in value of its products, more than any country on the globe, except Great Britain, and if we except her manufactories, more than any country. All this in the very face of the great labor producing countries of Europe and their aid.

Now, suppose we could bring to our shores—to the Old North State—half a million of industrious producers (foreign or native) and employ them or help them to employ themselves in the growth of the articles we have been describing? What a change would soon be wrought in our condition!

Without diminishing the cultivation of the great staples, cotton, corn and tobacco, we could send to market millions of dollars worth of truck and fruit from lands that are now looked upon as worthless, or of but little value.

I have been informed within a day or two by persons knowing the facts, that the strawberry crop of the vicinity of Norfolk, Va., will reach one million of dollars this year. If they can reach such results, what can we do? What can be done on the line of this railway reaching to Weldon, with arms (branches) to Morehead City and the Roanoke on one side, and to the base of the Atlantic slope on the other!

The question has often been asked, will we not overstock the market and reduce the prices? To this we might reply yes, when we can dip the Atlantic dry with a tin cup.

It should be borne in mind that the Southern production of fruit and vegetables tends rather to increase than diminish the demand.

As soon as the prices justify, all these articles are transported North, West and East of the great central markets, and it is only a question of *supply*, how far they can be carried. The market cannot be overstocked. The consuming population increases much faster than the production extends itself. We may therefore rest assured that the supply can never reach—in our time—the demand.

We have but one great question to consider, and that is *labor*—skilled labor with a sufficient number of assistants in gathering the crops. Time will solve this for us in a very short time.

Let us all unite, then, with a determination to make this work a success *now*, and the profits are ours. If we only engage in it feebly, we shall fail, and others will come after us and reap the reward due only to the faithful and the persevering.

S. L. FREMONT,
H. H. ROBINSON,
For the Committee.

STATE NEWS

SUDDEN DEATH OF A MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATURE.—Mr. Richard Short, member of the House of Representatives from Pitt, died at his mother's residence in Nash, while on his return home from Raleigh on the 21st of December, at 4 o'clock, A. M., of heart disease. He lived but a few minutes after being attacked.

DEATH OF A STUDENT.—Mr. James Pruden, a most promising young gentleman from Hertford, a student at the University of Virginia, died on the 24th instant of congestive chills.

FIRE.—Shocco Springs Hotel, in Warren county, with all the west row of "cabins," was consumed on Friday night last by fire. It is supposed to have been the work of an incendiary, as no one occupied the buildings at the time. The loss of the proprietor, Mr. Sessoms, is about $30,000.

Raleigh *Sentinel*.

THE Silver Wave, the new little steamer that runs between Weldon and Norfolk, brought up on a late trip ninety-four bales of cotton.

DEAD.—Wm. K. Lane, Esq., an old and estimable citizen of Goldsboro', died at his residence on Sunday night last of dropsy.

Goldsboro' *Messenger*.

GOLDSBORO'.—The Radicals have nominated the following ticket for town officers: Mayor, J. B. Whitaker; Commissioners, H. L. Grant, General J. B. Cox, and Larry Nixon, colored.

ANOTHER FIRE.—On Christmas morning, about sun rise, our citizens were again startled by the alarm of fire. The fire was found issuing from the row of buildings on Market Square, immediately in rear of those burned last week. By dint of great exertions on the part of firemen and citizens, the progress of the flames was arrested but not until damage was done to the amount of probably $2,000, to say nothing of the loss incurred by the removal of goods, &c. A careful investigation of the source of the fire leads to the opinion that it originated in the store occupied by Jeff C. Fisher, Esq., from a defective flue in the second story.

The property injured embraced three stores, occupied respectively by Messrs. Parker and Fisher, Family Grocers, and Mr. Levy, Ready Made Clothier, &c., and owned by Messrs. W. H. & R. S. Tucker. These latter gentlemen, with their usual admirable business sagacity and foresight, were fully insured in the Underwriters' Co., (John G. Williams, Esq., Agent).—From what we know of their promptness, energy and enterprize, they will at once put their property into better and more substantial condition than ever.

We have not heard what loss was caused by the removal of goods, &c. We are pleased to believe, however, that it is probably but slight, and that the worthy gentlemen, who have been inconvenienced by the fire, will at once resume business elsewhere.—Raleigh *Sentinel*.

