An Englishman Exploring the South.

The last letter of the correspondent of the London *Times*, who is traveling in the South, is dated at Columbia, S. C., and gives a vivid account of the track of Sherman's army, the ruins of Columbia, and the suffering of the people. We make the following extract:

I have hitherto studiously abstained from dwelling unnecessarily on the ruin which Sherman spread in his track, and have not repeated one of the countless stories which have been told to me, of the personal violence and outrages committed by desperadoes of the army. But such ...ence is impossible here, for ther... really nothing to speak of but ruin... utter and complete; probably, tha... ever before worked in a civilized ...munity by a civilized army. Columbia had the repute of being one of the most beautiful cities on the continent, and even amid its broken walls, I should go further and say that it must have been the most beautiful. It is as startling, therefore, to come upon the ruins of a fine city in America, as it is to see, on a sudden, the outlines of a beautiful temple in the desert which surrounds the old capital of the Moguls. Columbia asserts her supremacy still, amid all her unequaled desolation. Her streets are broad and long, and planted with a row of fair trees on each side, and often another row down the middle. She stands on a hill, so that a commanding view of a picturesque country around may easily be gained from any part of it. But now, turn where one will, there is absolutely nothing to strike the eye but shattered walls and pillars of churches, schools, and private dwelling. People who go to Pompeii to see the fragments of a destroyed city, should come to Columbia, and see one still standing stark and unburied in the sunlight. If any one can imagine a good English town of 23,000 inhabitants left with not a third of its houses standing in it, he may form some idea of the appearance of this unfortunate city. You walk down streets, between groves of trees, and see nothing but ruins of houses and large buildings on either side. Nor were these houses frail wooden structures, easily burnt down. They were built of stout red brick, or granite, with marble steps leading into many of them, which the flames left black and shivered.

At the highest part of the town there was a handsome edifice known as the State Capitol, of which not one stone stands upon another. Near this was a new capitol, nearly finished, built of marble, the pillars and ornices of which were torn down and hammered into fragments that now strew the ground. Three or four splendid churches and as many chapels, a spacious convent in which many poor ladies fled for shelter till they were driven forth by the soldiery, a State library, many schools—all were burned to the ground. There were nearly 1400 houses thus destroyed, the rich and the poor sharing in the common wreck. The miserable work was accomplished on the day and night of the 17th of February last, and the horrors of that night can never be forgotten by those who witnessed them. More than 14,000 persons, mostly women and children, many of them sick, took to the outskirts, with hardly a rag to cover them, and with not a mouthful of food to eat. Gen. Sherman promised to leave behind him cattle enough to sustain them, but the cattle he left died at the rate of twenty head each day, from sheer exhaustion, and those that were killed were fleshless and bloodless.

It should be understood that the city had offered no resistance to Sherman's approach, but that, on the contraty, the small confederate force within it all withdrew the day before, and the Mayor drove out some miles with a white flag, to meet the invaders. He carried with him a letter to Gen. Sherman surrendering the city, and asking for its citizens "the usages of civilized warfare." That same night Sherman said to the Mayor, "not a finger's breadth, Mr. Mayor, of your city shall be harmed. You may lie down to sleep, satisfied that your town shall be as safe in my hands, as if wholly in your own."

Some cotton had been set on fire in the streets during the day, but it was extinguished by the firemen of the city, until the soldiers cut their hose and broke their engine to pieces. Then the reign of terror began. Houses were first pillaged, and then set on fire. The soldiers, writes an old inhabitant, "could be seen staggering off with huge waiters, vases, candelebra, to say nothing of cups, goblets, and small vessels. Ladies were hustled from their chambers, their ornaments plucked from their persons, their bundles from their hands." The eldest clergyman in the city was subjected to gross ill usage, while vainly endeavoring to save the communion plate of his church. In other instances, men were hung up till they were nearly choking, and made to tell where their property was hid. The soldiers were by this time skilful in finding buried treasure, and they were busy with probing rods in the gardens of all the houses.

It may well be supposed that, with all their property sunk in Confederate paper, and their houses razed to the ground, the people in this part of the country are in deep distress. I am told of families who have always been in affluent circumstances now working for an uncertain livelihood, and these are more fortunate than many others who are not fit for work, or cannot get it to do. The state of the poor classes is wretched beyond description, for they have nothing left, and they have no friends capable of helping them. It is not too much to say that thousands of families in this part of the country will be in a state of absolute want, this winter, unless something is done for them. They have not the means to buy the barest necessaries of life. The horses and cattle were killed and burnt for many miles around, and, indeed, all along the track of Sherman's march, so that the whole country is bare and destitute. It is quite certain that timely aid would save hundreds from a fate little short of starvation.

