The Charleston Daily News.

VOLUME VII.---NUMBER 1089. CHARLESTON, S. C., WEDNESDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 24, 1869. SIX DOLLARS PER ANNUM

BY TELEGRAPH.

THE STATE CAPITAL.

LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS—ADJOURNMENT PROPOSED ON THE FOURTH OF MARCH.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO DAILY NEWS.]

COLUMBIA, February 23.—IN THE SENATE, the bill to renew the charter of the Charleston Ancient Artillery Society was passed, its title changed to an act, and ordered to be enrolled.

The following received a third reading and were sent to the House: The bill to regulate the distillation of liquors; the bill to incorporate the Wateree and North Carolina Railroad Company; the bill to further amend the act incorporating the University of South Carolina.

Allen introduced a bill to incorporate the Charleston Loan Company.

Arnim introduced a bill to recharter the bridge across the Savannah River at Hamburg.

The bill to provide lien on buildings and lands to parties furnishing labor and materials thereon, also the bill to recharter the Younginers Ferry, were read the second time and ordered to be engrossed.

Hayne introduced a resolution to adjourn *sine die* on the fourth of March. Ordered for consideration to-morrow.

IN THE HOUSE, the Senate resolution to adjourn *sine die* was tabled.

The following were introduced: By Dennis—A bill to incorporate the Charleston Loan Company; by Stober—A bill to amend an act incorporating the Village of Marion.

Feriter presented a memorial of the citizens of Cheraw in favor of granting aid to the Chatham Railroad Company.

The following were passed and sent to the Senate: A bill to incorporate Carmel Church, Pickens County; a bill to renew the charter of the Ferry across the Congaree River.

A bill to provide for the revision and consolidation of the Statute Law of the State was read a second time, and ordered to be engrossed.

CONGRESSIONAL.

FREEDMEN'S BUREAU—MEXICAN FREE PORTS—THE SENATE REFUSES TO CONCUR IN THE HOUSE AMENDMENTS TO THE SUFFRAGE AMENDMENT—REORGANIZATION OF THE JUDICIARY.

WASHINGTON, February 23.—IN THE SENATE, Wilson, from the Military Committee, reported favorably on the bill continuing the education and collection departments of the Freedmen's Bureau, and general freedmen's hospitals, including those at Richmond and New Orleans.

The Finance Committee reported a bill remitting the duties on college and library apparatus.

The Secretary of the Treasury was requested to communicate information relative to the free port system of Mexico and the frauds connected therewith.

The Senate refused to concur in the House amendments to the suffrage amendment, and asked a committee of conference.

The bill authorizing the Western Union Telegraph Company to import cables free, was passed.

The bill to reorganize the judiciary was passed. It provides for a chief justice and eight associate justices—six to form a quorum—and for nine circuit judges.

The bill amending the Civil Rights bill was passed.

The bill imposing penalties for holding office contrary to the Fourteenth amendment was discussed until recess.

IN THE HOUSE, the Copper Tariff bill was passed over the veto by a vote of 115 to 56.

The bill was passed forbidding the State courts in the City of New York, and the superior court of the city, from naturalizing foreigners.

Several conference committees were appointed.

WASHINGTON.

GENERAL BUCKNER—GRANT'S CABINET.

WASHINGTON, February 23.—Revenue to-day $171,000.

General Buckner is here.

The recusant witnesses, Bell and Reave, have been remanded to the custody of the sergeant-at-arms, to await the pleasure of the committee.

Grant declared publicly to-day that no military or naval officer would be in his Cabinet.

Notwithstanding the increase in the colored registration, the citizens' ticket was elected in Georgetown.

SPARKS FROM THE WIRES.

There has been a two days' snow storm at Buffalo, New York.

The Louisiana Legislature has authorized the sale of $990,000 of levee bonds.

The press of Lisbon almost unanimously condemn the movement for the union of Spain and Portugal.

The Fourth National Bank of Philadelphia has closed. The deposits amounted to $500,-009. The failure is attributed to the defalcation of the cashier.

The steamboat Persia, from New Orleans to Louisville, was snagged on the Mississippi on Saturday, and a great part of her cargo lost. Passengers and baggage saved.

A London letter says: "Wales having struck work for a higher salary, and being now junketting with his wife in Egypt, pursued by Cook's tourist and a small army of correspondents of London papers, it looks as if his royal mamma had determined to show that she can dispense with him, and carry on the business in the old orthodox manner—in which hope West End tradesfolks are preparing to be delighted. Young Arthur, too, has, so to speak, been pressed into service; he is going to hold three levees in March, in St. James' Palace; propos of which young gentleman I was told a c-ious circumstance by a knowing man about tow, who professed to have personal knowledge about it. The Prince, then, is not only so prodigiously interested in all that happens to him as to obtain photographs, engravings, lithographs or sketches of every locality he visits, English or Continental, public or private, for preservation in a huge album, but also possesses a similar volume filled with innumerable portraits of himself, from his earliest boyhood upwards. There are hundreds of photographs, in all sorts of costumes, some in character, as Henry VIII, Charles II, &c., and at least one in the attire of Adam before the Fall—only as the subject is represented as leaning over his bath, you only see the upper half of him, so conventional notions of propriety are not outraged. It is understood that the Queen keeps the apartments of the late Prince Albert in exactly the same condition they were in at his death—slippers and dressing gown all ready, as if he might come back to them any day."

THE CHARLESTON MERCURY.

The Proprietor Bids Farewell to its Subscribers.

The following farewell address from the Proprietor of the Charleston Mercury has been printed in the form of a circular, and is now in process of distribution among the late subscribers to that journal:

A Farewell to the Subscribers of the Charleston Mercury.

