

Thursday Morning, April 13, 1865.

**Our Bono? Opinion.**

We are continually self-arrested, checked, brought up suddenly, as by a sharp rein and heavy Spanish bit, when we would discourse to our public as to the evil in their affairs and the remedies which may possibly still be in our hands, for averting them and repairing the mis-  
 haps already done. The *cui bono*—the "what's the good or use of it"—is a perpetual check on utterance. Of what avail to speak? The Government does not hear—will not hear—certainly not heed; officials are proverbially deaf to counsel, and the labor of speech and thought is vain, so far as these are concerned. Shall we gain, or do we gain, anything by addressing the people? It does not seem so. Either they do not hear, like the Government, nor heed, like the officials, or they are unconscious of any need to hear, of any evil to reform, any danger to fear, any matter of any sort seriously affecting their interests. In fact, there is scarcely any interest shown, or any action taken, by the people, at any period, in respect to their own affairs, except at the time of a popular election; and then they exhibit no concern as to measures, and generally choose a very poor devil sort of men. *Briefly, there is no opinion in the country.* Perhaps there never is in any agricultural country, or among a purely agricultural people. *The formation of opinion depends upon the perpetual mental attrition of the great masses engaged in the daily struggle for existence.* And herein lies the grand difference, which, in all countries, is perceptible between the agricultural and the mercantile classes. The former arrives slowly at a conclusion, if it ever reaches it at all, while the latter reaches it at a bound, and has carried opinion into performance long before the former begins to meditate. The latter may blunder, and does blunder a thousand times—may, tumbles over, and falls prostrate in its impulse; but the same mental activity which has made it so imprudently forward, enables it as promptly to recover itself, leap up, take a new stand, and, lessoned by its experience, to make no farther way successfully. Better fall a thousand times, and pick yourself up again, than not move at all. Better die in battle than of atrophy and inanition. Better go through a chaos of false opinion, in the effort to reach the right, than never use the brains to any purpose, or at all. Let the reader pursue this matter for himself. We will but add, that where there is no opinion formed, or in the continued process of formation, there is ready no people. In such States, the Government is essentially an oligarchy, and must rest in very few hands, whatever the obvious policy, or the declared design of its institutions.

One lady of Richmond has given up her jewelry, valued at \$140,000, to the Treasury of the Confederate States. A golden example.

The famous blue grass region of Kentucky is stripped equally of stock and slaves, and overrun with guerrillas.

The Misses Sloman are engaged for the choir of St. Paul's Church, in Augusta.

In the debate on the Oregon bill, in 1848, Daniel Webster said: "I understand that one-half the people who settled in Illinois are people, or descendants of people, who came from the Southern States. And I suppose that one-third of the people of Ohio are those, or descendants of those, who emigrated from the South." We dare say that a large proportion of the people of other North-western States are, in like manner, Southern citizens, or men of Southern descent.

The most formidable armies we have encountered in this war are made up of North-western men and Kentuckians and Tennesseans. It is the hands of her own children that have given the South more trouble than all the Puritan, European and African troops combined.

Doubtless, this is true. It is an ill bird that fouls its own nest, saith the proverb. But what must be the terrible ignorance of a people which thus prompts them not only to bind themselves as the tools of tyranny and usurpation, but which prompts them to lift parricidal hands against their own ancestry. Nay, which makes them lift weapons against a people actually fighting their battles, for the South really is waging a war for the freedom of agriculture. The West is almost wholly agricultural, and it is fighting, now to uphold and extend the usurpation of the manufacturing and trading population of New England, Pennsylvania and New York. This ignorance of the people is the terrible curse of every country, the real source of all its mischiefs, and must be essentially the curse of all democracies, placing them at the mercy of the sunning demagogue, who soothes them with a lie, while he saps the vital fluid from their system—the vampire who fans them to sleep, while he sucks the blood from the very fountains of the heart.

