Scraps & Facts.

—— It is stated that Utah will apply for admission into the Union as a slave State.

—— The U. S. Senate on Tuesday elected the Rev. H. Dean as Chaplain for the session.

—— The Scotch have a saying 'Who cheat me once, shame befall him; if he cheats me twice shame befall me.'

—— What is the difference between a butcher and a gay young lady? The former kills to dress, while the latter dresses to kill.

—— 'Come rest in this bosom, my own stricken dear,' as Sally Snell said when she put the whiskey tickler behind the cotton padings.

—— Mankind in general mistake difficulties for impossibilities. This is the difference between those who effect and those who do not.

—— The Louisiana Sugar Crop for the present year is estimated at 275,000 hogsheads, against 255,633 hogsheads last.

—— Ex-President Fillmore has been visiting the King of Holland. He will spend the winter in Italy.

—— Water is scarce at Jerusalem. In building a school house that cost £600 Bishop Gobate was obliged to pay £60 for water to mix the mortar!

—— Jackson, the "American Deer," has been running at the Hippodrome in Paris.—He does three miles and three quarters in twenty minutes with ease.

—— It would be a curious chapter in history if the present Murat should become King of Naples. During the reign of Louis Phillippe this individual kept a boarding-house in the United States.

—— A polite young lady recently asserted that she had lived near a barnyard, and that it was impossible for her to sleep in the morning, on account of an outcry made by a gentleman hen!

—— A certain newspaper having advertised that they would send a copy of their paper gratis for one year to the person who would send them a club of ten, received the ten spot of clubs from a young lady in the country.

—— A lawyer, being sick, made his last will and testament, and gave all his estates to fools and madmen! Being asked the reason for so doing, he said, 'From such I got it, and to such I return it again.'

—— Nobility and gentleness go hand in hand and when I see a young gentleman kind and respectful to his mother, and gentle and forebearing to his brother and sisters, I think he has a noble heart.

—— A country parson had a singular peculiarity of expression, always using the phrase, 'I flatter myself,' instead of 'I believe.' Having occasion to exhort his congregation during a revival, he 'flattered himself' that more than one half of them would be damned!

—— The Boston (Mass.) Transcript gives the total length of the Mississippi and all its tributaries as fifty-one thousand miles, which is more than twice the equatorial circumference of the earth!

—— Would you have influence with those who look to you for guidance and instruction? Bear with you the law of kindness. Would you command their respect? Let your words, though they inflict pain for the time, drop kindly from your lips.

—— Milton was a cobler's clerk and also derived a precarious subsistence from teaching in a country school. Shakspeare, until honored by royal notice, was scarcely considered a respectable vagabond; Otway and Goldsmith perished in want, and Chiterdon sought refuge from despair in suicide.

—— Anybody who supposes that locking a girl in a back room will prevent her from knowing what love means, might as well undertake to keep strawberries from blushing in June, by whispering in their ears about the snow we had last winter.

—— A Yankee, down east, has invented a machine for corking up daylight, which will eventually supercede gas. He covers the interior of a flour barrel with shoemaker's wax, holds it open to the sun, then suddenly heads up the barrel. The light sticks to the wax, and at night can be cut, and sold in 'lots' to suit purchasers.

—— The Governor of Connecticut has issued his proclamation, announcing the adoption of an amendment to the constitution of that state, requiring all electors to be able to read and write. The whole vote of the people was 29,914, of which 17,370, were in favor of the adoption of the amendment, and 12,544 against it. The majority in favor of it was 4,826.

—— The Washington correspondent of the South Side (Virginia) Democrat, who is supposed to be Mr. Banks, the editor, a candidate for the Clerkship and of course in the secrets, writes to that paper that the Speakership is "settled," and intimates that all will be astonished when the final result is announced. He says that all previous speculations of correspondents are wide of the mark. Mr. Banks does not, however, give us any idea of what the result will be.

—— The ship Adelaide arrived here on the 14th of October from San Francisco, bringing a cargo of California wheat, barley, &c., which paid a profit to the shipper of nearly 50 per cent clear of expenses, the wheat selling at an average of about $2 per bushel.—The same vessel is now up for California with 1,500 bbls. of flour on board, to go back to the same port from which she brought the wheat. Some would think that 19,000 miles was a long way to come to mill.—*N. Y. Sun.*

—— It is a curious fact that the British Baltic fleet, now at Kiel, is, during the temporary absence of Admiral Dundas, under the orders of Captain Codrington, brother to the commander-in-chief of the Crimea. Thus the sons of the hero of Navarino are at this moment in command of two divisions of English force engaged *against* Russia and *for* Turkey, while then Russia, France and England were allied against Turkey.

—— It was resolved in the Virginia House of Delegates on Friday, that the Committee of Courts of Justice inquire into the expediency of so amending 19th section, 176 chapter of the Code of Virginia, as to admit the testimony of negros against white persons charged with the abduction, or attempt to abduct slaves from the commonwealth, when said persons so charged shall be citizens of such States as admit negro testimony in cases in which white persons may be parties.

