The Charleston Daily News.

VOLUME V.....NO. 637. CHARLESTON, S. C., WEDNESDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 4, 1867. PRICE FIVE CENTS

TELEGRAPHIC.

Our Cable Dispatches.

LONDON, September 3.—The conditions on which England is willing to submit the Alabama claims to the Commission is that the claims of English subjects against America for losses suffered during the rebellion be submitted to the same Commission.

The Porte's note, announces the termination of the Candian war and general amnesty to insurgents. He promises many reforms in the laws and government of Candia.

LONDON. September 3—Noon. — Consols, 94¾. Bonds, 73⅞.

LONDON, September 3—2 P. M.—Bonds firmer.

LIVERPOOL, September 3—Noon.—Cotton firm; sales 8000 bales; quotations unchanged.

LIVERPOOL. September 3—2 P. M.—Corn 34s. 6d. Turpentine 29s. 6d Common Rosin 7s. 6d. Lard 51s. 6d. The Hammonia arrived.

A Proclamation by the President.

WASHINGTON, September 3.—Whereas, by the Constitution of the United States, the executive power is vested in the President of the United States of America, who is bound by solemn oath faithfully to execute the office of President, and to the best of his ability to preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States, and is, by the same instrument, made Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy of the United States, and is required to take care that the laws be faithfully executed.

And whereas, by the same Constitution it is provided that the said Constitution, and the laws of the United States which shall be made in pursuance thereof, shall be the supreme law of the land, and the Judges in every State shall be bound thereby; and whereas, in and by the same Constitution the judicial power of the United States is vested in one Supreme Court, and in such inferior courts as Congress may in time ordain and establish; and the aforesaid judicial power is declared to extend to all cases in law and equity arising under the Constitution, the laws of the United States, and the treaties which shall be made under their authority; and whereas, all officers, civil and military, are bound by oath that they will support and defend the Constitution against all enemies, foreign and domestic, and will bear true faith and allegiance to the same.

And whereas, all officers of the navy and army of the United States, in accepting their commission under the laws of Congress and the rules and articles of war, incur an obligation to observe, obey and follow such directions as they shall, from time to time, receive from the President, or the General, or any other superior officer set over them, according to the rules and discipline of war; and, whereas, it is provided by law that whenever, by reason of unlawful obstructions, combinations, or assemblages of persons, or rebellion against the authority of the Government of the United States, it shall become impracticable in the judgment of the United States to enforce, by the ordinary course of judicial proceedings, the law of the United States within any State or Territory, the Executive in that case is autnorized and required to secure their faithful execution by the employment of the land and naval forces.

And whereas impediments and obstructions, serious in their character, have recently been interposed in the States of North Carolina and South Carolina, hindering and preventing for a time a proper enforcement there of the laws of the United States, and the judgments and decrees of a lawful court thereof, in disregard of the command of the President of the United Statest

And whereas, reasonable and well-founded apprehensions exist that such ill-advised and unlawful proceedings may be again attempted there and elsewhere, now therefore, I, Andrew Johnson, President of the United States, do hereby warn all persons against obstructing or hindering, in any way whatever, the faithful execution of the Constitution and laws; and I do solemnly enjoin and command all officers of the Government, civil and military, to render due submission to said laws, and to the judgments and decrees of the United States, and to give all the aid in their power necessary to the prompt execution and enforcement of such laws, decrees, judgments and processes. And I do hereby enjoin upon the officers of the army and navy to assist and sustain the Courts and other civil authorities of the United States, in a faithful administration of the law thereof; and in the judgments, decrees, mandates and processes of the Courts of the United States. And I call upon all good and well disposed citizens of the United States to remember that upon the said constitution and laws, and upon the judgments, decrees and processes of the courts made in accordance with the same, depend the protection of the lives, liberty, property and happiness of the people, and I exhort every one to testify their devotion to their country, their pride in its prosperity and greatness, and their determination to uphold its free institutions, by hearty co-operation in the efforts of the government to sustain the authority of the law, to maintain the supremacy of the Federal Constitution, and to preserve, unimpaired, the integrity of the National Union.

In testimony whereof, I have caused the seal of the United States to be affixed to these presents, and to sign the same with my hand.

Done at the City of Washington, the third day of September, in the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-seven.

ANDREW JOHNSON.

By the President:
WM. H. SEWARD, Secretary of State.

The Proposed Amnesty Proclamation.

WASHINGTON, September 3.—The amnesty question is before the Cabinet this morning. The President hoped last night it would be disposed of to-day. The proclamation will be based upon that of March, '62, issued by Johnson when Provisional Governor of Tennessee, which was approved by Lincoln and the Congress. That proclamation said in effect, while he was conscious that rebels may be punished, no vindictive or retaliatory measures will be adopted, but a general amnesty for all past acts and expressions will be granted to the people on the single condition that they yield themselves citizens under the majesty of the law. He appealed to all erring and misguided people to return to their allegiance and avail themselves of this amnesty.

