COLUMBIA, S. C.

Wednesday Morning, May 15, 1872.

Mr. Sumner and Civil Rights.

It is difficult to see what rational purpose Mr. Sumner has in view by his continued defeat of the amnesty bill by saddling it with his civil rights amendment. It looks very much as if he sincerely favored neither civil rights nor amnesty, though he claims to be the champion of the former, and not indisposed to grant the latter. There is required under the fourteenth amendment a two-thirds vote of Congress to pass a measure relieving disfranchised Southerners of their political disabilities, while for Mr. Sumner's pet civil rights project, a simple majority would suffice to make it a law. What is the sense, then, in tacking civil rights on as a rider to amnesty, giving both an additional load to carry, and ending, as it has repeatedly done, in the defeat of both measures? Alone and unentrammeled by the other, we are inclined to believe that the amnesty bill would receive its requisite two-thirds vote, and the civil rights bill be sustained by the simple majority which is necessary for its passage. Mr. Sumner, by his foolish course, thwarts his own professed purposes; or, in case we are mistaken about a majority of Congress favoring the civil rights bill, he is taking ground which is equally untenable, in his endeavor to force an obnoxious measure on his brother-representatives, and thus, too, defeating another act of legislation which he concurs with them in thinking advisable. This is the part of an obstinate ass, and scarcely accords with Mr. Sumner's reputation as a first class New England statesman. We in South Carolina would not go into ecstasies ever the passage of the amnesty bill, nor would we be lamentably affected by the success of the supplementary civil rights bill.

Amnesty is only valuable to us as it evinces a returning sense of justice to us and an acknowledgment of our rights by the North. It would mark an era of renewed confidence and friendship, and its incidental influences in that way would, doubtless, prove beneficial to the South. But it has no power to give us relief from the curses that reconstruction has brought upon us. If we were in the condition that Missouri was when Gratz Brown burst the political shackles off 50,000 voters, amnesty might change the character of the State Government of South Carolina as effectually and as beneficially as the Liberal Republican movement did that of Missouri. This, however, is not the case. [illegible] a single man more will vote [illegible] South Carolina after amnesty is accorded than vote today. Therefore, we say that amnesty will work no practical benefit to South Carolina.

As to the civil rights of the black people, they enjoy them to day in South Carolina to the full extent of their white fellow-citizens, if not in a greater degree. They do not frequent our hotels, but, if we are not mistaken, they have as full a legal right to do so as legislation can give. That they do not avail themselves of it is, in a great measure, owing to their good sense and self-respect, which prevents them from intruding unnecessarily where their presence would give offence. But they do go to places of public amusement, and whenever they choose to do it, pay for and receive first class passage on our railroads and other public conveyances.

This doesn't work half so badly as one having a holy horror of African contiguity would expect. At any rate, it isn't for us to grieve too sorely over the extending to Sambo the same rights in other States of the Union which he enjoys here.

We do not think the subject a proper one for legislation, but it had better be acted upon and ended once and forever, than continually kept before the public mind as a source of irritation, and a fruitful theme for demagogues to curry favor with envious ignorance by dilating upon. Once the legal right is accorded him, the negro will in other places, as now in South Carolina, be disinclined to assert them over-rigorously.

VERY SIGNIFICANT.—It is stated upon good authority that Hon. James Brooks, of New York, and Hon. J. B. Beck, of Kentucky, are in favor of the Cincinnati nomination. One is a representative man of the old Whig and Democratic parties, now fused in the opposition, and the other is a representative of the Conservative-Democratic party of the South. They are both leading men. This is very significant. No two men could more strongly represent the parties and sections to which they belong.

Gen. Hancock forbids mining expeditions into the region of the Black Hills, for the reasons that, first, the gold there belongs to the Indians, and, second, there isn't any gold there at all.

The Sale of City Bonds.

To-day, there will be sold, or offered for sale, at public out-cry, $250,000 of the bonds of the city of Columbia. We opposed the passage of the bill authorizing the additional issue of bonds, for we believed and still believe that it was unnecessary, unwise and dangerous—regarded it, in fact, as but another project devised by avaricious and unscrupulous men to swindle a helpless community. At the sale to-day will come the first opportunity to put the swindle in operation. We have been led to apprehend that there was a design to chill the sale of the bonds, in order that they might be purchased at far less than their value by a clique of speculating officials. We hope their scheme may be frustrated, and that the bonds will sell at something like their true value. The entire indebtedness of the city is only $600,000, and the taxable property amounts to $5,000,000, and the income from licenses and other sources is very large. When this is taken into consideration, and the further even more important fact that the bonded debt of the city cannot be increased, except upon the vote of the people, it is clear that these bonds to be sold to-day are very valuable securities, and should bring a good price. There can be no excuse for their sacrifice, at any rate, for the City Council can bid them in, should they fail to bring a reasonable price.