—— The New York *Herald* of Sunday, says: 'During the last week our bill of extra expenses for special telegraphic dispatches from Washington, for six days, amounted to two hundred and ninety-four dollars. Add this to our share of the Congressional reports and dispatches to the associated press, the salaries of Washington reporters, correspondent, &c., and some idea may be formed of the active capital required for the news of a daily journal like the Herald. This is the sort of enterprise which, set in motion by Mr. Bennett twenty years ago, has worked out a revolution in the New York press which has placed it so far in advance of the journalism of every other city in the Union, that there is no probability of any of them overtaking us for twenty years to come. The Herald, as the pioneer in this great newspaper reform, has been, and continues to be, so amply sustained by an intelligent community, as to justify extra expenditures for early and exclusive intelligence which, twenty years ago, would have been regarded fabulous and foolish. Onward is the word. Nothing like a bold and independent press, sustained by a liberal and independent people."

The Yorkville Enquirer.

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

YORKVILLE, S. C.

THURSDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 20, 1855.

SOUTH CAROLINA LEGISLATURE.

COLUMBIA, December 10.

Your Corresponding Editor having left town to assist a friend in the very important matter of taking a wife, I at his instance, and in his stead, will endeavor to give a brief report of the proceedings in either house to-day.

In the Senate, the Report of the Committee on Federal Relations, on that part of the Governor's Message which relates to his action in reference to the Resolutions transmitted by the Governor of Massachusetts, came up for consideration. It presented a very delicate question, and to render it still more embarrassing it was understood that his Excellency would resign if his action was disapproved of. The discussion exhibited something of the feeling which might be expected under these circumstances; but the matter was finally disposed of by adopting the Report and superadding a resolution affirming the approval of the Legislature of the Governor's action. Enough has been said and done to prevent the recognition of this action as a precedent, whilst at the same time any thing like censure of the Governor's course has been avoided.

In the House, the day was engrossed by the speeches of Mr. Cunningham, of Charleston, and Mr. Tobin, of Barnwell, on the Electoral Question. Both of the efforts were highly creditable, but unfortunately very lengthy. It is evident that the House is growing impatient under this protracted discussion, all being satisfied that it cannot effect or modify the opinions of a single member upon the floor. The minds of all are fully made up. The general impression is that the bill which has passed the Senate (Chesnut's bill) will finally be adopted by the House. It is by no means acceptable to a majority, but will be taken as a temporary adjustment.

The Separate Appeal Court Bill, which was defeated in the House on Saturday, was to-day taken up for reconsideration. The vote was very close on Saturday, and the friends of the measure proposed, if the opportunity were allowed them, to move certain amendments which would make it less exceptionable. Great interest seems to be felt in the success of the measure by the older and more experienced members of the Bar; and if, as they argue, the business of the country can be more speedily and more satisfactorily transacted, it certainly should be adopted by the Legislature without regard to the expense it may involve. But as to this lawyers and Judges themselves disagree; and when they differ, who shall decide?

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

AMERICAN HOTEL, Columbia, S. C.
Thursday, December 13, 1855.

The round of conviviality and merry-making to which I promised to betake myself, on Monday morning last, came to a close yesterday, and early this morning, after a night's travel on Mr. Caldwell's Railroad, I reached Columbia and again went to work. It would be to me an enjoyable task to give you a sketch of the pleasant incidents which made up this the most agreeable portion of the season.—All the appliances which a wealthy and hospitable people could invent were placed in contribution to our enjoyment, and they were received and relished by our company with a right hearty good-will.—Quite the most note-worthy of these contributions to our stock of pleasure must be mentioned the bevy of charming Georgia and Carolina beauties, who, like ourselves, had gathered around the marriage-altar to pay the offices of friendly, affectionate devotion, and whose presence gave to us our best and most welcome greeting. Like our own, the women of Georgia are all pretty—at all events I have never seen a plain one—and strange to say! they are equally sprightly, intelligent, clever—always ready with a fund of wit, sentiment and excellent good sense wherewithal to make the hours speed pleasantly and profitably along. Without being invidious I can think of one especially, whose name and abiding place suggested in advance thoughts of busy industry, of sweetness and of flowers and of nectar-sippings, and, not to be irreverent, even of heaven itself, and whose actual presence gave to every suggestion a confirmation, and, furnished a conclusive and welcome proof that there is, verily, something in a name! But, really, for fear my matter-of-fact readers may not appreciate such enthusiasm, or, rather, may come to the conclusion that their correspondent is slightly *non compos mentis*, I shall cease the strain, the silliest part of which is the endeavor to compress into a paragraph the material which might well comprise a volume.