Washington News.

WASHINGTON, September 3.—Abundance of coal has been discovered in Colorado, fifty miles north of Post Union. The deposit is ten feet thick, extends over fifty square miles, and is equal to the best Pittsburg.

General Grant was absent from the meeting of the Cabinet to-day, which lasted two hours.

The Internal revenue receipts to-day amount to $1,591,000.

Jas. A. McDougal, senator from California, is dead.

Farragut's official report off Cronstadt says our reception here by the Russian authorities, naval and civil, was most gratifying, both nationally and individually.

Admiral Davis, in the flagship Guerrere, arrived at Rio Janeiro, July 26, in twenty-nine days from Boston. He relieves Admiral Gordon in command of this squadron.

Prince Alfred was received at Rio Janeiro with a royal salute. There was a state dinner and ball given, in which the officers of the American Navy participated.

A screw pile lighthouse has been erected at Hooper's Straits, Chesapeake Bay, in place of the light vessel now stationed there. The light will be exhibited for the first time on the 14th September, and will be visible for eight miles.

From the West.

SAN FRANCISCO, August 31.—The past week's receipts from the mines amount to $1,200,000. The steamship Montana took $1,058,000.

From Ohio.

CLEVELAND, September 3.—Four hundred spiritualists are in convention here.

California is the only State unrepresented in the Fenian Congress, convened to-day. President Roberts and one thousand delegates are present. Proceedings private.

North Carolina Republican Convention.

RALEIGH, September 3.—Delegates to the Republican Convention, which assembles to-morrow, crowd every train. Large numbers are already here and they are still arriving. Present indications foreshadow an immense gathering. The white population is largely represented, nearly all of whom are moderates of the Goodloe wing.

Yellow Fever in New Orleans.

NEW ORLEANS, September 3.—The Times of this morning, in review of the yellow fever in this city, says during the last half of the month of August, only four natives of the State died. A large majority of the deaths were foreigners. The deaths to-day amount to 25.

Yellow Fever in Galveston.

GALVESTON, September 3.—The fever is unabated. Dr. Rowe, Ardly Surgeon, is very low. Dr. Adams, Medical Director, taken. Gen. Potter is thought to be improving. Gen. Griffin's only child and nurse were taken last night. He was telegraphed to remove the Headquarters of the 5th District to Galveston. Lieut. Garrettson has been appointed to take charge of the Freedman's Bureau, *vice* Kirkham, died.

Domestic Markets.

NOON DISPATCH.

NEW YORK, September 3.—Stocks improving. Money 4a5 per cent. Gold 41¼. Sterling 9¼a9½. '62 coupons 114¼; Virginia 6's, new issue, 50. Flour dull. Wheat favors buyers. Corn drooping. Rye quiet. Oats 2a3c. lower. Pork heavy at $23 25a 23 30. Lard dull. Whiskey quiet and steady. Cotton dull; Middlings 27 cents. Turpentine 58½. Rosin firm; common $4, strained $4 25.

EVENING DISPATCH.

Stocks strong. Gold 41½. '62 coupons 114½. Flour unsettled; State $6 50a10 85; Southern $9a13. Wheat—Southern Amber $2 30a2 35. Corn favors buyers; Mixed Western $1 16a1 17½. Oats—Southern 65a68c. Pork firmer at $30 37½a30 75. Lard steady. Whiskey quiet. Cotton a shade easier; sales at 26½a27c. Turpentine firm. Rosin firm; common to low No. 1 $4a5 75. Tallow steady at 11½a12½c. Freights dull and declining.

CINCINNATI, September 3.—Flour unchanged. Wheat advancing. Corn advancing. No. 1 in bulk $1 15a$1 16 scarce. Mess Pork firm at $23 50. Bacon active and higher; Shoulders 13c; Clear Sides 16½. Lard firm at 12¾.

WILMINGTON, September 3.—Turpentine firm at 52. Rosin dull at $2 90a$7 00.

MOBILE, September 3.—Cotton, demand limited. New Middlings 23c.

NEW ORLEANS, September 3.—Sales 100 bales; dull and easier; Low Middlings 24½. Receipts in three days, 365, against 519; exports same time, 4790. Louisiana Sugar—only a retail trade; fully fair only 15¼a15½; Cuba Sugar 13¾. Molasses—no Louisiana in market; last sales at 60c.; Cuba Molasses—jobbing 50a52½. Tobacco—light medium Leaf 8½a10; choice select heavy at 18a20. Flour dull and unchanged; Superfine $8 50; choice $11 50 a12 50. Corn very dull, but stock light, at $1 25. Oats dull at 70c. Pork firm at $26 50. Bacon in request, and advancing; Shoulders 14c.; clear ribbed Sides 17¼. Lard, in kegs, 14½a15. Cold closed at 40¾. Sterling 53a55½. New York Sight Exchange ¼ per cent. premium.