CHRISTMAS TREES.—We are glad to learn that the pupils of the N. C. Institution for the Deaf and Dumb and the Blind had a merry time on Christmas night. After partaking of an elegant supper, the pupils and a number of visitors, assembled in the Chapel, where two Christmas trees had been prepared. They were full of presents, and, being brilliantly lighted with wax tapers, presented a beautiful appearance. This treat was purchased through the liberality of visitors to the last exhibition, and others, and enabled these unfortunate ones, who were deprived of the pleasure of going home to spend a pleasant Christmas, to realize the full enjoyment of the happy season here.

The scholars of the Sunday School attached to Christ Church, (Episcopal,) in this city, were also gladdened with a superb Christmas tree, the bough: of which were richly laden with presents—feasting their eyes, filling their pockets and making their little hearts glad and merry.

And yet again we learn that a handsome Christmas tree was erected in the Female Department of the Lunatic Asylum, for the gratification of the unfortunates of that noble Institution. These things are well and cannot be too highly commended

Raleigh *Sentinel*.

Special Correspondence of the Baltimore Gazette.

General Grant's Peculiar Friends—The Tenure-of-office Bill—A Gauzy Subterfuge—Leading Senators Standing Aloof—The "Situation" at Washington—Cabinet Appointments—The Gazette and the Proclamation of Amnesty—His Next Act of Justice—What They Think of Him in Tennessee.

WASHINGTON, Dec., 28, 1868.

The peculiar friends of General Grant are becoming alarmed at the signs of the times. For the purpose of dissuading the leading spirits from any premature hostility, they hasten to asseverate in the strongest terms the abject submission to the will and superior judgment of Congress of the incoming hero and conqueror. "So far," say they, "from having expressed an emphatic opinion in favor of the repeal of the Civil-Tenure law, General Grant to-day, in reference to a published statement to which his attention had been called, said he had not given any attention to the subject, as he thought the matter properly belonged to Congress, which body understood the question better than he did himself." The *Chronicle*, whose editor knows the falsity of this statement, as it stands, nevertheless copies it, for the purpose of insinuating a few words of comfort to the General, and at the same time preparing him for additional Congressional manacles. It says:

"If there is a desire to retain the Tenure-of-Office act upon the statute books, it will only be in order to preserve the check it would impose upon a bad President at some future day, and it will undoubtedly receive all modifications which may be needed to enable President Grant to proceed untrammeled in the grand work of overhauling the civil service."

The meaning of this paragraph is, that Senators will not part with an iota of power they now possess; but that, inasmuch as the Senate has somewhat tied its own hands, as well as those of the President, by the act of March 2, 1867, it will consent to such modifications of the law as will enable Congress to proceed at once with "the grand work of overhauling the civil service." In other words, as the law now stands, it will be found difficult to reach a certain class of incumbents. This must be remedied—but in a way that will increase the preponderance of Senatorial authority! The subterfuge, I own, is gauzy, but it is thought to be quite compact enough to blind the "hero" for the present.

In the meantime, Senators who hold the power of the State in the hollow of their hands, keep aloof from the General.—This course does not show a proper spirit on their part, nor is it justified by consideration of delicacy or honor. Besides it is embarrassing. General Grant would like, no doubt, above all things to be accorded the nominal power of the earlier Presidents. He would like to play the part of a second Jackson, but I verily believe with the *Chronicle*, that he would, in the event of being trusted, ultimately and willingly surrender all substantial power to Congress—that in reality "he does not give any attention" to such subjects, and that he is well aware "that Congress understands these questions better than he does himself." Nevertheless the coolness perceptible between the high parties is very annoying to correspondents. The President elect is a novice in political etiquette. Yet grave Senators "stand upon ceremony!" and so things are kept in a state of betweenity. In respect to the formation of a Cabinet, there is every reason to believe that the General "has not given any attention to the subject!" There can be little doubt, however, that the Senate will force Sumner into the State Department, Wade into the Interior, and Carpenter into the Department of Justice as Attorney General.