Preparation for War.

In view of the failure of the Washington treaty, which is now regarded as almost absolutely certain, the sudden determination of the Government to fit up our navy and repair the Southern coast defences, appears rather significant, and indicates that there is some apprehension, or a desire to create an apprehension, that a war with Great Britain may follow a rupture of the treaty. Washington correspondents of our Northern exchanges write that the Cabinet has determined that "every iron-clad of the navy shall be put in condition for immediate service, and that the coast defences, especially those at the South, shall be at once made as impregnable as possible." Something is said about the mounting of fifteen-inch guns by the Spaniards at Moro Castle, that guards the entrance to Havana, and other hints given with the apparent desire to convey an impression that trouble is anticipated with Spain. But the idea of our making any extra exertions to prepare our coast defences against an attack from Spain, seems too absurd to be seriously contemplated. A Government that requires years to quell an insignificant rebellion like the one in Cuba, and that cannot even permanently suppress its roving banditti at home, can surely excite no serious fears of its attempting an invasion of these United States. England is the power which these warlike preparations are intended to guard against; or, more probably, to frighten into a more accommodating spirit in settling the "Alabama claims."

The Washington treaty was highly acceptable to the people of the United States. The press, whether Democratic or Republican, approved it, as alike creditable to American diplomacy and British fairness and justice. To have it fail now and all its advantages lost, through Grant's blundering folly and insane desire to make political capital out of a negotiation involving such important interests, cannot fail to fix a stigma upon his administration that even the President's war record cannot wipe away. It will insure Grant's defeat at the polls in November, beyond peradventure, and despite even any false step that the Democrats may take, which is now his only chance, anyway. Hence his truculent attitude towards England, and the cringing offers of compromise which he has made. These being about to fail, too, he is probably now contemplating a design to try a little bluster again, and by making a show of preparing for war, induce the British Government to sacrifice something to the cause of peace, and accept the virtual withdrawal of the claim for consequential damages, without demanding an actual modification of the American case, which would prove as disastrous to Grant as the absolute failure of the treaty.

UNION, S. C., May 13, 1872.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE PHŒNIX: In your issue of the 10th instant, a paragraph appeared, headed "A Law-Maker a Law-Breaker," in which it is said I was arrested under a charge of committing a rape upon a small colored girl.

In reply I have only to say that I have not committed a rape; I have not been arrested or even charged with doing so, and the person who says so, utters a malicious falsehood, and what he must know to be one.

If the author of the slander is not a coward, as well as a slanderer, he will make himself known to me, and I will take that satisfaction out of his hide which his diabolical malice deserves.

J. S. MOBLEY.

WHAT THE RADICAL PAPERS SAY OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT.—The Charleston *Republican*, speaking of the present Legislature, acknowledges its guilt. It says:

"The people have had enough of this Legislature. The finances of the State are in a sufficiently bad condition already, without the Legislature attempting to tamper with them.

"The State and the Republican party would have been much better off, if the last Legislature had never met. We understand, upon the very best authority, that the amount of pay certificates issued for the last session amount to $1,200,000. Just think of it—one session of the Legislature has cost the State over a million dollars! All the receipts from the license tax are being used to pay off this immense indebtedness."

The *Missionary Record*, also Republican, thus asserts the truth in reference to the real situation:

"The fearful maelstrom into which our State finances have been sweeping for the last year, continues without any abatement, but with increased velocity. There is 'commendable progress' from bad to worse; the last vestige of honor has departed from official pledges in the Treasury Department, and no reliance whatever can be placed in any declarations made. To-day the State cannot secure credit for one hogshead of bacon in Columbia to feed the lunatics nor the deaf and dumb. If ever there was a demand for a revolution in the State Government that time is now. There is no hope for the people while these men rule this State as they have; ruin! ruin!! ruin!!! is the proper designation for our present financial condition. The taxes have been levied, they are being collected, everybody that gets a day's work has to pay a license of ten dollars for his salary. Every man, woman and child that plys a vocation, which brings in a living, must pay a tax and take out a license; and the result is that all persons are oppressed, from one end of the country to the other. The only remedy for these evils lies in the ballot-box, and in the people's fidelity to themselves, this coming election. If they have not enough to move them now, then there is a degradation to which they have descended which we could not have believed them capable. There must be a uniting of all classes as against a common foe. Democrats—Republicans—white and black men, Northern and Southern men, all who want an honest, strong, economical government, we must unite for self-protection, as against pirates, who come upon the high seas, to plunder and scuttle our ship of State, and carry off the booty.