AUGUSTA, September 3.—Cotton flat; sales 11 bales; no quotations. Raining hard this afternoon.

SAVANNAH, August 3.—Cotton quiet; little offering, with small sales Middlings, nominally 25c; receipts 137 bales. Weather hot and rainy.

LETTER FROM THE COAST.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

[Below we publish another letter from our correspondent from John's Island. The undue length of the communication rendered it necessary for us to omit some portions of it. The omissions are marked by asterisks.]

JOHN'S ISLAND, So. Ca., September 2d, 1867.

To the Editor of the Charleston Daily News:

Sitting in the piazza of one of the fashionable board palaces of that charming summer spot, Legareville, with the sun just painting the western sky in the grand and gorgeous style so peculiar to the Southern coast, and the stimulating air blowing fresh from the sea, is not an unfit time for musings of one sort and another. The man whose thoughts could run uncharitable under such benignant influences, whose judgment harsh and sentiments unkind, could be but a hyhocondriac. And as the thoughts wander unbridled they naturally stray and turn about the subject, which of all is to us, of these rural regions, the most vital and absorbing. With all due deference to orders from headquarters, reconstruction acts of Congress, and squabbles and skirmishes in the political world, the grand problem of labor to be solved on this Island, and, for aught we know to the contrary, on all the Islands of the Southern coast, the just and equitable distribution of muscle, money and land, is above all. By the latter no one supposes me to indulge in any foolish vagaries of free land speculation or confiscation—a kind of national, melo-dramatic highwayman's game of demanding, in highly ornate language, with pistol pointed, your purse to relieve unmerited distress. The man who thinks that a respectable number can be found to advocate confiscation in Congress for anything but buncombe, deceives himself. True, you do meet a man at odd times who thinks it might come to that. But sift him and you will find the idea one that is picked up and preserved—in pickle as it were. It did not come by regular deduction of the developments of events. Some great man (?) whose possible confidant he thinks himself, but whose shadow he really is, might have regarded it, in the veering causes and movements of the times, as possible. But even that possibility is now removed beyond human power. Take the land from whom and for whose benefit? From every Southern landholder? What an army of desperadoes that would create. It is well enough to say that the South was thoroughly, desperately beaten, but could it, under the assumed condition, be kept down short of an army almost as vast as the one which swept the country triumphant? In the present and prospective state of half anarchy, when every man is eagerly watching the next move of the powerful, contending parties at the seat of government, the calling into existence of another army would be simply furnishing the means to one set of partisans to strike dead the other. If Radical leaders ask for universal confiscation, they aim beyond and through that to a consolidation and centralization of government. If you wish to create satrapies, do it by gradually pushing one-man-power along, independent of law, right or rule; it wants but little more. But do not attempt it through that fearful other way. The former we are prepared for, and could get used to; the latter we pray earnestly never again to see with bodily eyes.

Further. What of the lands themselves thus swept from the owners and left at the discretion of Congress? Would they be given away or sold out to pay the national debt? Congress would scarcely be imprudent enough to make landowners of the negroes without compensation. For, naturally highly excitable, give him freedom and franchise, and land next, and taking the latter as a natural consequence of his citizenship, he will, before he can be brought to a thorough political education, soon demand that which neither North nor South can furnish. In case of a sale, where are the buyers of the land? how much of the money would go to the treasury? and who could check the promiscuous army of speculators in a field so vast and various? And a limited confiscation would bring nothing, absolutely nothing, to the treasury in comparison to the troubles raised, injustice done and costs incurred. This visionary bugbear, confiscation, stands at the gate of all trouble and despondence. It keeps out capital. Money will not go into a State in so unsettled a condition as this. Why unsettled? We believe, down here, that the present boiling and hissing state of affairs is kept up by Congress, the Freedmen's Bureau, and those interested in the confusion in a thousand ways. Even JOHNSON has injured the South much. Were it not for the utter and hopeless apathy of the Northern people, things could not be carried on without some interference from them. The press talks of it as the only available article in trade. News from the South is shunned, unless it comes in the shape of riots and bloodshed. Who cares out of Virginia what judge has been deposed, criminal proceeding suspended, finding of jury overruled, murderer pardoned, or adventurer made governor for an hour? For seven years past the most exciting news, the most frequent topic of conversation, the most profound and learned sermon, the most fierce and fiery harangue—all have treated of the South, or topics relating to it. Why should the Northern mind, elastic as it is, not be worn down with the subject?

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Finally in close connection with and inseparable from capital comes the theory of labor. Since the resumption of planting on this island, the owners and lessees have allowed freedmen to remain on the plantations and occupy their houses on verbal conditions or written contracts. Some planters allotted them certain quantities of land and furnished seeds and provisions on the promise of two or three days' labor per week. Others, and a majority perhaps, allowed them all the land they wished to cultivate, binding them by contract to plant two and a half to three acres of cotton to the full hand, one-half of the proceeds of which to go to the planter. The latter was in most instances to furnish a limited supply of food to be paid for in extra labor, cotton or cash. Whatever else a freedman chose to plant, corn, potatoes, peas, rice, groundnuts or melons, was his own, and his own solely. These contracts are sanctioned by the Bureau.

