# THE DAILY PHŒNIX.

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BY JULIAN A. SELBY. COLUMBIA, S. C., FRIDAY MORNING, AUGUST 24. 1866. VOLUME II—NO. 134



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BY JULIAN A. SELBY,

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### Cotton a Nuisance.

The Richmond *Times* does not believe very implicitly in the production of cotton. It says;

We begin to think that cotton is a nuisance and ought to be abated. It has brought us into a world of trouble, the end of which we have not yet seen. If we had not been a cotton-producing people we should probably have been permitted to have seceded peaceably, and no one would have thought us worth fighting for. But, unfortunately for us, we could not, like that animal pursued by the hunters for rare perfume which it carried with it, cast off cotton and thus save ourselves. If we could have got rid of cotton with slavery, we should have removed that powerful incentive, which now actuates the hordes of Federal plunderers who seem to regard the South as the golden goose, to be killed for her egg. Without cotton we should not have had Union Generals, liberating slaves with one hand and stealing the products of their labor with the other. Nor would we now have had a radical conspiracy striving through tariffs and all kinds of plunder schemes to oppress Southern whites, just in proportion as they hypocritically profess to benefit the Southern blacks.

The disposition recently manifested by Congress, and not yet abandoned, to impose the heaviest burdens of taxation on an impoverished section, should begin to open the eyes of our people as to the means by which to meet this extortionate spirit. There are some advantages in being poor, and if some future tax upon cotton shall diminish its production, though we shall be a poorer people, yet we shall to a much greater extent than now be exempt from spoliation and persecution. There two very good reasons why cotton should continually decrease in cultivation; first, the worthlessness of free negroes in the cotton-growing States as reliable laborers; secondly, the disposition to tax cotton to death, which the Congress, which has just adjourned, exhibited.

Let us try very light cotton crops for a year or two. We are confident it will have a very wholesome influence in national politics. We have enough provocation for the experiment. We have very urgent need for breadstuffs, and we hold that it is more necessary to feed a man than to clothe him. Wheat and corn bring very remunerative prices, and as we are nearer to the sea than the grain-growing States of the North, we can afford better to raise them for exportation. If our Northern neighbors want cotton, let them come down South and enter partnership with the Freedmen's Bureau in its cultivation. By this means we shall receive their labor and capital, and when they get here they will discard "humanity" and "philanthropy," and make cuffee work as he never did before.

BRIEF BUT EXPRESSIVE.—Senator Doolittle, in a speech he recently made, at Saratoga, said:

"To say that the South is 'caricatured' in the North does not express it. She is slandered, villified—wickedly, infamously belied. Were the South to come North, she would not recognize herself—if she did, she would disown herself. Were the North to go South, she would be astonished at the misrepresentations and falsehoods, and with the cruelty and unjust and erroneous sentiments prevailing here."

TERRIBLE EXPLOSION.—The Italian journals report a frightful catastrophe at Piacenza. A small powder mill blew up, and communicated the fire to a factory of cartridges, which likewise exploded. About sixty young women, soldiers and several laborers, who were employed on the premises, were all buried in the burning ruins. The exact number of the dead and wounded is not known.

MILITARY ARREST.—The first case of arrest under General Grant's order, directing the military to act where the civil authorities fail to do so, is reported by the Atlanta papers. Mr. James M. Lacky, a highly respectable citizen of Bartow County, was arrested at Cartersville about a week ago, by order of General Thomas, and taken under guard to Atlanta. Mr. Lacky, it appears, had assaulted a gentlman from Atlanta, who was at Cartersville, in business, and the civil authorities there failed to arrest Mr. Lacky. The gentleman complained to General Thomas, who had Mr. Lacky arrested. He has been turned over to the civil authorities.

A story is told of a Prussian sentinel stationed on the steeple at Troppau, and left there when his company retreated. The citizens attempted to take him prisoner, but the Prussian easily defended with his bayonet the narrow winding stair by which alone access could be gained to the steeple. They then decided on reducing him by famine, but the Prussian having with him a good supply of cartridges, announced that unless he was regularly and well fed, he would shoot every one who passed in the streets around the church. The good soldier thus contrived to maintain his position for two days, when Troppau was re-occupied by the Prussians, and he was relieved.

THE CABLE AND MEXICO.—It is stated that since the Atlantic cable has been laid, Napoleon has kept up a constant telegraphic communication with Maximilian, there being, by means of the ocean cable, a continuous telegraphic line from Paris through London and New York to Galveston, Texas. A fast steamer, connecting Galveston and Vera Cruz, carries despatches between those places in very short time. No doubt, Louis Napoleon read on Saturday the proclamation of President Johnson concerning the blockade of Matamoras.

THE RED, WHITE AND BLUE.—The Washington *Chronicle* says: "A great excitement, at a fair, in St. Louis, last week, was caused by the offer of a rebel sympathizer to double his bid for a boquet tied with red, white and blue ribbon, if the blue could be taken off. The auctioneer removed the blue ribbon, and some ardent Union men present were with difficulty restrained from lynching him."

The radical Boston *Transcript* dislikes the tendency of the popular feeling, and is moved to say, in justification of its own course: "Several of the old families have ceased to be the first families in Massachusetts; the sons of noble sires having departed from the principles of honored and patriotic fathers."

The Legislature of Ohio has passed a law providing for the free tuition of ex-soldiers in the State university at Athens for as long a time as they served in the army as minors.

Two men quarreled about a woman, in Mobile, on Thursday last. It ended by one being shot dead and the other mortally wounded.



## SPECIAL NOTICES.