After the suspension of the Mercury, a few weeks since, expectations were formed of its renewed issue, with larger capacity for usefulness. It is proper to notify the subscribers of the paper that these expectations have proved abortive, in order that they may turn to other sources for information and instruction as to the events and transactions of the day. The proprietor, having exhausted all resources, would now take leave of the subscribers to the Mercury. That communion which a daily press has so long established is about to be severed; and at parting, our friends will pardon us for offering a few last reflections upon the condition and prospects of the South.

Both sections of the United States have equally failed in obtaining the avowed objects of the war. The South sought independence; the North the continuance of the Union of the Constitution. The Union, dissolved by secession, is not restored. It no longer exists, but has perished with the constitution which established it; and a consolidated despotism, without any Union of States, constitutes the government of the country.

But a few weeks since, the State of Oregon sent resolutions to the Senate of the United States, requesting her senators to resign their seats, because they had voted for unconstitutional measures. On the presentation of these resolutions, the Senate passed a resolution refusing to receive them, and ordering them to be returned to the State of Oregon, as "scandalous and impertinent." Under the old government, existing before the war, senators were considered to be ambassadorial representatives. When instructed by the States, they usually obeyed or resigned. And even when senators refused to obey the instructions of their States, no one, however wild in his consolidation, ever questioned the right of a State to express and send up to the Senate its opinions concerning the constitutionality of laws, or to instruct its senators. The right of the people to request anything of their representatives, or to arraign before Congress any law passed by Congress as unconstitutional, to this day has not been questioned or denied. Why then is this right now denied to a State? Simply because, under the new government, there is no such thing as a State. We have lived under a complex government, and there is but one stride from liberty to despotism. Strike out the States, and assume for the General Government the reserved rights guaranteed to them through the constitution, and the whole system of government established by the constitution is gone. It leaves a "*caput mortuum*" of despotism, which no bravery of words, no hypocrisy of language, whether used in Mexico or at Washington, can disguise. The revolutionists of the new government in the Senate thoroughly understand this, and covet the powers they usurp. Hence they deny that the Legislature of a State has anything to do, either with the senators or with the laws they may pass. The States are nothing more, under the new government, than convenient circles for local legislation; but possessed of no political power. Of course, if there are no States there can be no Union of States. That is gone with the old government, and there is now nothing but a centralized, constitutionless despotism, of a majority in Congress, ruling the United States by secret caucusses, where the Senate is practically annihilated as an independent legislative or political power, and all responsibility to the people is merged in party. The grand professed object of the war, therefore, on the part of the Northern people, has not been obtained. It has been defeated by the very means used to obtain it. And what have they gained by war but despotism and debt, and taxes—and North and South seething craters of hate?

We know well that all these results are denied by the revolutionists, who have compassed them. According to their vocabulary, they have "saved the life of the nation." The nation! That word was contained in Mr. Randolph's scheme of a constitution, submitted to the august convention which passed the Constitution of the United States, and it was stricken out in a dozen places. The framers of that great instrument flatly repudiated the proposition to make the United States a "Nation;" and the States never entertained it. So far as foreign affairs and foreign nations were concerned, they were to be a nation; but in their internal affairs, and with respect to each other, they were to be a Confederacy of States, united on the terms of the constitutional compact, and exercising in common, through the General Government, the powers therein granted and agreed upon. But what does this historic fact matter with men who aspire not only to manufacture words, but constitutions? The life of a free people is embodied in their fundamental law. Within the sacred form of their constitution are incarnated the vital elements of all their liberties. Life has been foully and feloniously taken out of the Constitution of the United States. As existing at the commencement of the war, it is a thing of the past, and a new government, clothed in the habiliments of the dead—a ghastly counterfeit—a mockery on free government—stands in its stead.

The revolutionists deny, too, that they have set up a despotism over the United States. They are flaunting lovers of liberty! Are they not advocates for universal suffrage? This they affect to think is the prime criterion of all republican governments. On this account, they are now arraigning the constitutions of the States which do not tolerate negro suffrage, as not republican in their form of government. Yet the only great nation which has practiced universal suffrage, that we know of, is France; and there it has created the imperial despotism of Napoleon the Third. What universal suffrage can have to do with the legal and constitutional limitations on power, which alone can constitute freedom in governments, it is difficult to perceive. Swelling the multitudes to vote or to rule, does not make liberty. In the light of common sense, it is inconceivable how a despotism is less a despotism because imposed by many, rather than by a few, or by one man. Liberty is not a boon enjoyed at the will of one man, or at the option of a majority of the people. And the burden of injustice and oppression is just as heavy, whether imposed by one tyrant at headquarters, or by ignorant and irresponsible numbers scattered in different sections of a vast country. What does it signify to the people of Oregon, or of South Carolina, if they are ruled absolutely, whether it be by a majority in Congress (elected by no matter what kind of suffrage, who are totally irresponsible to them), or by a General Grant? Is not the despotism the same? What is despotism but irresponsible power? What is free government, but government legally guarded from the exercise of unlimited power? What is liberty, but the people ruling their affairs through their own agents or representatives, chosen by them and responsible to them? The framers of the Constitution of the United States perfectly understood these plain and simple principles, and therefore granted, by its provisions, powers to the General Government it established, only over such interests as were common to all sections alike, leaving local interests to the control of the State Governments. The protection against abuse or oppression, in the exercise of the powers granted, was found in their very nature—common and general—which rendered it impossible for any section or interest to oppress other sections or interests without similarly affecting itself. Local and sectional matters were beside the sphere and beyond the reach of the General Government. Hence all the limitations in the Constitution of the United States. The lying hypocrisy of systematically disregarding these limitations, in which alone free government exists, and then to profess a devotion to liberty, in a zeal for universal suffrage, is according to the usual course of despotic usurpation. Long after the liberties of Rome had withered under the rule of her imperial masters, she was called a republic. All the forms of her free constitution were complied with. Consuls were elected; Tribunes were appointed. There was a Senate; and to be a Roman citizen was to be "free born." Yet a Nero and a Caligula dominated in her capital, and ravaged and plundered in the most approved style of despotic reconstruction.

