Scraps & Facts.

—— Poetry is truth dwelling in beauty.

—— A faithful friend is the true image of the Deity.

—— It is said that the hearing is the last sense to die.

—— The fellow who was requested to "foot up," did so by standing on his head. Inconvenient style of getting a receipt, that.

—— **According to Lacon, men will wrangle for religion; write for it; fight for it; any thing but live for it.**

—— Pretty name. The fourth party of emigrants from New England have laid out a city a long way up the Kansas river, and call it Waupousa, which in Indian means the "dawn of day."

—— There are about seven million pores in the body of a man of ordinary size. If these were joined lengthwise, a tube would be formed twenty-eight *miles* long!

—— The "Sebastopole" is the title of a new cloak for the ladies. So called, we surmise, because what is inside of it, can't or won't be "taken!"

—— Our Gulf Squadron is to be immediately augmented; and if any Spanish vessel hereafter overhauls or fires into an American vessel she will be promptly chastized.

—— A. C. Garlington, Esq., of this State, a graduate of the class of 1842, has been selected to deliver the next Commencement Address before the two literary societies of Franklin College, Ga.

A writer in the Jackson Mississippian claims that Mississippi is second, if not first, in the production of the great staple cotton. The same writer urges the appointment of an Agricultural Professorship in the University of that State.

—— The well-known cotton cloth, calico, is named from Calicut, a city in India, which was discovered by the Portuguese, in 1498. Calico was first brought to England by the East India Company, in 1631.

—— The Winnsboro Register announces the death of Mr. David R. Coleman, of Fairfield, in his 91st year. He removed from Halifax county, North Carolina, in 1777, to his late residence. He enjoyed universal respect.

—— An Indian hung himself at Otonagon, Lake Superior, the past winter. He was attacked with the small pox, when he drove the other Indians from his camp, took his faithful dog and hung him to the limb of a tree, and then suspended himself from another.

—— Washington, March 28.—The Union this morning reiterates that the Black Warrior affair is settled, and quotes from late despatches from the Spanish minister, which state that the government is ready to satisfy the damages in question, as soon as a proper account shall be presented, and its amount approved.

—— At the coal-mine explosion near Richmond, Mr. Samuel Goulden, one of the overseers, was killed. The Despatch says he had a dream on Sunday night which weighed heavily on his mind. Before starting to work on Monday morning he conversed freely with his wife, and instructed her how to act if he should meet with any accident that day. After starting to work, he returned three times to kiss his little children and bid them good bye.—The poor fellow never saw them again!

—— The dying injunction which the Emperor Nicholas directed to be transmitted to the King of Prussia, requesting him "not to forget the words of his father," is supposed to refer to the following passage in the will of Frederic William III, addressed to the present monarch: "Never neglect to maintain harmony among the European nations as far as it is in your power. Above all things may Prussia, Russia and Austria never separate. Their union should be considered the keystone of the great European alliance."

—— The Austin State Gazette of the 10th instant, in noticing the fact that the United States and Mexican Commissioners have agreed on the initial point of the boundary between the two countries, says: "We are now in possession of the whole country through which a railroad in this latitude may be made. A friend of ours connected with the expedition is of opinion that gold will be found in the Mesilla Vally as in California, and looks forward to the day when a larger and more permanent population will be settled in the new outskirts of civilization."

—— We understand that a sporting gentleman in this city, who has for some-time past paid great attention to the culture of rats, offers to make a bet of a considerable amount, that he will, during the coming summer, before a light wagon built on purpose, drive from the Astor house up Broadway to Union-square. He estimates that he can accomplish the task with 100 rats in harness. It will be a novel sight. A posse of police will be detailed for the occasion, to clear the track, and all omnibusses will be required to take the back streets.—*New York paper.*

—— The Mormons have taken the lease of a lot of land in Broadway, California, for the purpose of erecting a building to be used as a church, book depot, and printing office. A press belonging to the sect is on its way from the Sandwich Islands, and a very large invoice of Mormon books and tracts are expected at an early day from England. A newspaper will be started as soon as the arrangements are completed. As the Mormons are not a people to allow a project to fail if labor will accomplish it, it is reasonable to suppose that the whole institution will be in full blast before many months. Elder Pratt is to be chief manager of the concern.

A few evenings since, a theatrical company were performing a play, the last scene of which was the hanging of a traitor, at Hornellsville, N. Y. The rope was adjusted, the drop fell, but the strap-work which was to prevent the rope pressing on the neck unfortunately gave way, and the poor actor was *actually hanging.* After the curtain was lowered, some person observed the blood gushing from the mouth and nose of the suspended figure (Mr. Wm. H. Davis,) and instantly cut him down, but many hours elapsed before he was fully restored to life and consciousness. It is to be hoped public decency will not again be outraged by an exhibition of this nature.