But another word. To our friend and to the amiable, lovely bride, whom, a jewel of exceeding brightness, he has just set, the crowning glory, in his casket of joys, we offer an expression of our earnest well-wishes. Life is but a series of compensations. As the past, in which we have mingled has been full of toil and struggle, and, now and then, perhaps of pain, so the present is replete with happiness, and the future all radiant with the cheering promise of a life to be crowned with the reward of usefulness and the insignia of truth and honor. As it is promised, so may they find it; and calmly, joyfully and with accord walking the pathway of earth together, together may they close the last chapter of a truthful heart-history, the record of an united life well-spent—a story to be rehearsed and told again in heaven!

On our way we tarried a day in the ancient city of Augusta, and employed a portion of the time in ascertaining the various points of interest. These are few. It is a busy, bustling place, fully twice as large as Columbia, and looking very much like one of our old-fashioned seaboard towns. It is the terminus of four Railroads, which bring to its warehouses the material of a large, widely-extended and prosperous trade. The streets are very wide, most commendably wide, well-shaded, and with the peculiarity of a single "gutter" in the middle instead of one on each side. In many places these gutters are deep and dangerous, and at almost every cross-street they are spanned by ugly-looking bridges. Properly it might be called a city of bridges. With the exception of this deformity, it has every right to be styled a handsome place; indeed, the two principal streets, *Broad* and *Green*, are as attractive in style and appearance as any I have yet seen. On Green Street, in front of the Court House, which by the way is the model of a building, is a granite column, without inscription, erected, I learned, in honor of the signers of the Declaration of Independence from Georgia. It is a noble tribute well paid, and might teach a lesson to others who have like memories to be cherished. Augusta, unlike some places we wot of, is not yet finished; neither is my description of it. But I must come back to home-topics.

Before leaving Columbia I requested one of the members to favor you with an account of Monday's proceedings, in time for your last issue. He informs me that he did so, and I regret on reading this week's ENQUIRER to find that it has not been inserted. I hope it has reached you; so, I shall commence with my notes for Tuesday.

On that day the matter of the Separate Court of Appeals was reconsidered. Several amendments were adopted, involving material changes in the scheme, and rendering it in several particulars more acceptable; but on a final vote, after a thorough discussion and a most determined effort of the friends of the measure, the House refused to send the Bill to the Senate by a vote of 58 to 56. So ends the most prominent and important measure of the session—a consummation, it so happens, exactly in accordance with the wishes of your correspondent. The House has concurred in the resolution of the Senate to adjourn on Wednesday, the 19th., and as yet scarcely a single act of Legislation has been effected.—The Calendar has yet to be relieved of a heavy burden, and I think it scarcely possible for Mr. Mullins' measure of the election of an additional Law Judge to be carried during this session.

The discussion of our Free School system has also ended without any practical benefit. The Legislature is not averse to action in relation to this subject, but, year after year, schemes are presented which involve radical changes and require thorough discussion, which is protracted until, in a sudden agony on account of the near approach of adjournment day, all are pitched helter-skelter overboard to be resuscitated again at the ensuing session. If legislators, instead of going abroad in search of Eutopian schemes, would address themselves solely to a revision and improvement of the present system, which has not thus far been adequately tried, some practical and effectual legislation might result. All the Bills were summarily laid on the table, with the exception of Mr. Tucker's, which was rejected directly by a vote of 51 to 55.

After the determination of the Legislature at the last session to involve the finances of the State in the Blue Ridge Railroad scheme, a Charter was granted for the construction of the Savannah Valley Railroad, from Anderson, or some point on the Greenville road, to Hamburg; and the usual amount of State aid was pledged in its behalf. As this enterprise would tend to diminish materially the distance from the Mountains to Charleston, as it was thought, would in no wise divert the stream of trade from the desired channel, no objection was urged against it. It turns out, however, that the city of Augusta, ever keenly alive to the main chance, has taken a fancy for the road, and has proposed to subscribe a figure considerably above the State subscription, provided the terminus be located on the Georgia side. Whereupon, the Company at the present session applies for an amendment to their charter to enable them to accept the terms of the Augusta subscription, and as an inducement surrenders the claim to the aid of the State. Of course, where a Company simply applies for a charter without any demand upon the treasury, it cannot in good conscience be refused; though in this instance it worked terribly upon the sensibilitits of the Greenville and Charleston monopolies. These had combined for their own particular benefit to pledge the State to an utterly ruinous extent in behalf of one of the wildest schemes on record, and had now taken to themselves the flattering unction that they had enriched their coffers immensely at the public expense. But in this they are to be mistaken. The application of the Savannah Valley Company has met with a favorable consideration; and as a result, the immense stores of wealth which are to find their way over the mountains will be poured into Augusta and Savannah, instead of Charleston. While I cannot sympathize with the unfortunate *friends* of the Blue Ridge Road, I must confess that I cannot relish the idea of involving our State in bankruptcy for the sole and exclusive advantage of Augusta and Savannah. But, in equity and good conscience, it cannot be helped. The Blue Ridge men duped the State; Augusta has duped the Blue Ridge men; and if I do not mistake the signs, the Yankee contractors will in the end dupe them both. All that I do know is, "we, the people" must "pay the piper."