"The people of every County should hold meetings and declare against the continuance of the rule of the men who controlled the finances of this State. Let there be County Conventions called by the citizens, and a general discussion of all matters of public interest."

In the face of these utterances, when will the eyes of the North, of the East and of the West be really opened to the actual condition of affairs in South Carolina and the other Southern States, and to the necessity of a complete reform and redemption in the interests of a common people and a common country?

IMMIGRATION TO THE SOUTH.—In a previous article, we indicated Southern Europe as the most likely field for the South to seek that immigration which is so imperatively needed for the restoration of her exhausted labor. But the South must do much more than seek abroad in order to encourage a substantial immigration of a thrifty and useful class. She must offer adequate inducements at home, and these inducements must be such as will compete with the zealous, determined and intelligent efforts made by the States of the Northwest, their railroads and land agencies, to keep the tide of population flowing in their direction as it has hitherto done. Land must be cheapened to immigrants; labor and good wages assured them; and especially must they feel sure that they will enjoy that perfect social equality that is so large an element in the inducements which actuate the European *proletaire* when he abandons his old home and ancient associations and customs for a new home in the untried West. If the planters of the Carolinas, Georgia and Virginia, instead of encouraging the appointment of politician "State emigration agents," were to form themselves into "homestead societies," subscribing land instead of money, and guaranteeing to in-coming labor small farms at nominal prices, the houses which are to be built and paid for out of the wages of the immigrants, they would not only procure labor, but that very kind of permanent, settled, domesticated labor which they themselves most need, and which will be most useful in restoring the State to a healthy condition. Let it be known to the thrifty peasantry of the agricultural parts of Italy that a married man, by going to the South, can obtain at once a farm of twenty or thirty acres of land, with a house upon it for his immediate occupancy, all of which he can make his own fee-simple property by the labor of five years, and an important immigration will be at once secured.

The essence of the matter is, that the South must not invite a peasantry, nor a tenantry, but a yeoman class of small proprietors, who will identify themselves with the interests of the country, and become at once an industrial resource, the back-bone of conservatism and the bulwark of liberty. And all this the Southern people can do now, at once and efficiently, without putting their hands in their pockets for a dollar, and by their own individual, unaided personal efforts.

[*Washington (D. C.) Patriot.*

The Oregon Indians capture bears by baiting honey with chloroform.

CLOSE OF THE LUTHERAN GENERAL SYNOD.—The Lutheran General Synod assembled again yesterday morning.

Rev. D. M. Henkle, Chairman of the Committee on Home Missions, presented a report, which was adopted, by which the home missions operations of the church are left entirely under the control of the various district synods.

Rev. Dr. Rude read an extended and interesting report on the state of the church within the bounds of the General Synod, which, on motion, was received and considered by items. The report gave rise to quite a long and earnest discussion, particularly in connection with certain recommendations in it on the subject of home missions. Pending this discussion, the further consideration of the report was, on motion, suspended, and a motion made and carried to reconsider the report of the Committee on Home Missions. This report was then amended so as to read as follows:

"In view of the vast field of our mission work, and the urgent want of means to carry forward the same, we recommend that the district synods address themselves more energetically to the work of missions within their own boundaries, and that they co-operate to their fullest extent with the General Synod's Central Committee on Home Missions in the general work of missions."

The consideration of Dr. Rude's report was then resumed and the document adopted.

Rev. T. W. Dosh presented an able paper expressive of the Synod's feeling as to the position, purposes and prospects of the body, and pledging its members to unwavering adherence to the organization as a necessity. The paper was unanimously adopted.

Dr. Bachman then made some congratulatory and fraternal remarks, expressing his pleasure at the harmony and peace which had characterized the session of the Synod, and said that he expected to meet with them no more as a body on earth, and could not express his heart's emotions, but could and would ever pray for God's blessing to abide upon them. Whereupon, it was

Resolved, That we have been highly gratified with the deeply interesting and affecting remarks of the Rev. John Bachman, D. D., LL.D., in giving us his farewell benediction, and shall ever feel encouraged in our work by the recollection of his kind wishes, the favorable opinion which he has been pleased to express of our harmonious and peaceful deliberations, and his earnest prayer for our most enlarged usefulness and prosperity.

The Synod then finally adjourned, to meet next May in Virginia.