——A Scotch paper, the *John O' Groat Journal*, has got hold of a curious piece of Court gossip, which he says he has not received at second hand, but direct from the highest quarters. It is as follows: Her Majesty is much offended at the *Times.* She has reason to believe its statements regarding her troops in the Crimea are exaggerated, and, even if not, the tone in which the description is given, partaking in about equal parts of a Momus-like facetiousness and a ranting demagogueism is offensive to her. Aurests, Prince Albert says that the whole newspaper press has forgotten its due bounds, and fallen into licentiousness of discussion of which disaster can be the only result. So convinced is his Royal Highness of this, that he is represented to have said to some of those having the honor of his friendship, that he believes the Monarchy will come to an end with the reign of his wife. We are rapidly drifting, he thinks, to republicanism.

—— A letter that appeard in the London Times, over the signature of Dr. Granville, a physician of some eminence, has attracted notice. Dr. Granville had once been Lord Palmerston's medical attendant, and in 1849 resided in a professional capacity at St. Petersburg, where he had medical introductions to the Imperial Court. In the month of July, 1853, he addressed a confidential letter to Lord Palmerston, and which he (Granville) now reproduces in the Times. In that letter he stated that, having formed a careful prognosis of the state of health of the Emperor Nicholas, he had come to the conclusion that he would die suddenly in the 59th year of his age. At an interview with Lord Palmerston, February 23, 1854, Palmerston asked Dr. G. if he still adhered to his opinion and prediction? Granville replied that "before July, 1855, when the Emperor would be 59 years of age, the event anticipated would happen.—Let but a few reverses overtake him, and his death, like that of all his brothers, will be sudden." It has proved so. "Alma, Inkerman, Balaklava," says the Doctor, "shook the mighty brain. Eupatoria completed the shock, and anticipated the prognosis by only a few weeks. It might be curious to speculate as to how far the shrewd Palmerston kept this prophesy in mind in accepting the office of Premier, and the task of settling the war.

The Yorkville Enquirer.

EDITED BY

SAM'L W. MELTON.....JOHN L. MILLER.

YORKVILLE, S. C.

THURSDAY MORNING, APRIL 5, 1855.

EUROPEAN AFFAIRS.

By the arrival of the steamer *Atlantic*, whose news we received the day after the date of our last issue, and the steamer *Asia*, on the 30th, we have Liverpool dates of the 17th of March. The intelligence by this arrival is very important, communicating the occurrence of events which have a decided bearing upon the present aspect of affairs in Europe. The details are very voluminous, but we shall endeavor to give our readers an inkling of the more important items.

The rumors in regard to the death of the Czar, NICHOLAS, are confirmed. He expired shortly after noon on Friday the 2nd of March, after an illness of only three days, of atrophy of the lungs. We take from the details, the following despatches sent to the Court of Prussia during the progress of the Czars illness:—

ST. PETERSBURG, March 1, Winter Palace—1.25 A. M.—The state of the Emperor became much worse yesterday evening. Violent fever manifested itself, with inflammation of the lungs. The fever has lasted the whole night, and prevented sleep. Ejection continues without obstacle. A slight attack of gout is observable. The debility of the august invalid has greatly increased, and at least, in the opinion of the physicians, the state of his Majesty is most critical.

ST. PETERSBURG, March 1—4.40 A. M.—The state of the Emperor has not improved in any respect this morning. The Empress has had some palpitations of the heart, but is otherwise well.

ST. PETERSBURG, March 1—9.30 A. M.—The state of His Majesty the Emperor grew considerably worse during the day. The ejections take place with difficulty, and give indication that the lungs are also touched. Atrophy of the lungs is feared. Dr. Carrell is very much alarmed. At the request of the physicians the Grande Duke heir apparent has requested the Emperor to receive the sacraments. The Empress is well.

ST. PETERSBURG, March 1—10 P. M.—The Emperor has declined receiving the last sacraments at present. The ceremony is adjourned till to-morrow morning. The Emperor only sees the Empress and the Grand Duke heir apparent. The Empress is aware of the danger, and begs me to inform His Majesty the King thereof, and to communicate it also to her august relations and to Strelitz.

ST. PETERSBURG, March 2—6 A. M.—The Emperor has calmly received from Dr. Mandt the communication that atrophy of the lungs is probable.—He only observed: "And when shall I become paralyzed?" The physicians did not give a precise answer. The Emperor then said to Dr. Carrell, "When shall I suffocate?"

"The Emperor has taken the last sacraments. He has taken leave of his wife and children, whom he blessed separately—as also his grand-children—in a firm voice, in full possession of his intellect, perfectly calm, and with great presence of mind. His pulse is still strong, but musk has already been administered. The Empress keeps up, and shows resignation.

Six hours after the date of the above; that is to say, shortly after noon of Friday, March 2, he expired. The Emperor's last words were spoken in the French language. Addressing the Empress, he said, "Tell Frederic (the King of Prussia) to continue attached to Russia, as he has hitherto been, and never to forget his father's words." This message, received by telegraph at Berlin, was instantly replied to, it is added, by assurance in the same sense."