The Bill to grant aid to the State Agricultural Society has passed both Houses, with an amendment increasing the annual appropriation from *three* to *five* thousand dollars. The friends of the Society are much uplifted by their success, and now pronounce their enterprise beyond all doubt a "fixed fact."—Both Houses have also passed the Bill to extend the King's Mountain Railroad, which was substituted by Mr. Wilson in place of the "Bill to charter the York and North Carolina Railroad Company. In consultation with the President of our Road, it was thought best, instead of authorizing the formation of a new company, to enlarge the powers of the present company so as to enable them to open books, appoint commissioners, and increase the capital stock on amount not exceeding two hundred and fifty thousand dollars, with a view to the extension of our road to some point on the North Carolina line in the direction either of Dallas or Shelby. This amendment has been taken in good faith. A vigorous effort is in progress to divert the trade of the country east of Hickory-Nut Gap, out of its natural channel, to the direction of Charlotte and Wilmington; but it is well known that the people of that section would prefer and will liberally aid a connection with the York road. This is the natural course of their trade, and but little effort is necessary to preserve it. It is impossible that Yorkville can always be the terminus of a Railroad; or if such should be the case, the circumstances which would attend the consummation of such a wish would at the same time render the advantage a trifling one indeed. The locality to which I have alluded is really one of the wealthiest in natural resources in the State of North Carolina, and must find an outlet for the productions which a daily increasing activity and energy must develop. A single glance will convince any one that the channel for this outlet runs in the direction of Yorkville, and a thorough survey will demonstrate the fact that the route from Morganton to Yorkville is more favorable for the construction of a Railroad than can be found anywhere in the Southern country. That road must be built, and we may at once make up our mind to it. We hope that our men of substance will take the enterprise in hand. The King's Mountain Railroad has achieved a success which ought certainly to encourage the effort—what has been done, can be done again. That road, by-the-way, is undoubtedly a trump-card. It is really refreshing to hear men talk of it—"Not only pays a dividend handsomely, but is out of debt and has a pocket full of surplus." It is actually conceded that one may "see daylight" in the race between our precious little one-horse concern and any other "nag" in the United States! But I have wandered off from the York and Morganton Railroad—so far, too, that I cannot recur to it, now. I hope to resume the subject again, more than once.

I found on the tables of the House, to-day, a "Bill to establish two Boards of Commissioners of Roads in York District"—one in the forty-sixth Regiment to consist of Messrs. John S. Bratton, John R. Hall, Peter McCallum, W. Boyce, and R. A. Springs, and to meet three times a year at Rock Hill; the other to consist of Messrs. Chesley Guinn, E. Leech, John McGill, Martin Hardin, and W. R. Alexander, and to meet three times a year at Yorkville. It purports to have been reported on Monday by the Committee, and, I understand, has Mr. Clawson for its sponsor. It is to me an entirely new idea, though, I doubt not, there are many reasons why it should be attentively considered. But the Bill is very clumsily drawn, leaving unconsidered many points which would involve in great difficulty, the division of the funds and labor; and even if it could be reached on the Calendar, it would, on account of its incompleteness, fail to pass.

Mr. Porter, the chairman of the committee of Privileges and Elections, made a report, to-day, in the Senate, on the contested election case between Mr. Tillman Watson, the sitting Senator from Edgefield, and Col. J. P. Carroll, his competitor. The Report, which decided that the election was void, was adopted, the seat was declared vacant and another election ordered. This has been a tough case, and at the last session, it will be remembered, involved a large amount of investigation and no little expense. By the adoption of this Report it is decided pointedly, in addition to other authorities, that to render an election valid, *every Manager on receipt of the writ and before giving notice, must be sworn.*

At the request of Rev. Mr. Kelly, the Presiding Elder, please insert in the advertising column a notice that the Quarterly Meeting appointed to be held at Indian Hook (over the River) on the 29th and 30th, has been postponed until the first Sunday in March. Mr. Kelly informs me that the first Quarterly Meeting in Yorkville will be held on Saturday and Sunday, the 22nd and 23d instant. The Presiding Elder will attend the meeting.

I learned from Mr. Kelly that the proposition to hold the next Annual Conference at Yorkville was carried almost unanimously on the first ballot. This gives us another proof that the "whereabouts" of our locality is beginning to be appreciated. And still another evidence, which I learn with much gratification, will be found in the character of the minister who has been sent to labor in our vineyard. From several quarters I have been pleased to hear the most flattering encomiums upon the ability of Mr. Lester as a preacher, and his affability, high tone and fine accomplishments as a gentleman. Although he has been in the Conference I think, but three years, he ranks among its ornaments, and bids fair to be foremost and best in the career to which he has devoted his life. His mission to Yorkville is a compliment to our town which, from all that I can hear, deserves to be appreciated. S. W. M.

MONDAY, December 17.