Here, then, was the finest possible opportunity offered to a man in his condition. He had no money to buy provisions or pay house rent. "Here are both," says the planter; "use them; the one free, for the other pay me when your provisions are gathered and your cotton ginned." Again, he knew nothing of mechanical arts; the handling of the hoe was easier to him than anything else. He could not emigrate, "for," as Senator TRUMBULL pathetically remarked on the floor of the Senate, "he could not read the finger-post by the wayside." And under the disinterested and benevolent (Judge SHELLABARGER's speech) protection of the Bureau, nobody asked him to emigrate. Here he had all that he could reasonably ask for or needed. Congress thought he needed the franchise, and, rather than have him dissatisfied, they thrust that upon him without being asked for it.

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The openly expressed opinion of every man on this island is that going into partnership with negroes will not pay. For the latter directly form another partnership, or rather a sort of corporation or monopoly with the Bureau, the entrance into which the planter is effectually barred. The very name of the institution implies that unless a freedman it is not for you. It holds the position of a not-over conscientious pettifogger to his client. No one blames it. It is the natural result of labor for pay. The reverend gentleman who is said to be one of the main springs of its running gear our way, and whose influence at the nation's capital in shaping things to suit the times, is only equalled by the force of the powerful trip-hammer on iron at white heat, will probably bear testimony that no impediment has been thrown in the way of the entire and unrestrained freedom of action of people here. I believe that gentleman to be thoroughly and sincerely honest in his convictions, and whenever the occasion for advice or instruction presented, he was always found at his post. Yet he only saw these people in their holiday clothes, and he himself would have a bill of complaints as long as the moral law, where he to *work* with them for a three months as we do.

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The upshot of it all is, that this squatter-sovereignty exercised by the negro, and backed by the Bureau, must come to grief. If assistance, in a pecuniary way, can be reached, the negro must either hire out, buy land, or pack up and make way for him who is ready to take his place in the field.

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With all kindness and candor, the acts of the Bureau cannot always be interpreted to the especial renown of that institution. If it would be guided more by equal justice to the discordant elements of society; if benefits bestowed on one portion did not redound too often to the detriment of the other; if the common path could be made more smooth, and the common prospect more bright; if harmony in spirit and action could be made the real object of its mission, the Bureau would soon be looked on in the light of a benefactor. Still the blame lies not always with it. Its kindest acts and noblest efforts have been misunderstood by its proteges. Only "children of a larger growth," at best, they should be guarded against the handling of "edged tools." A word dropped unguardedly—a sentiment expressed incautiously—does often infinite mischief. As to here, I think it a most difficult task, this handling the weaning babe—the colored man of John's Island.

The worm is progressing but slowly. If this appearance is the last one, we are all right; if the third crop is to come, ruined. Some places are as yet untouched by the caterpillar, while others are being damaged. In no case has serious destruction been done yet, on this Island. Some plants are casting pods, in consequence of the severe rains.

A.

THE BUFFALO COURIER says: "Tobacco seems to be of great use in prisons, not only as a substitute, but also as a most useful aid to discipline. With reference to this a very curious development has come out during a recent debate in the Austrian Chambers. Complains were made, as they are made about our own prisons, that life in them was getting somewhat too comfortable for the purpose. The Minister of Justice, however, defended the measures introduced for the alleviation of the hard lot of the condemned criminals. Not only the reading of newspapers, he said, had proved beneficial, but, and in a much higher degree, the introduction of tobacco smoking." He said: "I avow the truth of the fact that the convicts are now allowed snuff and pipes. Nay, I am proud of having myself introduced it in several places; for the permission to use snuff and smoke tobacco is a magic aid of discipline. It simply acts like a miracle. The mere threat of forbidding tobacco acts instantaneously upon the most hardened culprit. No amount of solitary confinement or flogging comes in the remotest degree near it." For the past year or so tobacco has been issued to the soldiers in our army, they drawing their rations of plug as regularly as rations of bread, meat or coffee. We should think it might also be used as a disciplinarian in this case. There is probably no habit that gives such control over a man as the use of tobacco, particularly when chewed. We remember several years ago seeing an account of a train of cars snowed in for several days on a Western prairie, the passengers being a great portion of them without food. Yet when supplies were reached, the first loud cry was not for food or drink, but for chewing tobacco. It is a novel idea to make this passionately loved article a disciplinarian, but it seems an eminently sensible one.