A few days before his death, it is said, the Czar succeeded in effecting a complete reconciliation between his two sons, Alexander and Constantine, and on his death-bed indicated his will that the succession should fall upon the former. A few hours after the death of his father, Alexander proclaimed his assumption of the throne under the title of Alexander II Nicholaievitsch, and received the homage of his brother and the dignitaries of the realm. As to the policy to be adopted by the new Emperor, the statements are contradictory. He is said to have indicated his determination to carry out strictly the will of his father; and the strength and latent opposition of the war party, which will demand this course as the condition to their allegiance, certainly makes this the surest and most direct method of conciliating the affection of his subjects and securing his position in power. On the other hand, Alexander is regarded as possessing a mild and pacific disposition, and one more favorable to the cultivation of the arts of peace. From this the French and English journals conclude that the prospects for an early peace are flattering. It is evident, however, that ALEXANDER is taking vigorous measures for the prosecution of hostilities. Prince Menschikoff has been recalled from the seat of war, and Gortschakoff appointed to the command of the army in the Crimea. The Manifesto of the New Emperor has been published, and is regarded as warlike in tone. The following is a copy:—

"Valiant warriors! Faithful defenders of Church, Throne, and Country! It has pleased Almighty God to visit us with the most painful and grievous loss. We have all lost our common father and benefactor. In the midst of his unwearied care for Russia's prosperity, and the glory of the Russian arms, the Emperor Nicholas Paulovitch, my most blessed father, has departed to eternal life.

"His last words were—'I thank the glorious loyal Guard who in 1825 saved Russia, and I also thank the brave army and fleet, and I pray God to maintain the courage and spirits by which they have distinguished themselves under me. So long as this spirit remains upheld, Russia's tranquillity is secured both within and without, and woe to her enemies! I loved my troops as my own children, and strove as much as I could to improve their condition. If I was not entirely successful in that respect, it was from no want of will, but because I was unable to devise anything better, or to do more.' May these ever memorable words remain preserved in your hearts as a proof of his sincere love for you, which I share to the largest extent, and let them be a pledge of your devotion for me and Russia! ALEXANDER.

A postscript presents to the Guards the uniform worn by the deceased Emperor, and directs them to retain on their accoutrements the initials of Nicholas. The manifesto concludes: "May the sacred memory of Nicholas survive in our ranks as a terror to the foe, the glory of Russia."

All eyes are turned to the conference now in session in Viennia. Though this medium the real designs of the new Russian Government must be made known, and upon the results of the discussions depens the solution of the question of peace or war.—The Congress formally met on Thursday, the fifteenth of March. There were present one French, two English, two Austrian, and two Turkish Ambassadors. The Russian Plenipotentiary was not present. The Cabinet of Berlin having refused to accede to the treaty of Alliance and to accept the protocol of 28th December, the instructions of the French and English Plenipotentiaries commanded that "the conference shall open apart from and without the co-operation of Prussia; until it shall have placed itself upon the footing occupied by the parties to the treaty."—The King of Prussia having refused to come to terms, his Plenipotentiaries were therefore excluded from the conference, and his alliance with Russia thus far established.

The instructions of the French and English governments to their Representatives are explicit. They are required to ascertain whether, in their opinion, from the tone of the Russian replies, that government is animated by a sincere desire to effect an honorable and permanent peace; and for this purpose, they are to proceed upon the basis already laid down. If they shall discover that it is the design of the Russian Emperor to elude a direct reply to the demands presented, they are commanded immediately to declare the negotiations closed. The following despatches give the progress of the proceedings, so far as ascertained when the Asia left.—"Telegraphic reports say the discussion on the general basis of negotiations terminated satisfactorily. Rumors are current that Austria and England would be content without the demolition of Sebastopol, but that the Emperor Napoleon absolutely insists on that condition.

VIENNA, Friday Night.—At the conference yesterday, the Plenipotentiaries exchanged their powers, and proceedings were entered upon. The four bases and the interpretations given to them by the Allies having been set forth, the Representatives of Russia accepted them verbally. One of the Plenipotentiaries was hereupon deputed to draw up a minute or protocol of this, which is to be signed to-morrow (Saturday) the first thing when the ambassadors meet, and this document will constitute the basis of the negotiations for peace."

The state of affairs before Sebastopol has not been essentially changed. Immediately after the death of the Emperor, the Austrian and Prussian Ministers in Paris and London, under instructions, advised an armistice, and recommended that the *status quo* should be preserved as nearly as possible; in order to give the new Emperor time to establish himself on the throne, and to induce, by conciliatory measures, the development of his pacific intentions. The allied Powers, however, have already experienced the fatal policy of a "masterly inactivity," and it is probable that the siege will be prosecuted with additional vigor. Reinforcements are on the way from both countries, and hostilities in the Crimea are assuming an aspect which must shortly determine the battle. The Allies had reopened their fire upon the town; while the Russians were fortifying in a formidable manner the valley of Inkermann, and strengthening the fortifications on all sides of the city.