On Friday, another and perhaps the most important measure was murdered in the House. After very long and frequent debates on the subject, the Electoral Question was brought to a decision, or, rather, was brought to a climax entirely beyond the point where decision are made. Mr. Perry's Bill, giving the election to the people on the Federal basis, came up first in order, and to the surprise of every one was adopted by a vote of 51 to 53! This unlooked-for event was brought about by an equally strange combination of elements, and to the large majority of the House was as unwelcome as it was strange! Having no idea that, under the present condition of things, the Bill could pass both Houses or even the lower branch, many members desired, merely as an expression of opinion, to record their vote in its favor before supporting Mr. Chesnut's Bill; others, thoroughly radical and most remarkably stubborn, voted for the Bill because, like a petted child if they "couldn't get all, won't have none" and a third party, from the Parishes and opposed to any action whatever, voted in the affirmative knowing that if Mr. Perry's Bill could be passed, it would defeat any further agitation of the question. In the first division Mr. Wilson takes rank; in the second, Messrs. Clawson and Wallace. Mr. Williams was quite ill on Friday, and consequently was not in his seat. An effort was made to pass Mr. Chesnut's Bill also; but the House, regarding such action as inconsistent, laid it on the table by a vote of 58 to 45, together with all other matters relating thereto. Of course the Senate promptly refused to concur in the action of the House, and thus the question has been decided. I should like to say more on the subject, and especially to examine the position of the members who, in practical violation of their pledges, played into the hands of the Parish party. But I have not room now.

On Saturday the Bill to exempt the several District Boards and the Managers of Election from Ordinary militia duty, presented by Mr. Melton, was taken up for consideration. The Committee-Report adverse to the measure was laid on the table by a decided vote; but after a long and spirited debate and the rejection of a large number of amendments proposed to embarrass the passage, the matter was indefinitely postponed for want of time. There were many reasons why this Bill should be passed, the most important of which is that it would afford some reward to many of our citizens who do a heavy labor without any compensation, and thus induce them to continue their services to the public. Mr. McGowan, the redoubtable Chairman on the Military, made a fierce onslaught on the Bill, which he regarded as an indirect attempt to break down the Militia system. It is really amusing to see the genuine earnestness with which the Chairman lays down the position that all of our liberties, all our rights, civil, religious and social, in fact all things good and true, depend upon the Militia. As Aunt Dolly, in Fanny Fern's new book, would say, it is "tridikilis." Had the House come to a direct vote the bill would have been passed; but in view of the undoubted fact that the Senate would defeat it, and to husband the time which is now becoming precious, the discussion was postponed indefinitely. Our delegation voted favorably to the Bill.

The Senate on Saturday gave a *quietus* to the subject of the removal of the Lunatic Asylum. It was proposed last year, and the proposition was renewed this session, that, inasmuch as the present Asylum is insufficient and unhealthy, the building and grounds be disposed of and the location of a new building changed to some retired locality in the country several miles from town. It was not satisfactorily established that the present site is unhealthy, but on the other side it was most conclusively demonstrated that the removal would be attended by a very heavy expense; and the Senate therefore very properly refused to agree to the proposition by a decided vote of 33 to 5, and was content to provide for the purchase of the lands adjacent to the present building necessary for the purpose of enlarging the Asylum.

The Senate by a vote of 25 to 19 gave a favorable consideration to the Resolutions from the House affirming the expediency of the election of a paid agent to superintend and be responsible for the work of the new State Capitol; and also to an amendment accepting the resignation of the Commissioners, to take effect on the appointment of their successor.—The matter was again brought up in the House to-night by the Report of the Special Committee, and is now undergoing a most searching discussion. A rigorous effort has been made to set aside the former action of the House in which the Senate has concurred, so as to give the superintendence of the work, as at present, to a Board of three Commissioners. This very inconsistent movement failed, however, and the matter is just now poised, as Mr. Keitt would say, on a "dancing equilibrium." A very respectable number of members are seriously discussing the expediency of deferring all action in relation to the new Capitol and thus suspending the work, until a definite idea as to the plan and cost can be obtained. The event of the discussion is just about as uncertain as it is important. It is now nearly twelve o'clock and the House is still in session with a fair prospect of remaining so until daylight.

I have not yet heard of any other proceedings of interest in either House to-day. The time is consumed mostly in giving the second and third reading to Bills, and passing Resolutions which are not of interest to our section. The following Bills have thus far been passed, and invested with the title of Acts:—

FROM THE SENATE.

An Act to amend an Act entitled "an Act to incorporate the Elmwood Cemetery Company."

An Act to grant aid to the State Agricultural Society of South Carolina.

An Act to enlarge the powers of the Commissioned Officers of the City Guard and the Police Officers of the city of Charleston.

An Act to incorporate the Landsford Manufacturing Company.

An Act to amend the Charter of the North Eastern Railroad Company, and for other purposes.

An Act to extend the Kings Mountain Railroad.

An Act to establish Clarendon County a separate Judicial District.