WINNSBORO.

Thursday Morning, February 1, 1866.

New Advertisements.

Dubose Egleston & Co. advertise a varied assortment of Goods.

Read Card of A. S. Douglas relating to missing Law Books.

See Notification of renewal of certificate by Daniel Hall.

We have received a new and large supply of paper suitable to job printing of all descriptions.

Mt. Zion Society.

We desire to direct especial attention to the advertisement which appears in another column, notifying of the sale on Monday next, of the trees growing upon the woodland in the rear of Mt. Zion Institute building, and belonging to Mt. Zion Society. The area of the woodland, we believe, is about eight acres. Its proximity to the town and the fine quality of the timber to be disposed off will render it a desirable possession.

Congress.

We search in vain among the proceedings of Congress, with its voluminous and mouthy speeches for one single evidence of a relaxation upon the part of the jacobins comprising its majority; the same collected, steadfast, inexorable purpose to press the South to irredeemable degradation.

The measures of prime interest before the Congress, are the negro suffrage bill for the District of Columbia; the confirmation of Gen. Sherman's order bestowing for a term of years, the lands on the coast upon the negro population of that section, and the constitutional amendment bill making voters instead of population the basis of representation. The two former have passed the House, and all will certainly pass through both branches of Congress. The question is whether the Presidential veto will be an effective barrier against the progress of these radical innovations.

JEFF. DAVIS—STANGE RUMORS—WHAT HE SAYS AND DOES.—The rumors of the rescue of Jefferson Davis from prison are assuming a new and strange character. It is now hinted that the authorities desire his escape, and that facilities have been offered him, *but that he won't go.* There is little room to tendant upon his confinement and rejected doubt the awkward embarrassment at trial. Chief Justice C... does not hesitate to say that he cannot be convicted of treason, and Thaddeus Stevens declares that he is nothing more than a foreign leader, about as much amenable to the laws of the United States as Maximilian. I have it from the best authority—from authority which you cannot question—that Mr. Davis feels the most ample security. He said less than a week ago, "my defence is complete now, and rests solely upon the law, which will be administered fairly, I know, and in perfect accordance with civil justice." The shameful petticoat story will be put to the blush when that time arrives. Mr. Davis is at present in good health, eats heartily, reads a good deal, and possesses, as he said the other day, "a good digestion and a good conscience." He receives letters from his wife three times a week, and keeps a journal every day.—*Washington Cor. Nashville Banner.*

News Items.

In the Kentucky Legislature the Senate has resolved to postpone the election of U. S. Senator and extend the present session.

The House has rejected the Constitutional amendment and declared the action already taken by the Legislature final.

The Paris correspondent of the *Independence Belge*, writing on the 26th ult., says that an attache of the French Minister of Foreign Affairs has accompanied M. Hidalgo, bearing to Maximilian, of Mexico, a project for the evacuation of that country; and it was no secret in official circles that the Emperor Napoleon wished to recall his troops as soon as possible. The action of the United States Congress, the correspondent further says, may hasten a solution of the Franco-Mexican matter.

A despatch from Washington states that Governor Aiken, now in that city, says the negroes are doing nothing, and new crops are likely to be a failure unless something is done to compel the negroes to work. He has been appointed to lay the matter before the President and General Grant, and see if some means cannot be devised to remedy the difficulty.

Last night, Gen. N. P. Banks addressed the soldiers and sailors' Union League Convention. The only feature of his address was the expression of a conviction that the States lately in rebellion were still States and should not be treated as territories. Senator Wilson was called, and also spoke briefly. After paying appropriate compliments to the soldiers of the Union, and suggesting their present duties as citizens, he advised forgiveness of the wrongs done by the rebels, even though their acts could not be forgotten.

The House Committee on Freedman's Affairs or a portion of the members will shortly visit some of the Southern States. The Orange and Alexandria Railroad Company has tendered to them the use of a special train from Washington to Lynchburg. Representative Kelly, in reply to the President of the road, thanks him for his kindness, and says the committee will name an early day for the proposed tour of observation.