Since the death of the Emperor the general aspect of commercial and monetary affairs has undergone a favorable change, and the markets exhibit more liveliness and animation. The particulars of the commercial news, however, will be found under the appropriate head. There are many other points of interest upon which we might touch, but as we have already occupied a large space we shall forbear. We conclude by making the following extract from an influential London journal, which gives the view generally held with regard to the future policy of the New Czar:—

"Although the present Emperor is known to be a moderate, prudent, and, to a certain extent, unambitious man, he cannot and dare not swerve from the hereditary policy of his ancestors. He cannot and dare not concede an iota more than was conceded by his father, as regards the present crisis. He will adhere stringently to the late Emperor's resolutions. Nothing more will be accorded than was intended to be accorded by the father. The late Emperor was mighty and powerful beyond all parallel. His subjects venerated him; their confidence was unbounded. And yet he dared not venture beyond certain lengths. Those lengths are known. The present Emperor has a reputation to establish; he has sundry hazards to encounter. The wondrous *prestige* that almost beatified his father does not environ him; and he certainly is not likely to commence his reign by exhibiting symptoms of weakness, and thus risking to excite the ill-will of the Pan-Russian party and the army, both of which have been fanaticised to the utmost pitch.

"Nor will Prussia stand idly by. If she yielded submissive and deferential reverence to the late Czar, she will deem it a holy duty to vivify in the son, the sentiments of the father. Prussia for the time being, will be more Russian than ever, from the simple fact that she considers the son's individuality less powerful than that of the father. Prussia, throughout the whole Oriental crisis, has been the undisguised adversary of the West. Everything at this moment tends to render her still more adverse; and yet, with singular blindness, it is desired to increase her powers of mischief by admitting her upon nearly unshackled conditions, into the conference.

"The present Czar cannot and will not concede more than the late monarch. How, then, is his accession to act favorably in the Conferences for peace, unless the Western powers concede to him infinitely more than is compatible with the honor and future security of France and England? It would be strange, indeed, and not less painful, if we were to embody all the venom of Russia policy in one man, and regard Sebastopol, the Black Sea Fleet—in short the whole Black Sea and Turkish question—as rendered completely innocuous for ever more by the death of that one."

MURDER.

We sincerely regret to learn the particulars of a sad event which occurred in Chester District, on Friday last, and resulted in the death of a slave *Andrew*, the property of Mr. RICHARD E. KENNEDY, at the hands of a young man named BELL. The boy, who had been hired by Mr. BELL as a laborer on his farm, ran away several weeks ago and remained in the woods until Friday, when he was caught and whipped so severely and unmercifully as to cause immediate death. His skull was fractured in several places, and the entire body mangled in a most horrid manner. A jury of inquest rendered in a verdict in accordance with these facts. Mr. BELL has not yet been apprehended.

From a personal acquaintance with Mr. BELL, we cannot but be deeply pained, as well as greatly surprised, at such an event. He has hitherto borne an irreproachable character, and we had marked him as an honest, inoffensive and kind-hearted young man; and we must believe that the facts as related to us have been much exaggerated. Should they prove to be true, however, the crime is one of an almost unparalelled enormity, and, committed under peculiar circumstances, it calls for the execution of the utmost rigor of the law.

PUTNAM'S MONTHLY.

The April number of the sterling American Magazine is on our table. The publishers, GEO. P. PUTNAM, & Co., announce the sale of the establishment to Messrs. DIX and EDWARDS, who will commence the new series on the first of May, with an entirely new management. The Messrs. PUTNAM say: "The Magazine will not assume a partizan character, but it will hold decided opinions, and will treat all great public questions as matters of principle, and not of party. In all departments of elegant literature, criticism, popular instruction and amusement, the new management has already secured the promise of most hearty co-operation from the best writers. We have no hesitation in assuring the readers and contributors of the Magazine, that they may rely with entire confidence upon the future character of the work, and that the only change will be for the better. It will continue to have our own active co-operation, and all orders for trade will be supplied by us as heretofore."

The following list embraces the contents of the number before us:—A Trip to the Moon; The Water Lily; American Orators—RUFUS CHOATE; Sonnett: Ball at the Tuileries; the Steam-Engine; Curiosities of Puritan History; Our New Atlantis; Household Skeletons; Ourselves in a French Mirror; Voices of the Winter Wind; New-England Spring Flowers; The Poets; the Double Veil; Twice Married—Continued; Tolliwotte's Ghost; Living in the Country; Abbott's Life of Napoleon; Editorial Notes.

Price $3—the ENQUIRER and *Putnam* for $4.

GRAHAM'S MAGAZINE.

We have received the April number of Graham's "American Monthly," published in Philadelphia by ABRAHAM H. SEE. It is embellished with two fine steel engravings, "Mary, Queen of Scots," and Paris Fashions for April. The letter press contains the usual variety of entertaining reading—among which we note a Romance of History, by William Dowe, founded upon the events in the life of Mary Stuart: the Editors Table, Monthly Summary, Reviews, and a lengthy dissertation on the fashions, illustrated by a number of wood engravings. Price $3,—the ENQUIRER and the Magazine for $4.