An Act to Supersede lane fences by the erection of gates.

FROM THE HOUSE.

An Act to unite the "Morris Street Baptist Church," Charleston, and the "Fourth Baptist Church," Charleston, into one corporation under the name of the "Citadel Square Church."

An Act to amend the twelfth section of an Act entitled "an Act to incorporate certain Societies, Associations and Companies, and to renew and amend the Charter of others," ratified the 21st December, 1854.

An Act to lease the State Road over the Saluda Mountains to M. D. Dickey and Oliver Barrett, and for other purposes.

An Act to incorporate the Graniteville Cemetery Association.

An Act to amend the Charter of the Spartanburg and Union Railroad Company in certain particulars.

An Act to renew and amend the Charter of the town of Unionville.

An Act to amend the Charter of the Savannah River Valley Railroad Company, and for other purposes.

An Act to incorporate certain Religious and charitable societies and Societies for the advancement of Education, and to renew the Charters of others heretofore granted

An Act for the better regulation of the Commissioners of Cross Roads for Charleston Neck.

An Act to incorporate certain town and villages, and to renew and amend certain Charters heretofore granted.

The House has made several ineffectual attempts to induce the Senate to concur in rescinding the resolution to adjourn on Wednesday. The accumulation of business, inportant to be done, has been fearful, and if the Assembly adjourn on Wednesday many matters will be thrown overboard which imperatively demand consideration. To-day, upon joint conference of Committees from each house it was determined to rescind; the Senate, however, proved refractory and has been, and will be to the end, most consistently stubborn. It really seems that a seat upon the floor of the Legislature is most remarkably conducive to the intense development of that commendable affection which makes an individual anxious to see his wife and especially his children; and, strange to say, the susceptibility, it appears, increases with age. It strikes me that in choosing legislators it would be well to have an eye to this quality, and beware of those in whom this question is so absorbing. If the State thereby would become the subject of a spontaneous combustion, these members nevertheless would spend their Christmas "in the bosom of their families!" Mr. Wilson and Mr. Clawson are both victims.

I ought to have mentioned in my last letter that the Board of Trustees of the College have determined to dispense entirely with the services of Dr. Thornwell, and instructed the Faculty, meantime, to provide a Professor and Chaplain *pro tempore*.—The Faculty have accordingly given the Department of the "Evidences" and Butler's Analogy as well as the Chaplaincy to Dr. Reynolds, to the utter demolishment of the Belles Lettres Professorship. Four out of the eight hours formerly occupied by Dr. Reynolds in the Belles Lettres department has been assigned to other departments; the remaining disposal of the other four being yet undetermined. I would not be surprised if this chair, which is now practically abolished, should eventually be expunged from the College *curriculum*. Nor would it be a matter of much regret. The department is proverbially one of most decided inefficiency, and the hours devoted to it might be very well assigned to other and more useful studies.

A caucus of the members of the Legislature was held in the Hall of Representations, this evening, with view to taking action in reference to the Kansas question. Mr. Middleton was called to the Chair, and on motion by Mr. Allen, of Barnwell, a Committee consisting of two were appointed to solicit the attendance of members at and prepare business for an adjourned meeting to be held to-morrow evening at half past eight o'clock. It is also rumored that a caucus will also be held to-morrow, to discuss the expediency of a representation on the part of the State in the Cincinnati Convention, and to appoint delegates. Your readers will be informed of the progress of these events.

Our latest advices from Europe by the Baltic, up to 1st December, are of no special importance. The burden of the intelligence refers to rumors of a disposition on the part of the Czar to consent to terms of peace favorable to the allied powers. As far as I can see, they are not reliable. There is nothing new from the seat of war—the campaign of '55 appears to be at an end, and without any success on either side which would give an indication as to the future.

The House of Representatives at Washington had not at last accounts succeeded in effecting an organization. Two ballots were had for speaker on Saturday, without any change in the vote. The prospect of an early election is by no means flattering.

On Friday evening last, a serious affray occurred in a bar-room on Bridge Street, in which one of the city marshals, Mr. Thomas Cross, was shot by a man named James McCombs. It is feared the wound will prove to be fatal.

Washburne's Circus is here, and to-night drew the largest crowd that was ever known to attend such an entertainment in this latitude. From the street demonstrations I am disposed to think that the whole concern is a most consummate failure; and doubtless the main portion of their success here is already achieved. S. W. M.

For the Yorkville Enquirer.

Messrs. Editors: Allow me a small space in the colums of your paper, to lay before the public the merits of an examination which took place at Union Male Academy, on Friday the 7th instant. This school is under the auspices of JOHN B. PANKEY, Esq. If I had known nothing of him as a Teacher, this examination, affording such a striking commentary on his thorough and complete system of instruction, would have been sufficient to establish for him an enviable reputation. The results of his mode of teaching, were evidenced throughout the entire examination. The students in every department, acquitted themselves in a manner highly creditable, and to those who were present and witnessed their performance, it was the best possible encomium that could be passed upon the school.