AN AFFAIR OF HONOR.—The quiet precincts of the Metairie Ridge, in the neighborhood of the Half Way House, and which have become classically bloody ground from the many hostile meetings that have taken place there, were again yesterday morning, the scene of a duel between two gentlemen of this city—Mr. W., a native creole, and Mr. R., a brother quill, of French birth, and well known here by his charming chronicles that have appeared in one of the French weeklies. The cause of the rencounter was very slight and entirely of a personal character, no blows having been exchanged. For some reason, however, it was found impracticable to conciliate matters, and as the sun rose, Sunday morning, the two antagonists, with their respective seconds and surgeons, met at the above mentioned place to settle the difficulty with duelling pistols.

The position in which the principals were placed was unusual; two lines were staked out parallel with each other and five paces apart. There were three stakes in each line, one at each end and one in the middle. The two end stakes at each line were twenty paces apart. One principal was at the south end of this line, the other at the north of his. When thus in position they were diagonally opposite, and the conditions were that at the word they were to fire as they stood, or in marching up to the middle stake. The object of this arrangement was a humane one, reflecting great credit upon the seconds, and made in order to prevent a shot being fired breast to breast. As the words "Fire!—one, two three," were given, a thrill of anguish went through the spectators, whose nervousness was equalled only by the cool placidity of the combatants. First one step forward was made by one party, with fore-arm raised and aiming at his antagonist, who stepped forward also one step. A second and a third step were made by the first party, quickly followed by the other. A pistol shot was heard, and ascertained to be from the first party who, believing that the second party had fired also, retired one step after offering his weapon to his second; but a call from the opposite seconds to "stand your ground," was answered by a step forward to resume the original position by the first party. Here, for a few seconds, the anxiety was intense, and every heart beat at a fearful speed, as the second party advanced to the middle stake, where, with a commendable courage and a noble impulse, raising his pistol overhead, he fired in space; then crossing over the line he extended his hand to his whilom enemy, who grasped it, and acknowledged in feeling terms the generosity of his adversary, in whose hands his life had rested. The affair created no little excitement in the city, and all interested have our hearty congratulations upon its successful issue, for the first shot proved to have missed its mark, and the parties are all now on the best terms of friendship and esteem.—*New Orleans Crescent, August 26.*

FENIANS.—Colonel John Warren, a citizen of the United States, being confined in an Irish prison as a Fenian, wrote a letter to Fernando Wood stating his case. Mr. Wood appealed to the President. The matter went to the Cabinet, when Mr. Seward communicated with Minister Bruce, and on the 23d of August Mr. Bruce telegraphed to his Government, recommending the immediate discharge of Colonels Nagle and Warren from imprisonment, and sent to Mr. Seward a copy of the dispatch. It is believed they have been discharged.

The Fenian Circles here held a meeting on Monday evening, and passed resolutions complimentary to Mr. Roberts, the Head Centre. On Friday the officers of the Circles called on Mr. Roberts and presented him with an address, to which he replied in the usual manner.

The Fenian Congress will commence next Tuesday in Cleveland, Ohio. President Roberts will deliver the opening address, and will present documents relating to the union of Fenian organizations at home and abroad. The Congress will remain in session one week, and will be attended by a thousand delegates, each representing a Circle.

REGISTRATION.—The following is a correct return of registration, in this District, as far as heard from:

Precincts.	Whites.	Colored.	Total
Pickens C. H	57	52	109
Pickensville	247	117	364
Salubrity	67	23	90
Wolf Creek	100	64	164
Gaines	26	32	58
Perryville	64	72	136
Muddy Springs	49	24	73
Tunnel Hill	31	5	36
Cheohee	88	18	106
Whetstone	23	5	28
Walhalla, three days	158	116	274
Hurricane	70	1	71
	980	529	1509

Majority for the whites, 451.

[*Keowee Courier.*

The McMinnville (Tenn.) *Enterprise* tells of a marvelous oil fountain in Overton county. It says:

Spring Creek, in Overton county, has become to be an oil creek literally. Such is the quantity of oil continually flowing down it as to change the color of the water, while it floats upon the surface. Horses and oxen take fright on crossing it. It destroys the feathers on geese and ducks, turning them yellow. Fish die in the water. We heard a lady say she dressed and cooked a water turtle, the flesh of which was so affected with the oil as to destroy the natural taste.

A refinery has recently been established for the wells on Spring Creek, and the oil is being refined and transported to market. We doubt not Overton county will become an oil region.

A college student being examined in LOCKE, where he speaks of our relations to the Deity, was asked, what relations do we most neglect? when he answered with much simplicity, "Poor relations, sir."

Punch says the hippophagists of France are said to have invented a new dish of horse soup, namely, a *consomme aux œufs*, in which the eggs have been obtained from a mare's nest.

The Cotton Crop in Louisiana.