Nor do the revolutionists admit that they hate us. They are a Christian people, and have acted upon the most enlightened principles of Christianity. It is true, that Attila and Kenghis-Khan hardly practiced more barbarism than they during the late war. It is true, also, that by the act of both branches of Congress, they invited our cessation of hostilities upon grounds which they have perfidiously ignored. And since the war closed, how have their loving kindness and generosity been lavished upon our people! Stevens and Butler have been the gracious apostles and grand almoners of their tender mercies and charities! If the Evil One himself had been in bodily shape on earth, directing the counsels of the North, his spirit could not more flagrantly have spread over the South its baleful and malignant influence. The most deadly enemy in the South to all political association with the North could not have devised a course better calculated to accomplish his purpose of an eternal separation, than that pursued by the North through its Radical majority. The policy of emancipating slaves was a violent measure which Napoleon I declined in Russia, where the slaves were of the Caucassian race; but the endeavor by military despotism to turn society upside down in the South, and to put the half savage negro over the civilized Caucasian, may not be forgotten or forgiven. It will stand alone in history as the folly of a madness burning with hate at its white heat. And we are to believe that the radicalized North love the people of the South, very, very dearly!

The people of the South recognize fully the fact that thousands of Northern men have been faithful to the constitution made by our fathers. They know that thousands are congenial in sympathy, and cordial in feeling. They honor them for their politics. They reciprocate their friendly disposition. But these constitute a subordinate minority of the people of the North, overridden and impotent to prevent the political slavery and material ruin which have been imposed upon the South. The radical element largely predominates, and now controls the policy and represents the tone and temper of the North. And between this radical element and the Southern people there seems to be an irreconcilable repugnance.

The truth is, there is an incongruity between these two peoples from their very natures. Their difference has been attributed to various causes. Some have affirmed that it arises from the different stocks of population from which they sprung—Puritan and Cavalier. Some ascribe it to climate. Others to their differing pursuits of industry—the one being an agricultural, the other a mercantile, nautical and manufacturing people. Others, again, to the institution of slavery. Mr. Burke assigned to this last source the higher spirit of liberty which actuated the people of the South in the war of '76. Whether from one, or from all of these causes combined, the fact that they are of dissimilar characteristics does not admit of doubt. The one people is cautious and reticent; the other frank and open in communication. The one is penurious; the other is free in the use of money. The one cannot even comprehend the meaning of the word honor; the other values it beyond life. Both have been great in their pursuits of industry. The one has pushed the arts of commerce and navigation to extreme efficiency; the other has advanced in agriculture, surpassing all nations in the staples cultivated, and rendering them the most important to the world. The one loves gregariousness, and does everything by association; the other cultivates privacy and individuality, and acts with difficulty with others. The one is sceptical, prying, officious, harsh, dogmatic, aggressive, and fond of novelties, misnamed progress; the other is more genial and more tolerant, distrusts change, and reverences the past. The one looks upon government as an instrument of aggrandizement, to make money or to rule others; the other regards it as simply an instrument of protection, for securing justice and leaving to all under its authority the privilege of seeking their own happiness in their own way. Is it possible that two peoples of such different characteristics and antagonistic views can live voluntarily together under the same free government?

There are persons, however, both in the South and in the North, who, in spite of the antagonism in characteristics, and the hate existing between the two sections of the United States, and the overthrow of the Constitution and the Union it established, still hope for a change which will restore the constitution to its former efficiency. If this can be accomplished, of course the South will be content. She has never sought or required any thing more than the Constitution, and the Union it establishes. But is this reversal probable? Is it possible?

It cannot be denied that the hope of such a change is contrary to all the experience of history. A free government is the most difficult of all governments to maintain, and once destroyed has not been resurrected. But the world advances; and there may be two elements of conservatism and restoration which did not exist in ancient republics—*Christianity and the Press*. Nor is the argument without force, that the terrible evils which have followed the overthrow of the constitution, prove the necessity of its re-establishment. But then it appears to us that those persons do not comprehend the momentum of the change which has pushed the new government into power. It was not the work of yesterday. It had its origin in the beginning of the government. From the first act of usurpation (the assumption of the payment of the debts of the States) to the last flare up of consolidation, in the indignity put upon Oregon in the Senate, there has been in the North a steady effort to centralize and despotise the government. Many, doubtless, are blinded in this course by able sophistries; but the real causes which have produced the war on the constitution from its commencement, are the lust of sectional ambition, and the lust of sectional avarice. And to these strong passions, a constant stimulus has been applied, by social vanity and a prevalent envy of Southern social life. The violent opposition and strife which usurpation to promote these objects caused, did not arrest the course of consolidation. Compromise after compromise took place, to prevent revolutionary collision. But they were made by the consolidationists only lodgments for further demands and encroachments; and again and again the limitations of the constitution were overborne and trampled down, until at last a sectional President was elected on sectional issues. The fact was conclusive of the downfall of the constitution, expressly made with the view of preventing such issues. The war was its legitimate, inevitable fruit; and the tinkling of President Lincoln's and Mr. Seward's bells could not awaken the lifeless spirit of the constitution. Peace brought hopes of its resuscitation; but the foul insolence of despotism still stalks over the land. Although boldly challenged and faithfully exposed by the great party of the constitution, the Democratic party, it triumphed in the late Presidential election. It stands now buttressed around by two enormous bulwarks of despotism—a vast congeries of national banks, and a huge national debt. It has the capitalists of the country bound to its fortunes; and the protective tariffs, national railroads, profuse and profligate expenditures, and large standing armies, minister to its power. Can such a despotism, congenial with the spirit of the majority of the Northern people, and sought by them for eighty years, now supported by such appliances, be set aside by reform? We think not.