WAR AGAINST TURKEY!

We heard a tremendous story the other day, which is decidedly ahead of anything that has occurred in our latitude of late, and as a doughty deed of arms, is out in search of a parallel. Mr. S. L. ADAMS, a citizen of our District, with (no doubt) malice—aforethought, and moved and instigated by—his love of Turkey, killed six at one shot. To say the least of it, this is to be regarded as decidedly against the peace and dignity of Turkeydom.

EDITORIAL MERE-MENTION.

..... Messrs. WM. S. LAWTON & CO., (South-Atlantic Wharf) are our agents in Charleston, duly empowered to make contracts and grant receipts.

..... Dr. THOMASSON has removed his office to the first-floor room, in the rear of Walker's New brick-building where he will be found at all hours when not professionally engaged. See Announcement.

..... BROWN & LYONS, our Jail birds, were brought up for trial at the recent term of the Richland Court, and pleaded guilty of petit larceny. They were sentenced to receive ten lashes each, and to suffer an imprisonment until the first day of October, next.

..... The Eulogy on the life and character of Ex-Gov. JOHNSON by Col. T. N. DAWKINS, will be delivered at Union C. H., on Saturday the 28th instant. Rev. Dr. CURTIS will pronounce the funeral discourse on the Sunday following at the same place.

..... The Commissioner in Equity advertises an "important sale of Land and Negroes," at the late residence of George Pettus, decd., on next Thursday, the 12th. The negroes are of the best quality in the country, and the sale positive. Look at the advertisement.

..... Mr. J. ALLEN, left at his new store in the Walker building, is constantly receiving new goods direct from the North. He makes another announcement in this week's paper. The catalogue is rather tempting, than otherwise and we imagine no one will examine his stock without appropriating a portion of it. His prices are cheap. Look at his advertisement.

..... Mr. Wm. K. HACKET has opened a Grocery and Provision Store in the building formerly occupied by W. HACKET as a store: and is receiving and will keep on hand all articles required for family use, which he promises to sell at the lowest prices. Mr. HACKET has experience in the business, and will be able to afford satisfaction to all who may favor him with a call. See advertisement.

..... Notice the announcement of the sale of the stock in Love & McConnell's Livery Stable, which will take place on the first Monday in May. Several fine and valuable horses will be sold, and other stock usually employed in the Livery business. Between this and the day of sale, the property is offered at private sale. Here is a rare opportunity for procuring some of the best bargains of the season.

..... Messrs. BLOOMBERG & Brother have received their Spring and Summer supplies, and their advertisement in another column invites the attention of their customers and friends, especially the ladies, to their splendid stock now on hand. Messrs. BLOOMBERG have the character of correct men and skilful merchants, and we are pleased to notice that they enjoy a good measure of patronage. Give them a call, and examine their stock.

..... We learn that the Bethel Presbytery met at the Mount Vernon Church, in Union District, on Thursday last, and continued in session until Saturday, afternoon. As far as we can ascertain, no business of public interest was transacted. Mr. GEORGE PORTER, who has for a time acted in the capacity of colporteur, was admitted as a candidate for the ministry.

..... Hon. T. L. CLINGMAN has declared himself a candidate for re-election to Congress from the Mountain District of North Carolina. The Ashville *News* makes the announcement and speaks confidently of his success. He is down on the Know-Nothings and runs on his own responsibility.

..... Railroad people have been of late trying the experiment of an improvement in railroad brakes, which promises much for the preservation of life and limb. It will stop the cars in about one-third the distance required by the brakes now in use, and as it is worked by steam will give to the engineer the entire control of the train.

..... Our friends of the Salisbury *Watchman* "sprung a leak last week, and "rattled" their *bell* charmingly. The following capital bit of freight went overboard:" "One of the most beautifully printed and carefully edited papers we have seen for some time, is the "Yorkville Enquirer," recently started at Yorkville, S. C., by JOHN L. MILLER and SAMUEL W. MELTON. They have hit to the letter, our idea of what should be the style and character of a country paper; and if they hold it up to what it is at, we shall be greatly disappointed if they do not succeed in their enterprise to the extent of their most sanguine expectations."

..... Monday last, being the first in April, was, as a matter of course, sales-day in Yorkville. No property was sold by the Sheriff, and the business of the day was confined to the sale of three negroes and other property of an assigned estate, which brought moderate prices. Inasmuch as the All-Fools day came on Sunday, the *fool*-business was postponed to Monday, and the day completely monopolized. Many a smart performance was effected, doubtless, and as Sam Patch would say, "some things were done as well as others." Had our friend, JESSE HOLMES, been permitted to visit us, the slaughter would have been immense to tell. Persons should be cautious how they incur the displeasure of this dangerous individual, as there comes a time, now and then, when "forbearance ceases to be a virtue."