In the extreme Northern sections of the cotton region the crop is doing well generally. In Tennessee cotton is promising a fair yield, but not a large one. The accounts are favorable from the Atlantic States. Arkansas, Northern Mississippi, Georgia and the Atlantic Seaboard States, will do very well—much better than the extreme Southwest. Col. A. M. Hobby, who has just made a tour through a part of Texas, writes to the Galveston News that he has a sad report to make of the cotton crops along the coast. His statements accord precisely with those that have already been published. There is scarcely a prospect for any crop in Liberty, Wharton, Brazoria, Fort Bend and Matagorda Counties. Fort Bend is said to be in better condition than the other counties named, but not more than 500 bales is predicted there, instead of 8000 which might, under ordinary circumstances, have been expected. Colorado County cotton is in a state hardly less deplorable. An average crop is expected in the Red River country. In Bastrop County the weather, for the ten days preceding the 17th inst., had been very favorable to the crops—says the Bastrop Advertiser.

The Helena, Phillips County, Arkansas, Clarion, says the cotton in that region promises well. The plant is full and healthy, and barring worms, will produce excellently.

From Pike and Amite Counties we get, through our exchanges, confirmation of the accounts already published concerning the crop in that region of Mississippi. From half to two-thirds of a crop is expected by some planters; while others, who appear to be equally well informed, look forward to securing no more than from a third to half a crop. In Lauderdale County the fields present an encouraging appearance. The Natchez Democrat of the 26th says that the worms have done no material damage in Adams and the adjoining counties. They are present everywhere. The ichneumon flies, the "lady bugs," the weather, and the efforts of the planters to kill them, are giving the caterpillars a hard time in that vicinity. A half crop will be made there, if the Democrat is not mistaken. The Woodville Republican, of the 24th instant, tells the Picayune that the letter recently published in the latter paper from Newtonia, Wilkinson county, conveying the information that on the Amite river a pint of worms might be gathered from every stalk of cotton, and that in Wilkinson county some cotton will not yield a bale to twenty acres, is an exaggeration. We should hope so. The Hinds County Gazette has a new prescription for killing worms. It says that a planter near Raymond destroys them by the thousand by simply shaking the cotton stalk. The worms die within two minutes after falling to the ground!

The Shreveport Southwestern of the 21st has nothing good to say of the crops thereabouts. Some planters talk of a third of a crop, others do not hope for anything more than the seed for another planting. There are myriads of worms in that neighborhood, but the weed is not yet materially injured. A letter published in the columns of a city contemporary, dated at Shreveport on the 17th, gives a more pleasant account of the condition of affairs about Shreveport than is furnished by the Southwestern. We are inclined to accept the statement of the Southwestern, considering the difference between the dates of the two reports. The planters of Caldwell Parish are much more hopeful than recently. The worms have not injured the cotton nearly as much as it was feared they would. The Lake Providence Record announces the advent of the second crop of caterpillars in Carroll parish. The Record predicts not more than half a crop on most of the plantations in that parish. Two letters from Jackson parish concur in the statement that not more than a third of a crop will be gathered there. The Bastrop Dispatch, of the 23d, is in a state of uncertainty as to the prospects of a yield in Morehouse. We publish an extract from a letter from a trustworthy source, asserting that the crops will be short in that parish. The Sugar Planter, of the 24th, anticipates bad news concerning the cotton of West Baton Rouge, owing to the prevailing wet weather, which it regards as favorable to the development of the caterpillars. As yet they have not committed any very serious damage, according to the Sugar Planter. Letters from Monroe announce the disappearance of the worms from Ouachita parish before doing much harm. Letters from Union parish are of similar tenor.

RUTLAND'S PLANTATION, CALDWELL, PARISH, LA., August 25, 1867.

To the Editor of the New Orleans Crescent:

I have been quietly awaiting the development of the dreaded cotton worm, daily expecting the demolition of the entire cotton crop. All was gloom and despondency here for some time. Planters were discharging their hands, and they were seeking employment for their food. Now matters look more cheerful. Farmers are calling in their discharged hands and resuming farm labor. The worms have entirely disappeared, with the exception of some who have unconsoned themselves in the leaf, many of the cocoons having died, from some cause, while in that state. It has been two months since their first appearance on this plantation, and all were under the impression that they would have made an entire sweep of the cotton ere this; but we are agreeably disappointed. Their transformations, operations and movements are shrouded in mystery. I have long been a producer of cotton, and am not unacquainted with the caterpillars, but this year, from their advent to their exodus they have baffled the expectations founded upon my experience of their habits. I have observed, this season, three distinct crops or stages of them, at the same time, varying from the small green worm, scarcely perceptible, to the full grown, striped-back caterpillar. They have damaged about 150 acres of my cotton, which at one time presented a desolate appearance; but it has now resumed its verdant hue, and bids fair to produce an average yield. Most of the planters of this region are very hopeful, with buoyant spirits. Faces are smiling which a fortnight since wore an aspect of gloom and despondency. I think that not more than a half crop, probably two-thirds of a crop, will be raised this season from here to Monroe. Corn is made. The yield is abundant, and will place those who planted a sufficiency of that indispensable article, independent of the West next season.

T. J. JOHNSON.

VIENNA, JACKSON PARISH, August 20, 1867.—I regret to inform you that the worms are upon us. From present indications, this section of country will not make more than a third of a crop. Three weeks ago our prospects were magnificent.