Your remarks on Saturday morning upon the President's Proclamation were spoken of to-day in political circles as eminently just and suitable. The suggestion that Mr. Johnson should take another step, and clear the dungeons everywhere of political prisoners (what else are those at the Dry Tortugas!) I heard particularly referred to in important quarters. The opinion is entertained by intelligent friends of the President, that he will shortly (at least before his term of office expires) add that piece of justice to the many obligations the country has been placed under to his patriotic administration. In this place I may say, *en passant*, that according to accounts from Tennessee, the President's political life is not likely to close with his present term of the Presidency. The people of that State, I am assured, are anxious to "do him honor," and will seize the first occasion to manifest their high appreciation of his character and conduct.

Federal and Confederate.

Now that the army reunion is over, we wish to suggest that all future reunions shall embrace the representative men of both armies—the Federal and Confederate. Some of the Speakers, during the late reunion, urged that the war be forgotten; and one of the prominent toasts included a sentiment whose expression was: "The South—let us be friends." In view of these facts, and these desires on the part of many of our officers, the suggestion of a fraternal meeting of the blue and gray cannot but be regarded as very opposite, and as one which will meet the views of a large majority of our gallant soldiers.

Grant and Lee; Sherman and Johnston; Thomas and Hood; Butler and Beauregard—all seated on the stage of the opera house, in couples, would be a thrilling and most effective tableau. It would be the best possible exemplification of Grant's motto: "Let us have peace." As one fancies each one of these couples rising, hand on heart, in response to the commingled yells of the antagonists in the late unpleasantness, he becomes suffused with emotion over this grand exhibition of unity, fraternity, and soldierly regard and frankness.

Admitting the representatives of the old Confederate armies to a participation in these reunions would have the effect to tone down what may be termed the somewhat obstreperous character of the present gatherings. Now, when a patriot and hero, like Logan, mounts the rostrum at one of these reunions, he is very liable to slip over. Logan's desire for slaughter is insatiable. He keeps right on killing rebels by the thousand, just as he did when he was at the head of his *corps*. He will not let up. It is kill, kill with him, like an Asiatic running a muck. At the banquet the other night he led a score of forlorn hopes; he charged over a dozen impregnable breastworks; he slaughtered whole hecatombs of rebels; he spattered the ceiling and wall, and deluged the floors and seats with rebel gore.

Now, if Lee or Johnston had been there, Logan would have spared his auditory the horror of so much killing. His well-known courtesy, his scrupulous regard for the feelings of others, would have prevented his turning the Chamber of Commerce into a slaughter pen. The same effect would have occurred in the case of other speakers. Among several of them, there was an uncontrollable disposition to pull out their sabres and to hack a few hundred or thousand rebels into mincemeat.

All this would have been avoided had the audience been half-and-half, and the galaxy, at the head of the room, of the same mixed materials. It is so easy to cut a man in pieces when he is a thousand miles away, that a good many pugnacious heroes cannot resist such an opportunity to annihilate somebody. One is apt to be more careful and a trifle less valorous and boastful when his antagonist fronts him, point to point.

Besides saving a vast amount of bloodshed, the presence of our late antagonists would have other beneficial results. Their presence would have the effect to prevent the formation of rings among ex-army officers with a view of turning a reunion into a high-pressure engine for the purpose of working the appointments to office. Instead of turning, with a gorgeous compliment and a profound salaam to the general, every eight seconds, the speakers, by the presence of their gallant antagonists, would be chivalric enough to speak of the gallantry of their late opponents, and the reason why such heroes as themselves and such heroic men as their antagonists should live in peace and unity.

We hope to see an early adoption of our suggestion. Let the next reunion be held in Chicago, and let Lee and Sherman be invited to jointly preside, and Thomas, Hood, Johnston, Sheridan, Butterfield, Slocum and Forest be invited to act as vice-presidents.—Chicago *Times*.

From the Montgomery Mail.

A Good Hit at the Hub.