What course then is left for the Southern country?

We take it for granted that the people of the South are a free people, in feeling and in character. A free people in their colonial settlements—a free people through a seven years' war, wringing their independence and liberties from Great Britain—a free people, during the long struggle for the constitution they have encountered with the North—a free people, amidst all the carnage, desolation and barbarism of the late war—they are a free people still, although conquered, chiefly through mismanagement of their affairs by their own political leaders—more by fraud than force on the part of their enemies; and it is their fixed, settled determination to be free in the time to come. Of course, no free people can voluntarily live under the existing despotism enthroned at Washington, and forced upon them by the sword. They will bear it exactly as they bear disease and pestilence and storms, which they cannot avert. But the day which brings them the power to cast it off, will be the day of their deliverance.

We know that our enemies are disposed at present to laugh at our power. They have got in the South three or four millions of negroes whom they deem potent, by the terrors of their barbarism, to keep us in submission. Yet a military force, which with one hundred and forty thousand enlisted negro men, during two years of war, fought in such style as to get but fifteen hundred slain in battle, is not likely to deter any race of white men from vindicating their liberties. But the negro serves a purpose for Southern independence far greater than his numbers or presence tells against it. He is now a standing monitor of Northern hate. He is the living symbol of Radical greed and molestation. The avarice of Northern men tore him from his native shores and enslaved him to Southern men. A perfidious despotism has emancipated him, and attempts to use him to rule us. There is no ground of forgetfulness—no possibility of forgiveness, with these black, moving memorials of our wrongs, polluting our sight, crossing us in all the walks of life, and vaunting their consequence as the tools of our tyrants. Nor is the South a small country like Ireland, incapable of expansion, or like Poland, but little larger than South Carolina. Her territory covers an area larger than Great Britain, France and Germany combined, and can hold one hundred millions of people as easily as the ten millions who now occupy it. Within thirty years, judging by past progression, we may be thirty millions. And we are united together as other people are not united. Prosperity often divides; but the pressure of a common suffering welds together. Never has any people experienced such a ruin of property at the hands of another people as we have experienced at the hands of the North. Not only have we lost all capital vested in slaves, with a corresponding loss or depreciation in all other kinds of property, but the little which was left to us has been harried down by every species of oppression. No *free people* has ever been insulted and outraged by so mean and vulgar a despotism—a despotism of vagrant white men, and ignorant, filthy negroes. The blood of the Southern people has commingled in a hundred common battle-fields. Our fallen dead lie buried together. We stand proudly isolated among the peoples of the world, with no hope for liberty and independence but in ourselves. Secessionists and old Unionists—frontier States and Gulf States—spontaneously, without effort on their part, will find their sympathies gather together for the great destiny which awaits them. South Carolina is hardly more intensely Southern, sitting amidst the ruins of war, than Kentucky, covered all over with Northern contumely and burning with the memory of her trampled on and spurned neutrality. The effort on the part of one people to quell the spirit of liberty or independence in another people invariably vitalizes and intensifies it. To become enslaved is generally a condition self-imposed or acquiesced in, as the Northern Radicals are now doing. But in the South, the Radical policy of despotism produces only alienation and detestation and a sterner aspiration for liberty. Unconsciously and unintentionally they are breeding in the South the elements of authority, and rearing up the future controllers of this continent under the beneficent sway of really free governments; whilst they, with their mockeries of freedom and real despotisms, will go down in contentions, separations and blood. They have no vital elements of cohesion amongst them, but the disjointed, incongruous and bulky despotism, whose power they are striving to erect into everlasting omnipotence.

Nor is the radicalized North as powerful as the radical vanity inspires them to suppose. The North is now a divided people, and divided upon the great essential principles of their government. A majority may be (as we believe them to be) incapable of appreciating a free government. Hence they will support the new despotism erected over them. But there is a great body of the public who do understand the revolution which has been inaugurated in their government, and are restless under its despotism. They fought in the late war merely to prevent separation, and with the purpose of only forcing the people of the Southern States to participate in the free government established by the Constitution of the United States. They find themselves betrayed and mastered by the consolidationists, from whose baleful schemes the South sought escape. They have lost the constitution. They have lost the Union it established, and are become the slaves of a consolidated despotism.

The people of the North are again divided between the tax-payers and the debt-owners and bondholders of the United States. The new government is in fact an arbitrary aristocracy of capitalists. The taxes and debts which drove the people of Rome to seek refuge in *Mons Sacer* against the Patricians, were nothing to the burdens which now weigh upon the people of the United States. How exacting is this aristocracy may plainly be seen: they assert in Congress, it has been determined by the late Presidential election that one billion six hundred millions of money, borrowed in depreciated paper currency of the United States, and payable in this currency on the face of the act authorizing the loan, shall be paid in specie. At this moment the currency is some twenty-five or six per cent. below the value of specie. Will not this unjust pretension lead directly to a repudiation of the debt by the tax-payers—the people? Nothing can prevent such a result but a resumption of specie payments, which shall make the paper currency equal to specie. But, in the condition of the banks and finances of the United States, is this possible? And, if it is possible, can anything prevent the financial and commercial convulsions such a resumption must produce? As onerous, however, as the debt of the United States now is, (being the heaviest in proportion to property now pressing on any people in the world,) it constitutes by no means the whole load the revolutionists intend to put upon them. With the Radicals a heavy ballast of debt is a policy, to steady and uphold their despotism. As soon as the present burden is acquiesced in by the people, they intend that the United States Government shall assume the payment of all the debts contracted by the States or local municipalities throughout the North during the recent war. The late Thaddeus Stevens estimated these debts to be very nearly equal to the debt proper of the United States. With this programme in prospect, it is well to judge whether these expedients of oppression and consolidation by the aristocracy of money will be patiently endured by the people of the North? To strengthen their despotism, they have adopted a system of boundless expansion of territory. They have extended the domains of the United States to the North pole, and now seek to grasp the Equator. This policy, under the system advocated by the South, was wise. Whilst the Constitution of the United States existed, expansion was a source of strength. With the General Government, limited in its powers to the general interests of all the States of the Union, causes of contest between the sections were eliminated. But, under the intermeddling system of the new government, expansion is inevitable dissolution. Congress, with arbitrary powers of legislation (which is now the Government of the United States), can be nothing else but a confused conglomeration of sections and interests, struggling each to use the government for its own profit and ambition. No section can promote its own interests, except at the expense of other sections; for governments have no resources of their own, and a warfare of States and sections is the organization. Thus will arise discontents and contentions, which, over so vast a country, will naturally produce separation and independence in its several parts. Expansion may do in Russia; but the people of the United States are not Russians. Over such a people as those of the United States, and in a despotic mobocracy, expansion is not strength, but weakness and dissolution.