As soon as the regular examination had concluded the large crowd in attendance was escorted to a table on which was spread an excellent Pic Nic, furnished by the fair ladies of the neighborhood. After they had sufficiently regaled themselves with the good things placed before them, the audience were entertained for a short time with the delivery of several select speeches. We were gratified to see that this important accomplishment to the scholar had not been neglected.

It should be a source of gratulation to the Trustees and Patrons of the school that they have secured the services of such an accomplished teacher as Mr. PANKEY. He is a ripe scholar, and a good disciplinarian, evincing a zealous devotion to his calling, the most dignified and honorable in which man can engage—the mental and moral training of our youth. With such "schoolmaster's abroad," good results must follow, and the education of the masses, a subject which has so long and fruitlessly occupied the attention of our Legislature, and which is now becoming the sentiment of the State, will soon become a fixed fact. If our Legislature is determined to persist in its present course of wrangling and jangling, let the people undertake themselves what it has failed to accomplish. We want no more "speeches to Bunkum." Give us something practical and tangible—a permanent basis on which to erect a superstructure that will stand as a "city set upon a hill." SPECTATOR.

☞ Owing to mail failures a portion of our correspondence did not reach us in time for the last issue. In order that our readers may have full reports from the Legislature we give it place this week.

OUR SCHOOLS.

We had intended giving the different schools in our Town and District an extended notice, but our correspondence from Columbia has completely crowded us out. We can now only refer our readers to the advertisements in this week's issue, deferring any further notice to some future time.

BOOT AND SHOE POLISH.

We have been presented by one of the manufacturers with a box of EVANS and WOODWARD'S "Boot and Shoe Polish." After a fair trial we are prepared to pronounce it a very superior article. The only draw-back we see to its being brought into general use, is that it is "an entire Southern production."—Our people are so accustomed to the belief that every article of use must hail from Yankee land, they will be slow to believe it genuine. Ordinary bar soap that can be purchased from any of our merchants at ten cents a bar, as soon as it receives the magic touch of some Yankee swindler, becomes immensely valuable, and he finds, quick sales and long profits from the gaping crowd that so eagerly flock around him, to the tune of twenty-five cents a plug an inch square. This Boot and Shoe Polish can lay no claim to the distinguished merit of being brought from *"away down East,"* nevertheless, it is of superior quality. If you wish to be convinced, try it.

TAX BILL.

Sec. 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, now met and sitting in General Assembly, and by the authority of the same, That a tax for the sums, and in the manner hereinafter mentioned, shall be raised and paid into the public treasury of this State, for the use and service thereof, that is to say: sixty cents, *ad valorem*, on every hundred dollars of the value of all the lands granted in this State, according to the existing classification as heretofore established; one half cent per acre on all lands lying within the Catawba Indian boundary, to be paid by each grantee or lessee of said Indian lands, until otherwise directed by law; seventy-five cents per head on all slaves; two dollars on each free negro, mulatto or mestizo between the ages of fifteen and fifty years, except such as shall be clearly proved to the satisfaction of the collector, to be incapable, from maims, or otherwise, of procuring a livelihood; twenty-five cents, *ad valorem*, on every hundred dollars of the value of all lots, lands and buildings within any city, town, village or borough in this State; sixty cents per hundred dollars on factorage, employments, faculties and professions, including the profession of dentistry, (whether in the profession of the law, the profits be derived from the costs of suit, fees or other sources of professional income,) excepting clergymen, school masters, school mistresses and mechanics, and on the amount of commissions received by vendue masters and commission merchants; twenty cents per hundred dollars on the capital stock paid in on the first of October, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-five; of all banks which, for their present charters, have not paid a bonus to the State; twenty cents per hundred dollars on the capital stock of all incorporated gas light companies; one per cent. on all premiums taken in this State by incorporated insurance companies, and by the agencies of insurance companies and underwriters without the limits of this State; fifteen cents upon every hundred dollars of the amount of sales of goods, wares and merchandise, embracing all the articles of trade for sale, barter or exchange, (the products of this State, and the unmanufactured products of any of the United States or Territories thereof excepted,) which any person shall have made from the first day of January of the present year, to the first day of January in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-six, either on his, her or their capital, or borrowed capital, or on account of any person or persons, as agent, attorney or consignee; twenty-five cents upon every hundred dollars of the amount of sales of goods, wares and merchandise whatsoever, which any transient person, not resident in this State, shall make in any house, stall or public place; ten dollars per day for representing publicly, for gain and reward, any play, comedy, tragedy, interlude, or farce, or other employment of the stage, or any part therein, or for exhibiting wax figures or other shows of any kind whatsoever, to be paid into the hands of the Clerks of the Court, respectively, who shall be bound to pay the same into the public treasury, except in cases where the same is now required by law to be paid to corporations or otherwise.