The town was laughing yesterday at the reply of General Clanton to a toast offered to "Boston" at a supper given night before last to the Boston capitalists who have gotten possession of the Alabama and Chattanooga Railroad. The General being called on to reply to a toast to "Boston," said he was happy to pay his respects to a city which had just elected a Democratic Mayor, which was the cradle of the Ku-Klux-Klan, in having originated that first disguised band which threw the tea into the harbor, and which was the home of John Hancock, who, when Governor of the State, sent his aid-de-camp to receive President Washington, declaring that the President was the agent of the States, and should wait upon the Governor and not the Governor upon the President. We suppose the Boston capitalists swallowed the joke and the oysters at the same time—while his late Excellency sugested in soft tones that we harmonize, gentlemen, harmonize!

Death of a Distinguished Minister.

Intelligence was received in this city on Saturday of the decease, in Greenville, South Carolina, on the 22d instant, of Rev. Dr. Basil Manly, Sr. For about forty years Dr. Manly had occupied a prominent position in the Baptist denomination of the United States, and during twenty-five years of that period was president of the University of Alabama.

Richmond *Dispatch*.

A man being asked, as he lay sunning himself in the grass, what was the height of his ambition, replied: "To marry a rich widow with a bad cough."

THE DECLINING YEAR.

The year begins to tremble with decay,
Like an old man who leans upon a staff,
And in the graveyard reads the epitaph
Of all his offspring who have passed away;
But yet soft breezes with his thin locks play,
Scattering his sadness with a jocund laugh,
While the great sun yet warms in his behalf,
And with his darts keeps Winter still at bay.
Yes, soothed and flattered in full many ways,
Tho' all the fields be bare, and woodlands sere,
Half hidden from his sight by thickening haze,
Serenely smiles the slow declining Year,
Like one who has in goodness spent his days,
And waits his coming end without a fear.

From the Baltimore Gazette.

The Radicals in Danger of Being Hoisted by their own Petard—Opinion of the Conservatives—The Tenure-of-Office Act—Grant Wants the Thongs Untied—His Reticence as to the Future.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27, 1868.

The atrocious legislation of Congress is beginning to plague the inventors. The act conferring upon the "General of the armies of the United States" military authority paramount to that exercised by the constitutional Executive—the "Tenure-of-Office Act" which, in effect, clothes the Senate with the appointing power—the act making Congress an uninterrupted and perpetual body—and sundry others of like character, are at last found to be so many stumbling blocks in the Radical path, threatening party disruption. All these measures were strenuously opposed by the Conservatives in Congress upon *general principles*. It cannot have been forgotten, also, that the Radical leaders *professed to favor them* for reasons of *general application*. They contended in debate that such guards were essential, under any and all circumstances, to the prevention of Executive aggression, and to keep the one man power within constitutional limits.

The very few Conservative members in either House can have but little influence either way in regard to these laws, and I learn that they are nearly, if not quite, unanimous in the opinion *that they ought to take no part whatever in their repeal at this juncture*. If, they argue, there was ever a time, or if there ever could be a time, when such restraiding statutes could work beneficially to the public, the present is that precise moment. The country is in a fearful state of demoralization, and the class of men from among whom Treasury agents are to be selected should be subjected to the severest scrutiny the times will admit of. Undoubtedly under the present system they will undergo a more thorough sifting than if the "Tenure-of-Office" act shall be repealed. Besides, the present *incumbents* being, as is reasonably to be supposed, filled by this time to the very throat with Treasury pap, will begin shortly to have some mercy on the Government. Æsop teaches us a lesson in this respect in his fable of the fox and the flies, which ought not to be lightly disregarded. Some one has said that "it is only by collision of opinions that truth, that spark divine, can be struck out into light divine." Let the hammers of Grant and the Senate be heard distinctly upon the anvil before Conservative members meddle with the bellows, or, indeed, any part of the shop.

It is known well enough here that the "coming man" desires above all things to have his limbs unthonged. He even threatens a "called" session if the law convening Congress on the 4th of March is repealed and the "Tenure-of-Office" act shall remain on the statute book. If Conservative members could but see their way clear—if they could become convinced that the antecedents and present pecuniary status of those designed hereafter to finger Uncle Sam's money would be thoroughly scanned—if Grant, in short, would show his strong suite—they might go the length (so abhorrent are laws) to help him out of this scrape, although they cannot be unmindful *that he has brought all this trouble on himself* to gratify his revengeful feelings towards poor Andy, his predecessor. But this he will not do. He is as tight, even to his most intimate friends, as a clamshell upon these points. He must consequently be left to paddle his own canoe!