Having thus briefly sketched the political condition of the United States, and the resources of the North and of the South, we come to the question—what shall be the future policy of the people of the South?

If the Constitution of the United States, with the Union it established, can be restored, we say to the people of the South, let us support the Union and the Constitution. While in association with the people of the North, we should faithfully struggle to make and to keep the Government of the United States a free government.

But, in our judgment, this government is almost hopelessly despotic. So very feeble are the probabilities of reversal and reinstatement, that they can safely constitute no element of our future policy. What then shall we do? We answer, look to a future of independence; seek harmony in the South for the sake of the South. Once the heart of the South throughout these fair lands was with the North. Not for money (for we sought not to use the Union to promote pecuniary interest), but for the sake of liberty against foreign nations, and for the sake of the past, in which they were associated in our struggles for independence, and for that "sacred honor" which our fathers pledged to them in our common Declaration of Independence, we loved the Union established between us. Rent by their usurpations, it has been finally cut asunder by the sword. It now forms the tangled and bloody strands of a deceitful, hostile despotism. That this despotism will work out its own dissolution we have not a doubt. The people of the Southern States will yet be a great and free people.

In the portentous changes and events looming up before us, the Charleston Mercury will no more be heard. Its voice, which for fifty years has mingled in the counsels of the imperilled South, is hushed. But will it be dead? Has it advocated no high principles of liberty, which, in some warm-living heart, shall not be forgotten? Has it counselled no policy of stern resistance to wrong—of a brave defiance of tyranny—of a deathless effort for independence—with a spirit undaunted and an honor untarnished for the South—a policy which shall yet survive and triumph? For long years, amidst trying circumstances and weighty responsibilities, I have struggled (I trust faithfully) for my endangered country. Apparently I have failed—my country has failed! But in the wise Providence of God, failure often proves the greatest blessing, and seeming success eventuates in failure. The Saviour of men was crucified, and his enemies in the exultation of their success, cried out, "His blood be on us and on our children." Amidst the afflictions and desolations in this our land, I have faith to believe in the future independence and prosperity of the South. I take my place among her ruined children—better so than to be the proudest and most honored of her successful enemies—and I wait, hoping, praying, expecting the bright coming of her final deliverence.

R. B. RHETT, Jr.,
Proprietor Charleston Mercury.

Appended to the above circular is the following selection from the newspaper notices of of the discontinuance of the Mercury:

Comments of the Press.

[From the Charleston Courier.]

THE CHARLESTON MERCURY.

It is with regret that we announce the suspension of this valued journal of the South. For a long series of years it has been a welcome visitor to many hearts in our Southern land, and an able advocate of the cause of constitutional right. In all of its principles it was fearless and sincere. Although differing with it, at times, during its long career, yet we cannot but feel that it was ever animated by but one conviction, and that a desire for what is firmly believed to be truth and justice. Under the proprietorship of Colonel R. B. Rhett, Jr., & Brother, its editorials have been able and comprehensive. It has been one of the household institutions of our city and State, and as such it will be missed at many a fireside and home.

The relations between our late cotemporary and ourselves were of the most kindly character. Not only the community in which it was published, but the whole South, will regard with sadness the disappearance of our cotemporary from the journalism of the land.

No newspaper in the South can live on subscriptions. They but help to pay the expenses. It is the advertising patronage that gives success or failure to a daily journal. And a sufficiency of this, notwithstanding the Mercury's large subscription lists, it did not receive. Hence its suspension.

[From the Charleston Daily News.]

SUSPENSION OF THE MERCURY.

Our cotemporary, the Charleston Mercury, has not be issued since Monday last. We have no information as to whether its publication will be resumed; but if not, there will be felt some natural regret at the discontinuance of a journal which has had so eventful a career, and has so long been connected with the name and history of our city.

[From the Charleston Daily News.]

THE DEMISE OF THE MERCURY.