..... We are indebted to Lieut. THOMAS, of the Arsenal Academy, for a copy of the official Register of the Officers and Cadets of the South Carolina Military Academies, for 1854. We are pleased to learn that these Institutions are both prospering finely, and are doing faithfully and well the work to which they have been appointed. The graduating class of 1854, we find, numbered 13, among whom we note the names of our towns-men, Messrs. COWARD and JENKINS. The second class numbered 20; the third class, in which is the name of our young friend, GEORGE ROSS, 24; and the fourth class, at the Arsenal, among them R. T. HARPER, of York, 44. These numbers, which express about the average ratio of the classes, give a proof to the assertion made in a former issue of our paper, that the larger number of young men are compelled to leave the Citadel for want of an adequate preparatory schooling. The standard adopted for the higher classes, the strictness with which the requirements are enforced, and the rigid discipline observed by the corps of Professors, invariably check the progress of any student who has entered these Institutions without an adequate preparation. The number of Cadets appointed to the Arsenal for the present year is 89, of whom not more than *fifteen* will be able to win their diploma! From this statement it can easily be learned that it is absolute folly to send a boy to this Institution, who has not first undergone some severe course of training.

The number of graduates since the organization of the Academies is put down at 101: all of whom are now engaged in useful employments.

..... Mr. MCMASTER has sent us the Catalogue of the South Carolina College, for 1855. The whole number of students is 195; in the Senior Class, 69; Junior, 47; Sophomore, 44; and Freshman, 34. The Students from this District are JOHN M. WHITE, of the Senior, and JOSEPH R. LYLE, of the Junior class.

We are gratified to learn from this as well as other sources that, under the present able administration, the College is in the most prosperous condition, and promises as much as the most sanguine of its friends could desire. The improvements which have been introduced; the elevation of the standard of learning, the strict enforcement of a more rigid discipline, and the adoption of new regulations better adapted to the end of the Institution, serve to illustrate the wisdom and efficiency of President THORNWELL'S administration, and make the College entitled to a still larger measure of the confidence and patronage of the people of the State. We have never known a time when the College was in a more successful career; and should Dr. THORNWELL conclude to remain the head of its affairs, as we still have reason to hope, we hazard nothing in saying that it will quickly reach and maintain the position of the first Institution in the country.

..... About our famous enigma, the Chester *Standard* has made this sort of a discovery:—"We thought it was something very puzzling and passed on to the consideration of other matters; but a spirit of *enquiry* being set on foot among the people of old Chester, who never work by peace-meal, a man was found within her limits that can "execute the figure and do the movement" by raising the pencil only twice, or adopting the *Enquirer's* plan of letting it fall, when the diagram is complete, by lifting it only once. True as gospel. We are ready to produce the proof, if called on. *Propel* another puzzle neighbor, or give up that you can't shine in competition with old Chester, in that line."

We don't require any proof, friend MCKLEE; your word is amply sufficient. A fair correspondent, who lives just over the line on the York side, notified us of the discovery several weeks ago; but the thing had become too stale to be mentioned and we left it alone. Like many other great discoveries, when body is told all about it, it's just as easy as falling off a log." We give you another puzzle, according to request, to wit:—How are you off for Corn-Doctors?

..... The difficulty between the Commissioners of the new State Capitol and the Comptroller General has been finally adjusted by the decision of the Court, and the work will henceforth be vigorously prosecuted. All that plot of land, including the old statehouse grounds, and the square formerly occupied by Russell's Garden, the Palmetto House &c., has been enclosed; and the foundations for the new building have been dug across the main street, so that the Capitol will face towards the north. When completed, it promises to be one of the most imposing and magnificent structures in the country. The Carolinian of last week says:—"Since the decision of his Honor Judge O'Neall a week ago, in favor of the Commissioners, they have shown a highly commendable zeal in urging on the work. They have held several meetings, and have anxiously studied the various plans submitted to them by the architects. After much laborious investigation, and calling in the aid of other gentlemen to assist in the selection of the most satisfactory site, they have finally adopted one which we think combines all that is desirable for convenience, seeing the plans adopted; and congratulate the committee on their being able to unite, we believe unanimously, in so important a matter."

..... Although that veritable institution, the Almanac, informed us that it is the time for flowers and wood-land songs and vernal airs, the fickle weather-cock still points towards the North, and the biting cold and withering frosts would persuade us that we are in the days of mid-winter. Among the things which, the poet says, a wise man will not trust, is mentioned "the sunshine of an April day: and surely "old Bob" was inspired. Now and then, as if to prove the changeful mood, we have been blessed with a warm, genial ray of sunshine; but it glistened on the cold, contracted brow of lingering winter like a rich jewel in an Ethiop's ear—it wooed the bud to its blooming but to be withered, and inspired the tones of gladness but to give a keen regret to the disappointment. A day or two ago, and we thought the Spring was with us; while we write, the clouds are lowering and threaten another winter-storm.