A North Carolina editor of a weekly paper gets off the following salutatory: "In assuming the control of the *Banner* I bring very little into it; and expect to take very little out of it. But I shall try to make a substantial, readable and reliable paper.

Ex-Governor Joseph E. Brown has become a resident of Atlanta, has retired from politics, and will confine his labors to the profession of law.

A resolution will soon be offered in the United States House of Representatives directing the Secretary of the Navy to furnish a man-of-war to convey American contributions to the Paris Exposition.

The bridal gifts of the Duchess of Munchy, lately married in Paris, were very magnificent. Her jewelry box contained precious stones valued at 2,500,000 francs. In the ducal crown belonging to the Munchy family is a jewel worth 300,000 francs.

Some weeks since a large box was received at Rome, Georgia, directed to "Bill Arp, from his admirers in Saint Louis, Mo." The box contained quite a large and rich assortment of dry goods and groceries for family use, and luxuries. Mr. Arp is to be congratulated on his rapidly increasing reputation.

A resolution was introduced in the Kentucky Legislature on the 23d inst., requesting Green Clay Smith to resign his place in the United States Congress. The reasons for this move are his Radical Republicanism, and the extreme measures he has advocated in putting down the Democratic and Conservative parties at the Presidential and other elections.

A letter was received a few days ago, by a gentleman in Petersburg, from Mexico, announcing the arrival in that country of General Early. He rode on horse-back in disguise from Lynchburg to Galveston, Texas, and thence took ship to Havana, was wrecked, finally reached that city, and after a short stay sailed for Mexico.

Major-General Terry, commanding the Department of Virginia, has issued at Richmond a general order forbidding civil officers to attempt to execute the provisions of the Vagrant act lately passed by the Virginia Legislature. He says that the result of this law, if enforced, would be to reduce the freedmen to a condition of slavery worse than that from which they have been released.

A life of John Morgan is in active preparation by his devoted friend and comrade, Basil Duke. The biography, it is said, will fully vindicate the personal character and military fame of that celebrated Southern partisan.

A Southern planter left New York on Monday last, taking with him sixty-four white laborers to work on his cotton plantation in Mississippi.

Gen. Forrest has gone to his Mississippi plantation with 224 male and female negro laborers.

TELEGRAPHIC

Mr. Trescot invited to give the views of Gov. Orr, before the House Committee on Freedman's Affairs, in relation to the occupation of the Sea Islands.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—The Hon. Wm. Henry Trescot has been invited by the select House Committee on Freedmen's Affairs, to appear before that body and give the views of his Excellency Governor Orr against the freedmen's further occupation of the Sea Island cotton lands of South Carolina, as is authorised by the bill which passed the Senate on Thursday.

From Mexico.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—Official news up to the 29th December has been received here from El Paso, the present seat of the Mexican Government.

After the occupation of Chihuahua by the French, they sent an expedition to El Paso against President Juarez, who collected at that place Gen. Ferragus' division and made other preparations to resist the invaders, with every chance of success. When the French heard of this they marched back to Chihuahua, thus abandoning all idea of attacking El Paso.

The news from the interior is represented as quite encouraging. The impression prevailed in the whole country that the French would soon abandon Mexico.

Proceedings of Congress.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27th.—The Senate was not in session to-day.

HOUSE.—The day was set apart for speech making.

Mr. Smith, of Kentucky, concluded the remarks he heretofore commenced, in sustaining his position that the war was especially carried on to keep the States in the Union now; consequently, they are entitled to representation; and he would admit representatives from the States, but not unless they can take the oath, as the members here have done, that they have never sought to overthrow the Government.

Mr. Baker, of Ill., addressed the House on the subject of reconstruction, arguing that the democrats here, with a few from the over-whelming Union party, maintain that all which has to be done now is to judge of the election, qualifications, and returns of the members from the Southern States, but the large majority here properly maintain that they ought to go behind the mere surface of affairs an fix such gurantees as are necessary before such members are admitted to membership.

Latest Foreign News.

ARRIVAL OF THE HIBERNIAN AND JAVA.

NEW YORK, Jan. 25.—The steamship Hibernian has arrived at Portland, with Liverpool dates to the 12th inst.

The Spanish insurgents defeated the Government troops, though official dispatches say the insurgents are discouraged and retreating.

The *Times* and other journals, having attributed the pressure of the money market to heavy exports to America on credit, the commercial men publish a refuting argument, showing that remittances have been most prompt and heavy. The cotton receipts are set off against British exports.