Tragedy near Chattanooga—Four Men Killed.

CHATTANOOGA, Dec. 26.—A tragic affair occurred on Salt creek, forty miles below here, a few days since, the particulars of which are as follows: It seems that Mr. Beane, a school teacher, attempted to whip a boy named Hutchison, who resisted and left school. A day or two afterward young Hutchison, accompanied by his brother and a man named Smith, visited the school house for the avowed purpose of chastising Beane, and not finding him there, they proceeded to his residence. Beane saw them coming, and anticipating their errand, armed himself, as also did Mr. Moore, who happened to be at the house.

On their arrival Hutchison said they intended giving him (Beane) a thrashing.—Moore remonstrated, when Smith drew a pistol and shot him dead. This was a signal for all to produce pistols. Beane shot and instantly killed Cyrus Hutchison, brother of the school boy. He had scarcely fired, when Smith, who had instantly killed Moore, fired another barrel of his repeater at Beane; the ball struck but failed to immediately disable him. Beane then turned on Smith and lodged three balls in his body, inflicting wounds which resulted mortally in a few minutes. Twenty minutes after the affray commenced, Moore, Beane, Cyrus Hutchison and Smith lay dead on the ground within a few feet of each other. Hutchison's brother was the only person who escaped unhurt.

Tried to Buy Him.

An article in the January *Land We Love* gives some of the reminiscences of Sergeant Bates' late triumphant march through the South. It appears that 'Governor' Holden attempted to "buy off" the Sergeant. Says Bates:

"I was approached at Greensboro,' N. C., by Col. Keyo, of———Wisconsin regiment, who told me that he was authorized by Gov. Holden to offer me ten thousand dollars in hand, if I would furl my flag and go quietly home. I replied to Col. Keyo that I was not for sale."

A method of sewing boots and shoes with copper wire instead of the common thread has been patented, the advantage being that at a very small increase in expense the strength and durability of the work are much improved.

The Cotton Mills of Manchester, England, are to run only three days in a week. And the London Times thinks American finances are in a weaving way.

Rothschild said that venison was higher than mutton, not because it was better, but because people always preferred what was *deer* to what was *sheep*.

Philadelphia has a Mr. Thompson—with a "p"—"who was the Columbus in the art of making trousers that fit the wearer," according to a reporter.

At Sauk Rapids, Minn., a human frame ten feet nine and a half inches high has been exhumed from a bed of solid rock.

A terrible murder was committed recently in Platte county, Missouri. A man named William Marshall murdered in cold blood his own mother and brother, in order to get possession of some property of which they were possessed, and which would revert to him at their death. A reward of $3,300, of which the guilty wretch himself cunningly offered $1,000, put detectives to work, who traced the deed to him, and a few days ago he was arrested and lodged in the Platte county jail.

The Loss of the Hibernia—Thrilling Scenes—Painful Incidents—Hairbreadth Escapes.

Our English files contain a full account of the loss of the steamer Hibernia seven hundred miles from the Irish coast, heretofore announced briefly by the cable. Certain passengers who escaped in the captain's boat say that at two o'clock on the morning of Tuesday, the 24th ultimo, they were awakened by a crash. Some went to the cabin, and the captain met them and assured them there was no danger. Having confidence in him they went to bed. As the captain did not appear at breakfast, however, suspicion was awakened, and shortly afterwards he told them to get ready to go into the life-boats. The crew meanwhile were working at the pumps. The gale kept on increasing, and the water in the ship gradually rose.

When first informed of the danger in which they were placed the passengers manifested some excitement. They all felt depressed, and those who could weep wept; but as the day wore on the excitement gradually subsided, and during the night of Tuesday it had altogether disappeared. All were perfectly quiet that night, and one or two even slept. They all had confidence in Captain Munro—he was so collected and managed so well. He frequently came into the cabin and spoke a cheering word to everybody. About 4 o'clock on Wednesday morning it was determined that the boats should be launched. Owing to the high sea this work was accomplished with some difficulty, but fortunately they were all got down at last. Previous to launching No. 1 boat the captain came to the cabin and told the ladies to come on deck. The water was then ankle deep in the saloon. All the lady cabin passengers went to the front of the vessel. There was no hurrying and crushing. The boats were filled in the most orderly way; each when it had received its complement shoving off to give place to the next boat.