The Columbia correspondent of the New York Times—who is understood to be Mr. Jas. Wood Davidson—writes to that paper as follows, in regard to the suspension of the Charleston Mercury:

One of the most significant signs of the times, and in the main one of the most hopeful, is in the suspension of the Charleston Mercury—for many years the exponent of the extremists in South Carolina. By extremists, I mean those politicians who persist in applying the obsolete standards of a dead past to the questions of a new and progressive present, those who push conservatism to its vicious extreme of stagnant dogmatism; those Bourbons whom no experience can teach. For many years—twenty or more, I believe—this organ of a now past regime has held sway in this State, and wielded a large influence throughout the South. During the war it still survived, was still sustained, fighting though it always was over some past issue. Since the war it raised the same standard, and waved it persistently, but with diminishing power, for its cause was dying out gradually, and its day was dying out. New thoughts possessed our people, and new issues arose; but this Nestor of an ante-penult generation still spoke with enthusiasm of traditions that had well-nigh passed from the memories of to-day—this dying Sir John still "babbled of green fields." The significance of this suspension of the Mercury is, that its cause lies in the moribund condition in which its party now is. The hopefulness of the occurrence lies in the assurance that this death of effete conservatism means life to the incoming party of progress and action. Our Southern people are going to work—are throwing to the dogs the theories of the Bourbons who have ruled public opinion for so many years with such an iron hand. There may be danger in this new tendency, but I am recording facts, not demonstrating truths.

[From the New York Herald.]

THE DEMOCRACY BREAKING UP.

All over the land there are signs that the Democracy is breaking up. One by one, the organs of the Pendleton, or Southern Rights Democracy, are silenced. The Charleston Mercury, without a premonitory sign, has suddenly given up the ghost. It has caved in and fallen to pieces, like Wendell Holmes' famous "one horse shay." The Louisville Journal had already caved in. The demise of the Journal may have been hastened by the high tax on Bourbon; but as the editor of the Mercury drinks nothing but water, no such conjecture is admissible as to the fate of that newspaper. The Democracy is manifestly breaking up all over the land.

[From the Washington Republican.]

THE BREAKING UP.

It is easy to predict the breaking up of parties, but it is not always certain that the signs which portend a downfall of parties will be witnessed in actual realization. We must confess, however, that the indications are very strong that the Democracy are breaking up.

Several Democratic papers have given up the ghost. Among them we may name the Charleston Mercury and the Louisville Journal. Others will have to follow. We think Ichabod is written upon the door-posts of the Democratic party.

[From the New York Tribune.]

We see it announced that the Charleston Mercury has suspended publication. There could scarcely be a more suggestive fact. The Mercury has always been the organ of the aristocracy of the South, and has always represented the extreme sentiment of Southern slave-driving aggrandizement. Before the war it was the earnest enemy of the Union. During the war it championed the harshest measures; and since peace it has been the implacable foe of every honest attempt at reconstruction. Edited by a member of the noted family of Rhett, it has fully represented every principle of which the Rhetts have so long been intrepid and consistent advocates. Its suspension, therefore, indicates that the "aristocracy" is dead; that the "First Families" of the South can no longer support an organ; and that as a political fact their empire is past. We are sorry for Mr. Rhett, and for the suspension of his enterprise; but the death of the Charleston Mercury is a sure sign of the dissolution of all that remains of the proud and exclusive class that dwelt for so many years in South Carolina, and reigned over the whole republic.

[From Forney's Philadelphia Press.]

The Charleston Mercury has already ceased publication. "Let us have Peace."

[From the Wilmington, N. C., Journal.]

We regret to learn of the suspension of this able and valued journal. No paper has been more identified with the history of South Carolina and the whole country than the Charleston Mercury, and its absence will be felt in many households. Always admiring the ability, fearlessness and sincerity with which it advocated and defended its principles, we have frequently differed from it during the war and since. We sincerely regret the necessity which compels its supension, and feel that but few papers would be so much missed, either in the sanctum or among its friends and patrons.

[From the Augusta, Ga., Constitutionalist.]

NEWSPAPER CHANGES.

In common with thousands in the South, we deeply regret the suspension of the Charleston Mercury, and trust we shall have the pleasure of once more welcoming it to our sanctum, renewed, revived, immortal.

[From the Huntsville, Ala., Democrat.]

THE CHARLESTON MERCURY.

We deeply regret to learn that this able and consistent exponent of States Rights and the true principles of constitutional liberty and undaunted defender of Southern freedom and civilization has suspended. The South cannot afford to lose the services of so devoted, able and efficient a friend.

[From the Atlanta Constitution.]

SUSPENSION OF AN OLD AND VALUED JOURNAL.

The Charleston Mercury, one of the oldest and ablest journals in the South, we regret to learn, has been forced to suspend publication. With one of its sister cotemporaries, the Charleston Courier, we unite our regrets at this occurrence.

[From the Georgetown (S. C.) Times.]

THE CHARLESTON MERCURY.

We do not know that we have ever felt more deeply disappointed than we were by the receipt of the news that this time-honored, faithful servant of our State, has suspended publication. We have always regarded the Mercury as decidedly one of the ablest papers in the South, and we feel lost without it, accustomed as we have always been to defer to its opinions and to appreciate its bold and vigorous editorials. We sincerely hope it will soon be resurrected, improved and enlarged, and that it is only a temporary absence from our list of exchanges.

[From the Darlington, S. C., Democrat.]

THE CHARLESTON MERCURY.

We regret that this planet has disappeared from the political heavens. We hope it is a mere eclipse, and that the "Mercury" is not to be numbered among the "lost stars."

We will sadly miss her bright face. To her we have long looked in stormy weather, when the skies were darkened and the sea was rough. To her be given, as we do, all credit for honesty and fearlessness in times when "thrift might follow fawning."

The Mercury has long been the *Alpha Polaris* to many, in affairs of State, in these latitudes. "*Cyno Sura*" has varied, and is varying. The Mercury never has, and we never supposed she would, or could.

If the Republicanism of "the Fathers" should ever be resurrected on this continent, it will be on the basis of the principles of the Mercury—when clad in white, having the palm, she will reappear as the *Omega Polaris*.

[From the Sumter, S. C., Watchman.]

THE CHARLESTON MERCURY.