To CORRESPONDENTS.—We thank our correspondent, "Senex" (S. R. B.) for his communication, but prefer that he should address it directly to the members of the General Assembly, without giving it to the public in print. Let the policy of its publication be determined by their action. It is certainly a subject upon which our public cannot act, without the previous decision of the Legislature; nor even then, save through the interposition of the appointed officers. The MS. will be reserved for the author, who can easily place it before the General Assembly, through some of the representatives of Richland.

**To the Public.**

PERSONS who receive the favor of sending letters by the "Conrier Line," are notified that all such articles as Toilet Soap and Chocolate are positively excluded, by order of Gen. Beauregard; and when found, will be turned over to the Ladies' Hospital. Letters must be stamped. R. WARD, Capt. and A. Q. M. April 20 1\*

**Planter's and Mechanic's Bank of S. C.,**  
 ABBEVILLE C. H., APRIL 17, 1865.

THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR THIRTEEN DIRECTORS of this Bank will be held at its office, in this place, on MONDAY, 1st May ensuing, between the hour of 10 o'clock a. m. and 1 p. m. Stockholders may vote either in person or by proxy.

April 20 18 W. R. HASKELL, Cashier.

**Writing Ink.**

A FEW bottles of unobscured WRITING INK, for sale at this office. March 29

**Local Items.**

The office of the *Columbia Phoenix* is on Gates street, second door from Blair.

The sale advertised by F. Eugene Durbec to take place this day, in Richland street, is postponed, on account of unavoidable circumstances.

**LAYS AND GARDENS.**—The owners of vacant lots in and about Columbia should be counselled and entreated to enclose and plant them. They will then, instead of becoming a source of disease, become a source of health and comfort. The rich areas lately covered by buildings exposed to the exacting sun of mid-summer, may be a subject of apprehension. Planted, and the rich deposits of feculent matter will lose their noxious character if giving stimulus to the plant; and all these spots, covered with lime and debris, ashes and burnt materials, form beds of manure in which every plant will flourish and luxuriate.

**For Rent.**

A LARGE and COMMODIOUS RESIDENCE on Senate street, between Sumner and Marion streets. The house contains eight rooms; the servants' houses are ample. Apply to A. R. PHILLIPS, At Dr. Geiger's. April 18 18\*

**\$200 Reward.**

LOST about Friday last, a COW and CALF. The cow is dark ash color, with very large horns; not in very good order. The calf is a heifer, about a year old, white body, with red head. The cow and calf are always seen together. The above reward will be paid for their delivery to me, or any information leading to their recovery. A. TRAGER. April 20 18\*

**CARD.**

THE subscriber having resumed business as a Commission Merchant, is now prepared to receive consignments and make liberal advances on all kinds of PRODUCE and MERCHANDIZE. Thankful for past favors, he respectfully solicits a continuance of same. All business entrusted to my care shall have my usual prompt attention.

A. L. SOLOMON, Commission Merchant, Plain street, second door from Assembly. April 20 12

**Headquarters,**

COLUMBIA, S. C., APRIL 13, 1865.

NOTICE is hereby given that no PASSES will be granted at these headquarters, to any one, for the purpose of entering the enemy's lines. PASSES for such purpose must be obtained from the Secretary of War. By order A. F. RUDLER, Col. Com'dg. W. J. McALPIN, A. A. G. April 20

**Hands Wanted.**

SEVERAL FIELD HANDS are wanted; to work on a healthy place in the country, where they will be well fed and taken care of. For further particulars, apply at this office. April 20 18

**Headquarters.**

COLUMBIA, S. C., APRIL 8, 1865.

**CIRCULAR.**

ALL Officers on Post Duty at this place will make a report to these Headquarters of all men attached to their respective departments, who are entitled to draw rations at this post.

All provision returns must be made out at the departments and approved at these Headquarters. By order

A. F. RUDLER, Col. Com'dg. W. J. McALPIN, A. A. G. April 10