VIENNA, August 20, 1867.—The prospect for Cotton in this section is very gloomy. The worms are taking the Cotton. I don't think there can be more than a third of a crop. —— supposed he was good for 150 bales. He will be perfectly satisfied now with 50 bales.

MOREHOUSE PARISH, August 22, 1867.—Our Cotton crops in this Parish will be short again this year. The caterpillars have appeared earlier than last season. The corn crops are good.

MONROE, OUACHITA PARISH, August 25, 1867.—Our crop is doing finely. I rode over the whole of it yesterday, and succeeded in finding but one worm. They may reappear, but if they do not come before the 1st September we will make in this country a good deal of cotton. The most of it is half made already.

MONROE, August 24, 1867.—Cannot complain of the worms; they have not injured any planter on the bayou that I can learn. As long as we have this kind of weather I do not think they will do any harm.

MONROE, August 25, 1867.—Cotton worms have entirely disappeared, after injuring, to some extent, about half the crop. Will commence picking in the morning.

MIDWAY, UNION PARISH, Aug. 25, 1867.—I have the pleasure to inform you that the worm has almost disappeared, without doing us any serious injury—almost none as far as I can hear from. Ouachita is not hurt from here up as far as I have learned, and there is no sign whatever of a new crop of worms. I think our cotton crop is safe. The crops generally are good for the season, which has been a very unfavorable one.

SPEARSVILLE, UNION PARISH, Aug. 20, 1867.—I should have written to you for more bagging but for the excitement about the worm, which has threatened our crops for the last four weeks. They have injured a few crops in my vicinity, but have now stopped—for how long I can't tell. If they do no more damage, we have the best prospects I ever saw on the hills.—*N. O. Crescent, Aug. 29.*

Pardoning Political Prisoners.

In the House of Commons, August 13th, Mr. Rearden, in moving "That an humble address be presented to Her Majesty, praying Her Majesty to be graciously pleased to take into consideration the expediency of extending her pardon to all persons now in prison in the United Kingdoms and the colonies for political offences," referred to the amnesty recently granted by the Austrian Government to the Hungarians, M. Kossuth having not only been allowed to return if he chose to his native country, but having been elected a member of a Legislature; and also urged that the present auspicious moment, when all England was rejoicing at the passing of another great Reform act, was particularly opportune for such an exercise of the Royal clemency as his motion suggested. The honorable member concluded by moving as above.

Mr. Whalley, in seconding the motion, maintained that he was acting with perfect consistency in doing so. Whether the Fenian prisoners had been influenced by political or by religious motives, he did not think that disaffection in Ireland was to be removed by pursuing these men to extremities, or by treating them with greater severity than the circumstances of their individual cases rendered imperatively necessary. One simple remedy, in his opinion, for the evils of Ireland was to make known to the Irish people what were the facts of the case with regard to the position which this country had taken up in reference to civil and religious liberty.

Mr. Hardy—With respect to the political prisoners in the colonies the House is probably not well acquainted with the facts. With respect to those in the United Kingdom, it would be out of all reason and common sense, while you are trying a great number of persons for these offences, and while the Habeas Corpus Act is suspended in order to enable you to apprehend them, to let out a number of prisoners, many of whom, having been let out before, have returned again to trouble this country. I need not say a word more. [Hear, hear.]

The motion was then negatived without a division.

The negroes had a grand meeting and torch-light procession at Baton Rouge on Saturday night. One of the transparencies bore upon it a painted representation of a spoon with the motto, "One that BUTLER did not take." A queer motto in a Radical procession.

The South is not Ruined.

[*From the Montgomery Advertiser.*]

The day of small things is not over, and those who pay attention to them will in the end be benefitted. Every effort should be made to economize and turn to advantage the gifts of nature. The Southern people are fast learning this all important lesson, and the good effect of it will become more and more visible each year. They are not going again to stake their all on one crop, and if that is lost cry out in despair that God has ruined the country and cursed the land. Great injustice has been done to the planters by the accounts given in the newspapers of superabundant cotton crops. The last four weeks demonstrate conclusively that the crop is absolutely ruined in Texas and Louisiana, and the worms are fast doing the same work in Alabama. Notwithstanding this, some farmers set out with the determination to make their farms support them, and in spite of of cotton ruin they have, by means of grain and corn, secured a sufficiency to live on for the next year. The country is not ruined, and the experience now learning should teach those who cultivate the soil the folly of planting all cotton to the neglect of other equally great necessaries.

We read on yesterday a letter from North Carolina, which said that corn would sell for $2 or $3 per bushel in that State, because that crop was a failure, and yet the gentleman went on to state that the people of the "old North State" would get through somehow, because they have learned how to save. As an illustration of their thrifty economy he said they sold $350,000 worth of blackberries last year, and sold more this year. They were curtailing their expenses, and the ladies, too, were abridging the dimensions of their dresses to suit the present embarrassed times. The fall of the year is the time to begin to prepare for a system of farming that will so result as not to ruin planters if any one of their crops should prove a total failure. Begin with the determination of raising your own stock and for that purpose so use your fields that they will answer until late in the winter as pastures and feeding places for your stock.