The announcement that the Mercury may resume will be received with gratification by all who respect and honor the name and character of South Carolina—all who esteem character and principle beyond place and plunder—all who feel that there is a future for our people of respectability and honor, and that there are rights which belong to freemen still worth contending for.

The Mercury, for many years, occupied a position and wielded an influence, such as no paper of the South has ever attained. To the South it has been a source of strength and encouragement, and a dreaded opponent of the Southern oppressor and enemy of constitutional liberty. As a newspaper and visitant of the fireside, it has held high position—the chastity of its columns being such as to be unoffensive alike to the most delicate sensibility or uncontaminated morals.

We hope soon to see its pleasant and welcome face again, brighter from its temporary absence.

[From the Chesterfield, S. C., Democrat.]

THE MERCURY.

We have missed this sterling representative of the old Carolina from our sanctum.

We are truly pained to think that the Mercury—a name associated with the past of our beloved Palmetto State, and with the men of intellectual renown who made it always the organ of the good and true Carolinians—may cease to occupy its wonted place among the journals of the South. If patronage will prevent such a result, let the citizens of South Carolina especially come to its support. It would be a sad commentary upon their consistency of principle, and their fidelity to their friends, if they should not. But we hope the suspension is merely temporary.

[From the Marion Crescent.]

THE CHARLESTON MERCURY.

The suspension of this high-toned journal and true exponent of Southern principles, (as they should be,) has occasioned universal regret to the citizens of Charleston.

The influence of the Charleston Mercury is wide-spread, not only in the South, but in the North, and, at this juncture of our country's trials, we could hardly spare an advocate so fearless and independent.

The Mercury has been a paper of great power and influence in the State, in fact in the South. It has had the most able men as its editors, and many of the editorials of the paper have been master-pieces of composition, enforcing the political principles of which it was the champion with unequalled ability. Those principles were such as are now overthrown by "the will of the nation"—State rights, strict construction of the constitution and economy in the administration of the government.

It is to be hoped that the time is not distant when the Mercury will again resume publication.

[From the Orangeburg News.]

THE CHARLESTON MERCURY.

We regret to announce that this veteran journal has suspended publication. The exponent, for a long series of years, of the political sentiments of the old State Rights party of South Carolina, and in our darker days of late a fearless advocate of the cause of our oppressed and down-trodden people, its utterances have always struck a responsive chord in the popular heart: and its masterly editorials have been as household words at many a fireside, where patriot sires have taught their children to love the old Palmetto State.

A new regime has been established, sadly in contrast with our happy and prosperous past. The serf of yesterday, and the unprincipled adventurer from abroad, have usurped the places, which great and good men once occupied to their own and their country's honor.

The Mercury, ever in sympathy with all that was good and noble in our State, has shared in its adversity, as it was once identified with its glory, and has become a part of that historic past, when "*Carolina fuit.*"

Don Piatt relates that a distinguished member of Congress called on President Lincoln one night soon after his first inauguration and found him immersed in a pile of papers concerning a postoffice in a small town in Ohio. "Glad to see you, sit down," he cried. "Here's a little office I have filled and unfilled a dozen times." "Can I be of any service to you, Mr. President?" "Oh, I guess not; fact is, I had just made up my mind to give it to the fellow whose papers weigh the most. That's as good a way as any—so here goes." The papers were weighed, and the lucky applicant having the heaviest lot of foolscap received the appointment.

EDWARD DALY,
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Consignments of all kinds of Staple Articles and general Produce solicited.
Prompt returns guaranteed.
EDWARD DALY,
Late of Charleston, S. C.
Weekly Price Currents sent free by post.
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REFERENCES.
Hon. HENRY BUIST, W. J. MAGRATH, Esq.,
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October

WILLIS & CHISOLM,
FACTORS, COMMISSION MERCHANTS
AND
SHIPPING AGENTS.
WILL ATTEND TO THE PURCHASE, SALE AND SHIPMENT (to Foreign and Domestic Ports) of COTTON, RICE, LUMBER AND NAVAL STORES.
ATLANTIC WHARF, Charleston, S. C.
E. WILLIS.......................A. R. CHISOLM.
October 25

Shipping.

EXCURSIONS AROUND THE HARBOR.
THE FINE, FAST SAILING AND COMFORTABLY appointed Yacht ELEANOR will resume her trips to historic points in the harbor, and will leave Government Wharf daily at Ten A. M. and Three P. M.
For Passage apply to THOMAS YOUNG,
December 18 3mo Captain, on board.

FOR BOSTON.
THE PACKET STEAMSHIP ALLIANCE, TILLSEN Master, will have dispatch, after arrival, for the above port.
For engagements apply to
H. F. BAKER & CO.,
February 23 2 No. 20 Cumberland-street.

FAST FREIGHT LINE
TO AND FROM BALTIMORE, PHILADELPHIA, WASHINGTON CITY, WILMINGTON, DEL., CINCINNATI, OHIO, ST. LOUIS, MO., AND OTHER NORTHWESTERN CITIES.—LEAVING EACH PORT EVERY 5TH DAY.
FALCON............JESSE D HORSEY, Commander.
SEA GULL.............N. P. DUTTON, Commander.
MARYLAND..........J. V. JOHNSON, Commander.

THE FAVORITE AND SWIFT Steamship FALCON, JESSE D. HORSEY Commander, will sail for Baltimore on THURSDAY, 25th instant, at 3 o'clock P. M., from Pier No 1, Union Wharves.
The SEA GULL, Captain DUTTON, will follow on 2d March.
For Freight or passage, apply to
COURTENAY & TRENHOLM,
February 22 4 Union Wharves.

FOR NEW YORK.
REGULAR LINE EVERY THURSDAY.
PASSAGE REDUCED TO $15.
THE SIDEWHEEL STEAMSHIP MAGNOLIA, Captain CROWELL, will leave Vanderhorst's Wharf on THURSDAY, February 25th, at 4 o'clock P. M.
February 22 RAVENEL & CO., Agents.