At the adjournment of the General Synod a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Theological Seminary, removed by the action of the present Synod to Salem, Roanoke County, Va., was held in the church. This board, composed of Lutheran ministers, all members of the General Synod, accepted the resignation of Dr. A. R. Rude.

On motion, it was resolved to go into an election for a Professor of Theology for the Seminary, who should also act in the capacity of President of the institution. Mr. Repass was unanimously elected by a *viva voce* vote.

In brief and appropriate words, Mr. Repass acknowledged his sincere appreciation of the high honor conferred upon him.

On motion, the salary of the new Professor was fixed at $1,200 per annum, and a committee appointed to receive the final answer of Mr. Repass in September. In the event of his declining the position tendered him, the said committee to have authority to make suitable provision for theological instruction, and to take such steps as may be necessary to forward the wishes of the Synod and of the board with regard to the Seminary.

A committee of three was appointed to draft a constitution and by-laws for the government of the Seminary.

On motion, the board adjourned, subject to the call of its President.

[*Charleston News.*

THE COTTON SITUATION.—The whole position of this staple, (says the New York *Daily Bulletin*, of the 10th instant,) as it presents itself now, may be summed up in a few words. The crop prospects in the South have been materially improving since the 10th of April; till then the weather was cold and damp most of the time, and the plant was backward. The weather and the general condition of field labor have been all that could be wished for. A larger area has been planted, and more thoroughly—twice, and in some localities three times, as much fertilizers as last year having been used, flush of funds as the planters are, for the first time since the war. Although the stock and prospective supply of American cotton are scanty in Europe, other kinds are plentiful, and India cotton especially is coming in in force. Money is getting dearer, and there is a revulsion against speculating any further in merchandize. The accumulation of cotton fabrics in Europe is known to be large, indeed excessive; and to a considerable extent the cotton of our large 1869-'70 crop is still represented in these very fabrics. If our crop proceeds satisfactorily, there can be no reasonable doubt that between now and the end of the year we shall see lower prices for cotton here and in Europe. Some of the old cotton merchants and brokers here feel confident that, if matters develop normally, and we have no special drawback from caterpillars and frost this season, we shall see sixteen cents for low middling uplands before Christmas. The prediction may seem extravagant, yet we had cotton down to thirteen cents in March last year in this market, at a time when the facilities for bringing India cotton to market through the Isthmus were not half of what they are at present.

A city that soots people—Pittsburg.

Local Items.

CITY MATTERS.—The price of single copies of the PHŒNIX is five cents.

Attorney-General Chamberlain is uncertain as to the liability of ministers of the Gospel to the license tax. It is an unjust and unheard-of exaction.

The pleasing custom of wearing a flower in the button-hole of the coat is becoming popular in our city.

The employees of the Southern Express Company, in Charleston, have presented Mr. T. D. Gillespie, their popular superintendent, with a pair of handsome silver goblets, as a mark of their appreciation. Bring them up, Monsieur, and we'll drink your health with ice water.

The following is the programme of music for to-day, by the band of the Eighteenth Infantry, Joseph Buchar, band-master:

DeMolay Quick-step, by G. A. Patz.
Aria from Norma, by Bellini.
Emilia Waltz, by Hamm.
Romanze, by Rogassi.
Grand March, Lucretia Borgia, Donzetti.

The Independent Fire Company, of this city, with LyBrand's Silver Cornet Band, expect to leave here on Saturday night, to participate with the firemen of Charlotte, N. C., in their celebration on the 20th. Companies from other cities will likely be in attendance, with steamers which have acquired a reputation, but the Independents feel confident that their "Silsby" will sustain herself nobly.

Rev. John S. Ezell, (a Baptist minister,) J. J. Ezell, W. B. Ward and R. L. Lebannon, have been arrested in Oconee County, charged with Ku Kluxism, and were yesterday lodged in Richland jail by Deputy United States Marshals Mounce and Williams.

The water will be shut off at 9 o'clock this morning from all that portion of the city South of Blanding street, in order to make some necessary repairs in the water pipes.

The Stark's Hill bridge on the Charlotte, Columbia and Augusta Railroad, appears to be in a dangerous condition. We hope the proper officers will look after it.

While cleaning out an old well on the corner of Sumter and Richland streets, a few days ago, several muskets and cooking utensils were discovered.

DEATH OF HON. ALFRED HUGER.—This old and distinguished citizen of Charleston departed this life, yesterday. He had been postmaster of Charleston for many years, besides filling other honorable positions.

COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS—TUESDAY, May 14.—The Court met at 10 A. M., Judge Melton presiding.