One old woman sturdily refused to leave the ship, being determined not to leave her husband, but she was put on board of the life-boat by force. She screamed loudly while being let down into the boat. When the last passenger had been got off, Captain Munro, with the chief engineer, came off in the last boat. The passengers describe the capsizing of one boat, and the labor of the crew in the captain's boat in bailing out the water under the encouragement of the captain. At half-past seven, on Wednesday night, there was a great cry of "A sail, a sail!" The captain ordered lights to be put up, and told all the passengers to shout for their lives. All shouted lustily, and an answer was returned from the Star of Hope.

Mr. Cocks, San Francisco, and his mother, Mrs. Cocks, who were cabin passengers in the Hibernia, and who arrived in Leith on Tuesday in the Star of Hope, left the Waverly Station last night for London. Mr. Cocks furnished the following statement: "The weather on Tuesday, the 24th, was very stormy, and a high sea was running. When it was found that there was no hope of saving the vessel, five boats were launched, and filled with the passengers and crew, under the superintendence of the captain, who, throughout, displayed the greatest coolness and intrepidity. The whole of the passengers felt fully persuaded that had it not been for the coolness and bravery of the captain, who was the last to leave the ship, they would have lost their lives. The five boats had only left the ship about fifteen minutes, when she went down stern foremost. I was in the captain's boat, in which there were in all thirty-three persons.

"Shortly after the ship went down we saw the chief mate's boat suddenly capsize but could render no assistance, as our boat was in a sinking condition and overloaded at the time. It was an awful sight to see some of those who had been in the mate's boat struggling in the water and others clinging to the boat's keel, and yet be unable to render any assistance. I think that after a time the boat was righted, and a few of the passengers succeeded in getting in, but I could not see how many. We parted company with the other boats, and after drifting about for about fourteen hours, a heavy sea running at the time, the seamen constantly bailing, we were picked up by the Star of Hope; and I cannot give too much praise to Captain Talbot and the other officers of the ship for their very great courtesy and kindness. The Star of Hope also picked up the boatswain's boat, in which there were nineteen passengers, making, I think, a total saved of fifty-two persons.

"I have strong hopes as to the safety of the passengers of the other boats in good order. The Star of Hope made for Aberdeen, but could not land there, the owners of the steam tugs there declining to take them into the harbor, though the sea was calm and the wind down. We accordingly left for Leith, and found there the hospitality which was denied at Aberdeen. Mr. Henderson, one of the owners of the Aberdeen, who had come from Glasgow to Aberdeen, sailed after us, but was too late to take us into Aberdeen. My mother and I feel truly thankful for our miraculous escape, though my mother, from the severe shock, is completely paralyzed. I join with the other rescued passengers in presenting an address to Captain Munro, thanking him for his heroic exertions in our behalf."

A Kentucky Editor's Pen and Ink Sketch of Butler.

Col. J. Stoddard Johnston, the editor of the Frankfort Yeoman, has been writing a series of entertaining letters to his paper from Washington City, whither he was sent as State messenger, and, from among other items and notes in his last contribution, we extract the following concerning one of the most redoubtable heroes of the age:

When Butler's name was called (on the occasion of drawing for seats) he walked over across the hall from the Radical side, and selected his seat close up to the Democratic headquarters, amid much laughter. No caricature I have ever seen of this notorious man does him injustice. He cannot be caricatured, being himself a living caricature on manhood. Short and chunky, his legs are to his body like pipe-stems stuck into a pumpkin. His head is the most remarkable cranial excrescence, both phrenologically and as regards his physiognomy, I ever saw in print or on living shoulders.

He is bald on top of his head, but, if he ever did have a forehead, it looks as if it had not been more than two inches high. He has no bump of residence, but self-esteem rises in a kind of phrenological Peaks of Otter; and you may judge of the peculiar formation of both head and chin when I tell you that, if you would prolong the plane of the chin upward and of the forehead or the top of the head downward, they would meet with an angle about six inches in front of his eyes. In a well formed