The South has got to learn to raise its own meat and bread, and it would be a good idea, too, to weave its own cloths. Right before our eyes is a paragraph from a Rhode Island paper, a State hardly any larger than Montgomery County, giving the amount of property owned by cotton spinners in that State at $25,000,000. That money was made out of Southern cotton, and mostly out of Southern people. The foolish cry was heard at the beginning of the war that cotton would decide the contest in our favor. It didn't. Since its close nearly every effort to raise it has failed, and it begins to look as if He who is praised in all our Sanctuaries to-day, and who sends the worm and keeps back the rain, wants to help make us independent by raising breadstuffs, horses and mules, by making our own clothing and saving the surplus to buy from other sections what we cannot make ourselves. There is not a sensible man but knows we can do all these things, and until we do we will not be an independent people. It is time for us to cease being dependent upon those abroad for the food we eat and the clothes we wear. We have been doomed to much sorrow and suffering, and it looks as if our great expectations of a cotton crop are to be dashed to the ground again. But the power is in higher than earthly hands. The South is not ruined, and God's curse is not upon it, but it looks as if He frowns upon the attempts to make it merely a cotton country.

England and Her Soldiers.

It appears from official statements that England has forty thousand regular troops, ninety thousand militia, one hundred and eighty thousand volunteers, fifteen thousand pensioners, and a reserve of four thousand—in all, three hundred and twenty-nine thousand soldiers. But with all this force England is unprepared for war. Her troops are under five different organizations; the volunteers have no collective organization, and Sir J. Pakington says they are like a rope of sand, likely to be dissolved at a moment's notice; the militia are in a disorganized state, and the pensioners and reserve are scattered about in driblets.

The *Pall Mall Gazette*, analyzing the military establishment, remarks: "The regulars are under a double government, which is so arranged that its operations are like those of Christian charity, its left hand is never allowed to know what its right hand doeth. Suppose that we should want to put an army of three hundred thousand men in the field ready for active service on a few week's notice; is it not morally certain that all these different bodies would fall into one wild mass of inextricable confusion? Their obligations would be different, their modes of action would be different, they would be under different departments, and they would resemble each other only in their being utterly unprovided with any sort of general organization or superintendence. Our defences are something like those which exist in country houses against robbers. There is the squire and his sons, who have rifles and fowling pieces and know how to use them. There is an old blunderbuss in the kitchen, which, it is to be hoped, would not burst in the hands of the butler, who is believed to have loaded it twenty years ago. A general impression exists in the family that there is a case of duelling pistols somewhere, but the key is lost, and it is doubtful whether there are any bullets; but if these things could be found, it is possible that the footman and groom might know how to use them, and, at all events, they could use their butt-ends and supply deficiencies with the poker and tongs. Where you have to deal only with a parcel of burglars, this state of things may be well enough, and the trouble and nuisance of anything like a regular preparation for possible robbery would be far greater than any advantage which could be derived from it."

This is a sorry exhibit. It is lucky for England that the European powers do not consider her of sufficient importance to be drawn into any of their quarrels.

HUGO ON CAPITAL PUNISHMENT.—The great Red Republican is out once more in one of his peculiar spasmodic epistles. The lyre of the poet was struck by a communication from a Portuguese politician *apropos* of the abolition of capital punishment, and thus gushes:

HAUTEVILLE HOUSE, 15th July.

"*A. M. Pedro de Brito Aranna:*

"Your noble letter has moved my heart.

"I had learned the great news, but I have received through you its sympathetic echo.

"No, there are no small peoples.

"But, alas! there are small men.

"And sometimes it is these small men who lead great peoples.

"A people who are despots are like lions that require to be muzzled.

"I love and glorify your noble and dear Portugal. She is free, therefore she is great.

"Portugal has abolished capital punishment!

"To accomplish this great advance is to build up the great safeguard of civilization.

"From this time Portugal stands at the head of Europe.

"You Portuguese have not ceased to be bold navigators. Formerly you led the van on the ocean; to-day you are the vanguard of truth. Proclaim these principles; it is still nobler than to discover worlds.

"I exclaim, glory to Portugal! and to you, Monsieur, happiness.

"With cordial esteem, VICTOR HUGO

Now, how much nicer this looks thus spread out then, like butter over boarding school bread, than written in the humdrum way of everyday life. It is so much the more impressive. So suggestive of profound conviction. We envy Portugal and deeply sympathize with the other nations of Europe so unceremoniously displaced by the Jersey Hermit. It is, however, pleasant to have matters thus clearly defined, as without this public statement from Hugo we might have been absurd enough to ignore the great position of Portugal.

[*New York Express.*

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