COTTON MARKET BY THE HIBERNIAN.

LIVERPOOL, January 12.—Cotton—Declining ¾d. to 1d. Sales of the week 50,000 bales. Sales to-day (Friday) 10,000 bales. Middling Orleans 20d., closing steady.

Consols—86⅞ a 87.

Five-twenties—64½ a 65.

Arrival of the Java.

NEW YORK, Jan. 26.—The steamship Java has arrived, with dates to the 14th instant.

Political news unimportant.

It is reported that Russell has submitted his reform bill to the cabinet.

It is understood that Stephens, the Henian Head Centre, has left Paris and gone to Geneva, to confer with the members of his international revolutionary club.

The Paris correspondent of the *Times* says the Mexican difficulty was before the last ministerial council. Nearly all the members favored the speedy recall of the French troops, but the Emperor thinks the time has not yet arrived.

Spanish affairs unchanged.

COTTON MARKET BY THE JAVA.

Sales of cotton on the 13th, 7,000 bales, closing easier, with quotations barely maintained.

Crawford, the Filibuster.

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 26.—General Crawford has not gone to Washington, as reported, but is now incarcerated in Fort Jackson, by order of General Sheridan. Many souvenirs of the Bagdad affair are reported to have been found among his papers.

Important from Washington.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—The President today stated to a distinguished Senator that the agitation of the negro franchise question in the District of Columbia at this time was the mere entering wedge to the agitation of the question throughout the States. It was ill timed, uncalled for, and calculated to do great harm. He believed it would engender enmity, contention and strife between the two races, and lead to a war between them which would result in great injury to both, and the certain extermination of the negro population. Precedence, he thought, should be given to more important and urgent matters, legislation upon which was essential for the restoration of the Union, the peace of the country and the prosperity of the people. The above may be implicitly relied upon.

Commercial.

NEW YORK, Jan. 27.—The Cotton market steady, with sales of twenty-three hundred bales at 47 to 48 cents per pound.

BALTIMORE, Jan. 25.—Flour heavy. Wheat scarce and steady. Corn dull; yellow 76 cents. Oats heavy at 48 a 49c. Clover firm. Flaxseed dull. Provisions heavy. Lard 18½c. Coffee firm. Sugar drooping. Whiskey steady at $2.31 a $2.31½.

THE RE UNION OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF GEORGIA WITH THAT OF THE UNITED STATES—ITS OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT BY BISHOP ELLIOTT. The following letter to the Episcopal Bishop of this State, makes an announcement of interest to many of our people:

"SAVANNAH DIOCESE OF GEORGIA.

"*To the Right Reverend John Johns, D. D., Bishop of the Diocese of Virginia:*

"RIGHT REV. AND DEAR BROTHER: In pursuance of the fifth resolution, passed at the second Council of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the late Confederate States, which convened in Augusta, Georgia, November 8th, 1865, I hereby give you official notice under my hand and the seal of the Episcopate, of my withdrawal, from that Ecclesiastical Confederation, and of the re-union of the Diocese of Georgia with the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America.

"Most sincerely do I trust that all the Dioceses may be very soon battling, side by side, for the cause of Christ in the world.

"Given under my hand and the seal of the Episcopate this 3d January, Anno Domini, 1866.

STEPHEN ELLIOTT,
"Bishop of Georgia.

"W. H. HARRISON,
"Secretary Diocese of Georgia."

Blythewood Female Institute,

THE exercises of this School will be resumed on the first Wednesday in March, under the supervision of the principal and Madame and Prof. Engelbrecht, with competent Assistants in the different departments. Pupils will be received for the scholastic year, and prepayment for half-session expected at the subjoined rates, in specie or its equivalent.

Board, including Fuel and Lights,	$65 00
Tuition English and Classics,	25 00
" Music,	25 00
" French, Italian, Drawing & Painting,	20 00
Contingent Fee,	$5 00

Pupils will furnish towels, bed linen and covering. Applications will be entered, as received, and notice given of their acceptance.

Medical advice given gratuitously.

Address,
DR. S. W. BOOKHART, Prncipal,
jan 18'66—lawfws* Dko, S. C.

FOR SALE,

PURE "BOYD'S PROLIFIC COTTON SEED."

Besides the remarkable yield of the Cotton, its quality is very superior.

A. B. SPRINGS,
near Fort Mills, C. & C. R. R.
jan 27'66—3