The weather has been anything but favorable to the farming interest. As far as we can learn, the recent frosts have been general, and sufficiently heavy to kill the blooms and destroy entirely the promise for an abundance of fruit. The wheat crops are considerably injured, and, although our farmers have planted more largely than usual, the entire yield will probably fall short of an average crop.—In other sections the reports are not more promising. The *Delaware Journal* states that a house in Brandywine have purchased the entire crop of a farmer of that State at two dollars per bushel. In Missouri and Illinois, the signs are said to be propitious; but the late frosts, we think, must have been felt in that latitude too severely to justify such anticipations.

..... Our readers in the country will do well to refer to our reports of the Chester market. Mr. PAGAN has experience in his business, and makes out our reports with great care and in a very satisfactory manner. The only fault we have to find is, that, in the press of business, the ENQUIRER is sometimes neglected. Our York reports are also full and complete, and their correctness may be relied on.

..... The reader is requested to refer the advertisements of Messrs. BARNETT & WITHERS. One of these gentlemen is an experienced druggist and understands every department of the business, while the other has sufficient knowledge of the practice of medicine to deserve unlimited confidence. Their assortment of drugs is extensive, and their medicines may be relied on as free from adulteration. Read their advertisements.

..... A bill has been reported in the California Legislature to divide that State, by creating a new one, to be called the "State of Columbia," and to embrace all that part of the State south, and inclusive of the counties of Santa Cruz, Santa Clara, Tuolumne and Calaveras. A portion of the present State debt is to be assumed by the new State on an equitable basis. Its introduction gave rise to a warm debate. One of the speakers advocated the creation of three or four new States, in order that the Pacific might have a greater influence in Congress. A motion was made to indefinitely postpone the whole matter, but at last accounts no vote had been taken.

..... On Monday last the town of Columbia was metamorphozed, by the irresistible power of the body politic, into a *bona-fide* city, with all the privileges and immunities appertaining thereto. Thereupon an election for Mayor and Aldermen was held, which resulted as follows: E. J. ARTHUR, 342; WILLIAM MAYBIN, 211; THOMAS H. WADE, 91. The following persons were chosen Aldermen: T. W. RADCLIFFE, RICHARD ANDERSON; ELI KILLIAN, W. S. WOOD; R. HAMILTON, WM. GLAZE. Speaking of the election, the *Times* says, "it is shrewdly suspected that the notable 'Sam' had something to do with the result of the election." In answer to interrogatories a week ago, Col. MAYBIN announced himself in opposition to the aims of the Know-nothing order, and as Mr. ARTHUR is understood to entertain notions favorable to that party, we suppose we may set it down as a party issue, and a Know-Nothing victory. To us outsiders it is somewhat astonishing, and—we pause.

..... The Indians on the frontier are still threatning hostilities. A letter, dated in Kansas, March 18., has the following paragraph: "I have just heard of an express from Fort Pierre, which brings intelligence that the Sioux have surrounded that place, and are making hostile demonstrations against all persons who are engaged by the United States—that Col. Vaughan, the Indian Agent, is obliged to keep within the Fort and out of sight, and that they are only deterred from destroying all of our officers and property by the interposition and influence of the agents of the American Fur Company. How long this will continue, or what may be the result, we do not know. It is too far to send succor now, as the distance from here is some two thousand miles, and we will have to leave the matter in the hands of Providence."

..... Among the items brought by the steamer *Asia*, we note the following paragraph:—"The Spanish government had received confidential despatches from Conchas declaring that a Cuban deputy ought to be admitted to the Cortes, and opposing the emancipation of the slaves as calculated to cause the Cubans to seek an alliance with the United States. He thinks if the Cubans are not pacified, 20,000 troops cannot hold the island. The government had announced to the Cortes that tranquillity had been restored in Cuba."

..... The Spring Term of the Lancaster Court continued in session until the end of the week. The large proportion of the business was left unfinished; and an order is published for a special Court to be held on the third Monday in July, next, for the trial of all cases not disposed of at the recent term. The trial of CRAIG, for the killing of McCORMICK, took place on Wednesday and Thursday, and resulted in a verdict of Manslaughter.

..... In consequence of illness in the family of Judge MUNRO, the Spring term of the Court for Chester District was brought to a close on Wednesday evening of last week. The more important business of the term was transacted; and as the amount of litigation was very light, we presume no one will suffer any detriment by the early adjournment.

From Washington.

WASHINGTON, March 23.

Mr. MARCY is more entirely occupied at the present time, in preparing dispatches and instructions for our Foreign Ministers, not only in Europe, but elsewhere, than at any former time. Many things have been neglected or postponed on account of the pressure of the current of business of the Department, which are now to be attended to.

Our relations with Mexico require some attention, and an indistinct rumor prevails that a commercial treaty and satisfaction for spoliations of American property, are to be insisted upon. We hear intimations, from various sources, that the Garay claim is to be revived, and pressed against Mexico. The only compensation which Mexico can offer for the relinquishments of the claims, amounting to six millions, is either in the modification of her revenue system, so as to admit our cottons, tobacco and other products, at a low rate of duty, or the cession to the United States of more territory.