Sec. 2. That all taxes levied on property, as prescribed in the first section of this act, shall be paid to the Tax Collector for the district or parish in which said property is located.

Sec. 3. In making assessments for taxes on the value of taxable property used in manufacturing, or for railroad purposes within this State, the value of machinery used therein shall not be included, but only the value of the lots and buildings, as property merely.

Sec. 4. That the Tax Collectors in the several districts and parishes in this State, in their returns hereafter to be made, be and they are hereby required and enjoined to state the precise amount of taxes collected by them for the purpose of supporting the police of the said several districts and parishes aforesaid, stating the rates per centum on the amounts of the State tax collected for said district and parish police purposes; and the Comptroller General shall return the same in his report.

Sec. 5. That free negroes, mulattoes, mestizoes be and they are hereby required to make their returns, and pay their taxes during the month of March.

Anniversary Meeting of the York District Bible Society.

At the meeting of the Society, to be held in the Court Room, at Yorkville, on Wednesday, the 9th of January next, an Address will be delivered by Rev. R. A. ROSS. The Society will assemble at 11 o'clock, A. M. Auxiliary Societies in the District will feel it not only a duty but a priviledge to be present in mass or by Delegates. The ladies and citizens generally are respectfully invited to attend.

W. C. BEATTY,
Chairman Executive Committee.

Dec 20 50 3t

Hymeneal.

MARRIED—On the 11th inst. by Rev. J. E. Baird, Mr. M. GARRISON and Miss SARAH A. HUTCHISON, all of this District.

On the 13th instant, by Rev. J. R. Baird, Mr. N. A. STEELE and Mrs. E. R. WATSON, all of this District.

At Spartanburg, C. H., on the 11th inst., by Rev John D. McCullough, EDWARD MOORE, Esq., of Yorkville, and Miss PHOEBE D. WHEELER of the former place.

MARRIED.—On Tuesday the 11th instant, at the residence of the bride's father, by Rev. R. K. Porter, Rev. DAVID H. PORTER, Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Savannah, and Miss MARY BIRNEY, youngest daughter of Mr. Samuel Clarke, of Beech Island.

The Markets.

Yorkville Markets.—Wholesale Prices.

REPORTED BY LOWRY & AVERY, GROCERS AND PRODUCE MERCHANTS.

DECEMBER 19.

Cotton—The demand good at prices ranging from 7 @ 8 cents.

Flour remains firm, with an advance for extra brands. We quote Sacks from $3.50 to $3.90; for Barrels—superfine, $7¾; extra Family Flour, $8½.

Grain.—The demand for all kinds of grain is buoyant at the following rates: *Wheat*, $1.50; *Peas*, 62½; *Corn*, 60; *Oats* 37½.

Salt—$2.50 per sack.

Charleston Markets.

CHARLESTON, Dec. 17, 1855.

Cotton.—The advices by the *Baltic*, as will be seen, are certainly unfavorable to the cotton interest, and has exercised a depressing influence over our market. Since they have been made public, some 1100 bales have been sold, showing a decline of ⅛ to ¼ cent. For the past day the sales amounted to about 2200 bales, 1100 of which, we have before stated, were sold after the news was made public, at prices ranging from 8½ to 9½—the latter price being paid for fine cotton.

Special Notices.

☞ The friends of RUFUS ADAMS, Esq., respectfully announce him as a Candidate at the next election, to represent the people of York District in the Legislature. MANY VOTERS.

December 20, 1855. 50 tf

☞ The friends of WYLIE L. HARRIS, respectfully announce him as a Candidate for Tax Collector at the ensuing election. MANY VOTERS.

December 20, 1855. 50 tf

☞ We are authorized to announce SAMUEL W. JACKSON, as a Candidate for the office of Tax Collector for York District, at the ensuring election.

Jan 6 1 tf

☞ We are authorised to announce BENJAMIN P. BOYD as a candidate for Tax Collector for York District, at the ensuing election.

Jan. 6 1 tf

☞ The friends of CORNELIUS O'DANIEL, Esq. respectfully announce him as a candidate for Tax Collector for York District. MANY VOTERS.

Jan 6 1 tf

PLANTER'S HOTEL, CHARLESTON. S. C.—The Subscriber begs leave to inform his friends and the public generally, that having leased the well-known and favorite stand at the corner of Church and Queen-streets, he is now completing a thorough renovation and refurnishing in the most approved style of first class hotel accommodations, and will open it on the 1st January, 1856.

J. W. GAMBLE.

Dec 20 50 2t

LOTS FOR SALE.—I will sell on the 1ST MONDAY in JANURAY, 1856, SIX LOTS, situated within the incorporate limits of Yorkville, on the Main-street leading from Yorkville to Lincolnton. No 1, has over two acres; No. 2, near one acre; No. 3, 4, 5 and 6, three fourths of an acre, each. Terms made known at sale.

G. W. LOWE.

Dec 17, 1855. 50 3t

MRS. GIBSON'S SCHOOL FOR YOUNG LADIES.

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