FOR PHILADELPHIA.
THE STEAMSHIP PROMETHEUS, Captain A. B. GRAY, will leave North Atlantic Wharf for Philadelphia on TUESDAY AFTERNOON, February 23 at — o'clock.
Insurance can be obtained on this steamer at ½ per cent.
For Freight apply to
JOHN & THEO. GETTY,
February 22 2 North Atlantic Wharf.

FOR LIVERPOOL.
CHARLESTON AND LIVERPOOL STEAMSHIP LINE.
THE FIRST-CLASS IRON SCREW Steamship GOLDEN HORN, R. J. BLACKLIN Master, having one-half her cargo engaged and going on board, will meet with dispatch for the above port—to sail on or about the 20th inst.
For Freight engagements apply to
February 9 ROBT. MURE & CO.

TRAVELERS PASSING THROUGH
CHARLESTON EN ROUTE TO FLORIDA, AIKEN
And other places, should not fail to lay in their supplies of PROVISIONS, CLARETS, CHAMPAGNES, CORDIALS, BRANDIES, WHISKIES, WINES, CANNED MEATS, SOUPS, &c.
Pates of Wild Game, Deviled Entremets, Ham, Turkey, Lobster, etc., for Luncheons, sandwiches, Travelers' Repast, &c.
Send for a catalogue.
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PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMP'Y'S
THROUGH LINE TO
CALIFORNIA, CHINA AND JAPAN.
FREIGHT AND PASSAGE AT GREATLY REDUCED RATES!
STEAMERS OF THE ABOVE line leave Pier No. 42, North River, foot of Canal-street, New York, at 12 o'clock noon, of the 1st, 9th, 16th and 24th of every month (except when these dates fall on Sunday, then the Saturday preceding).
Departure of 1st and 24th connect at Panama with steamers for South Pacific and Central American ports. Those of 1st touch at Manzanillo.
Departure of 9th of each month connects with the new steam line from Panama to Australia and New Zealand.
Steamship GREAT REPUBLIC leaves San Francisco for China and Japan April 3, 1869.
No California steamers touch at Havana, but go direct from New York to Aspinwall.
One hundred pounds baggage free to each adult. Medicine and attendance free.
For Passage Tickets or further information apply at the COMPANY'S TICKET OFFICE, on the wharf, foot of Canal-street, North River, New York.
March 14 1yr F. R. BABY, Agent.

FOR EDISTO.
ROCKVILLE, ENTERPRISE, HUTCHINSON AND FENWICK ISLANDS AND WAY LANDINGS.
THE STEAMER ST. HELENA, Captain JAMES G. RUMLEY, will receive Freight THIS DAY and leave TO-MORROW MORNING at 2 o'clock, and Edisto SATURDAY MORNING at 2 o'clock.
For Freight or Passage apply on board or to
JOHN H MURRAY,
Market Wharf.
The Steamer leaves again MONDAY MORNING at 6 o'clock, and Edisto same day at 2 o'clock P. M.
February 24 1*

INLAND ROUTE.
THROUGH TICKETS TO FLORIDA.
CHARLESTON AND SAVANNAH STEAM PACKET LINE, VIA EDISTO, BEAUFORT AND HILTON HEAD,
CONNECTING WITH
THE ATLANTIC AND GULF RAILROAD AND CONNECTIONS FOR ALL POINTS IN FLORIDA.
THE FINE, FAST STEAMER PILOT BOY, Captain FENN PECK, will leave Charleston on MONDAY and THURSDAY MORNINGS at Eight o'clock. Returning, will leave Savannah TUESDAY MORNINGS at Eight o'clock, and FRIDAY AFTERNOON at Two o'clock, touching at Edisto on THURSDAY trip from Charleston, at Eleven A. M., and leaving Edisto at Nine A. M., SATURDAYS, on return trip.
The steamer will touch at Chisolm's, each way every two weeks, commencing with trip of February 18th.
For Freight or Passage apply to
JOHN FERGUSON,
February 16 Accommodation Wharf.

FOR PALATKA, FLORIDA,
VIA SAVANNAH, FERNANDINA AND JACKSONVILLE.
THE FIRST-CLASS STEAMER DICTATOR, Captain L. M. COXETTER, will sail from Charleston every *Tuesday Evening*, at Eight o'clock, for the above points.
The first-class Steamer CITY POINT, Captain WM. T. MCNELTY, will sail from Charleston every *Saturday Evening*, at Eight o'clock, for above points.
Connecting with the Central Railroad at Savannah for Mobile and New Orleans, and with the Florida Railroad at Fernandina for Cedar Keys, at which point steamers connect with New Orleans, Mobile, Pensacola, Key West and Havana.
Through Bills Lading given for Freight to Mobile, Pensacola and New Orleans.
Both steamers connecting with H. S. Hart's steamers Oclawaha and Griffin for Silver Springs and Lakes, Griffin, Eustis, Harris and Durham.
All freight payable on the wharf.
Goods not removed at sunset will be stored at risk and expense of owners.
For Freight or Passage engagement, apply to
J. D. AIKEN & CO., Agents,
South Atlantic Wharf.
N. B.—No extra charge for Meals and Staterooms.
November 21

HOLMES & MACBETH,
No. 36 Broad-street,
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BROKERS, AUCTIONEERS, REAL ESTATE
AND
GENERAL COMMISSION AGENTS.
Will attend to Renting and Collecting of Rents and purchase and sale of Stocks, Bonds, Gold, Silver and Real Estate.
ALSO,
To the Purchase of Goods and Supplies for parties in the country upon reasonable terms.
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P. GADSDEN HASELL. 6mos September 22