Notice has been given to Denmark of the termination of the arrangement for the payment of Sound dues, under the existing treaty; and, therefore, some new arrangement more satisfactory to us must be made within the year, or our vessels passing through the Sound will be required to pay higher duties than are now charged under the treaty arrangement, at the same time the commerce of Denmark with the United States will be put on a less favored footing.—The instructions accompanying the notice, therefore, involve an entire review of our relations with Denmark.

The Central American question, notwithstanding the Clayton and Bulwer treaty, and the Webster and Crampton treaty, and all Mr. Buchanan's efforts to make a new treaty, is still unsettled. The present difficulty is partly in relation to the occupancy by Great Britain of the Island of Ruatan, off the Honduras coast. It is claimed by us that the Islands, of which this is the largest, are not within British Honduras, which was understood to be excepted from the operation of the Bulwer and Crampton treaty. It is not quite certain yet that Great Britain will not, under Lord Palmerston's government, re-assert the Musquito protectorate. They have not relinquished the right claimed to protect the Musquito Indians from oppression by the States of Nicaragua or Costa Rica.

Though the late pending questions with Spain are so far settled that they cannot disturb the friendly relations between this Government and that of Spain, yet the United States will continue to urge the necessity of a reciprocity of free trade between the United States and Cuba, and the establishment in Cuba of a tribunal—consisting of the Captain General and the American Consul General or some other tribunal—in the island of Cuba, for the adjustment of such grievances as we may have reason to complain of, without the delay of a reference of them to the home Government. The El Dorado case is not considered here as so great an outrage as the Union has represented it. The Cuban authorities had reason to expect the arrival on their coast of three or four American steamers, under the American flag, with American troops and munitions of war, for the hostile invasion of Cuba—all under the command of an American General. Under these circumstances, they had a right to inquire as to the character of an American Steamer on its coast, with a view to ascertain whether she was of the fillibuster or piratical fleet or not.

WASINGTON, March 25.

The correspondece connected with the settlement of the *Black Warrior* case is now published. It appears that Mr. Soule took strong and high grounds at the beginning of the correspondence, and when an immediate answer was delayed he demanded a reply within forty-eight hours. In his letter of the 11th April to Mr. Calderon, the minister of State, he says:

"I must therefore insist that those who have been wronged receive an indemnity equal to their losses—namely, three hundred thousand dollars; and that all persons, whatever be their official rank or importance, who have, in any responsible manner, been concerned in the perpetration of the wrong, be dismissed from her Majesty's service in the offices which they now hold. The non-compliance with these just demands within forty-eight hours after the delivery of this communication into the hands of your excellency will be considered by the government of the United States as equivalent to a declaration that her Majesty's government is determined to uphold the conduct of its officers."

The President's Message to Congress of the 15th March, which was so warlike in its tone, had been previously communicated by Mr. Soule, to the Minister. In that message, the President said, if the measures taken for the amicable adjustment of our difficulties with Spain should fail, he would use the authority and means which Congress might give him to obtain redress, &c., and in anticipation of that contingency he "suggests to Congress the property of adopting such financial measures as the exigency may seem to demand." But the government of Spain did not yield to the emergency, and was not frightened from its propriety and reserve. It resorted to its diplomacy, of delay, and was soon enabled to disarm our minister in part, by stating that the Black Warrior had been given up to her owners, and, subsequently, by the further statement that, upon the petition of the owners themselves, the Spanish government had remitted the fine; and, finally, after a change of the Spanish ministry, and the departure of Mr. Soule, the full reparation required by the United States was accorded.

The message of March 15th, made a temporary flurry in Congress, but it slept quietly in the Committee of Foreign Relations of the House, to which was referred. That Committee considered it as having reference to the pending negotiation, and being intended to facilitate it. The Spanish government began to consider it in the same light, not believing that we would make an attempt to seize Cuba, at the hazard of a war with Spain, France and England.

The new postage law will take effect on the 1st prox. All letters for distances under one thousand miles, are to be prepaid.—*Charleston Courier.*

Alabama Fast Day.

Governor Winston has issued a proclamation, setting apart Saturday, the 7th April, as a day of humiliation and prayer, to be observed by the people of Alabama. The withholding of rain and cutting off of communication within our country, as well as the disturbances and conflicts of nations, having a wide spread influence, he thinks afford matter for reflection and prayer for the devout, and of profound and serious solicitude to the patriotic.

The Governor makes the following remarks on the gloomy aspect of the political relations of the Southern States:

"It well becomes every one whose political lot has been cast in this section of the Union to examine prayerfully the end to which political fanaticism at the North is so rapidly tending, and to implore Him, who endued the stern men, the fathers of our Republic, with fortitude, patriotism and wisdom to conduct our infant people through the difficulties of the revolutionary struggle, and the establishment of a Constitutional Government, to enable us to bear ourselves in whatever emergency we may be placed, so as not to reflect disgrace on our ancestors."

☞ The German and French journals of New York—reviewing the foreign news—expect no immediate peace. Mr. Gaillardet, who writes from well-informed circles in Paris to the Courier, thinks that the Czar's death removes a great obstacle in the way of peace, but