Thomas Henry Kirkpatrick, a convict in the penitentiary, who killed a fellow-prisoner several months ago, was acquitted of the charge of murder, on the ground of insanity. He was remanded to the penitentiary. Messrs. Melton and Tradewell for the prisoner.

SUPREME COURT, TUESDAY, May 14.—The Court met at 10 A. M. Present—Chief Justice Moses and Associate Justices Willard and Wright.

E. J. Moody, appellant, *vs.* E. R. Ellerbe, respondent. Mr. Sellers was heard for appellant. Mr. Harllee for respondent. Mr. Warley in reply for appellant.

Blease and Baxter *vs.* Simeon Pratt. Mr. Baxter was heard for appellant.

James A. Crotwell, administrator, *et al.*, appellants, *vs.* Jane Boozer, *et al.*, respondents. Mr. Baxter was heard for appellants.

At 3 P. M., the court adjourned till Wednesday, 15th, at 10 A. M.

PHŒNIXIANA.—Now comes an exchange to tell us that the origin of the word candidate is *candidus*, white, referring to the color of the toga which the old Romans used to prescribe for aspirants for office. *Candidatus* is a white-coated applicant for popular suffrage—Dr. Greeley, for instance. Here's to our first genuine classical candidate for the Presidency—the first who did the thing by evident instinct in "the high old Roman way."

Gratz Brown is in part of Israelite descent, and it is said that a female relative of his family was the original of Scott's Rebecca in "Ivanhoe."

If you wish to know a person's disposition, play a game of backgammon, croquet or dominoes with him, and win the game.

Having found Dr. Livingstone, the New York *Herald* will next find the North pole.

When a boot-maker commences to make a boot, the first thing he uses is the last.

Genius unexalted is no more genius than a bushel of acorns in a forest of oaks.

The figures in the absolutely latest style of Dolly Varden are so delightfully large that it takes two young ladies to show them properly. They have to go arm-in-arm and keep step, or else the effect is spoiled.

MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL.—The regular meeting of Council was held last night. The Mayor and a quorum of Aldermen present.

A communication was received from Dr. Ensor, Superintendent of the Lunatic Asylum, notifying Council that the city pauper imbeciles would be turned over to the Council at once—owing to lack of means and insufficient room. A discussion thereupon occurred, relative to the condition of the alms house. The matter was referred to the Alms House Committee.

The Davis alley nuisance was debated, and the report of the committee—recommending a covered drain and sewer leading to the brick drain on Taylor street—adopted. The opinion of the City Attorney was that the parties creating the nuisance could be fined from day to day until the nuisance was abated, or the necessary funds obtained to cover the proposed work.

The city printing was awarded to the *Union* and PHŒNIX.

The Chief of Police was instructed to inspect the pavements and notify owners of lots that hereafter the ordinance relative to obstructions and imperfections would be rigidly enforced.

Bids for supplying wood to the water works and for building street bridges, shed at guard house, medicines for city poor, &c., were referred to proper committees.

The City Clerk was notified to advertise for proposals to white-wash the city market, repair the guard house, alms house, &c.

An ordinance forbidding the shooting or trapping of birds, or robbing nests, was read the first time.

The Vigilant Fire Engine Company was granted four days leave of absence, from the 18th, to visit Charleston.

The consideration of the case of Robert Cooper—fined for selling liquor on Sunday—was postponed to special meeting on Friday night next.

MAIL ARRANGEMENTS.—The Northern mail opens at 2.30 P. M.; closes 10.45 A. M. Charleston day mail opens 4.30 P. M.; closes 6.00 A. M. Charleston night mail opens 7.15 A. M.; closes 6.00 P. M. Greenville mail opens 6.45 P. M.; closes 6.00 A. M. Western mail opens 12.30 A. M.; closes 12.30 P. M. Wilmington mail opens 2.30 P. M.; closes 10.30 A. M. On Sunday office open from 8 to 4 P. M.

LIST OF NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.
Seibels & Ezell—Real Estate.
C. Rives—Milch Cows for Sale.

HOTEL ARRIVALS, May 14.—*Nickerson House*—G P Purlbert and wife, N Y; Mrs S B Spaulding, Miss Anna Spaulding, Miss Eunice Spaulding, G C Robinson, Mass; J S Guignard, S C; Miss I J Caber, N C; W W Fry, Va; Mrs C R Bryce and two children, Miss L Bryce, Miss M Bryce, F A Conner, S C; Mrs Caldwell, Greenville; J M Seigler, Newberry.

Columbia Hotel—C K Knowles, C H Barston, N Y; H B Moore, J D Elliss, Pa; W Carrington, W Dudley, R Graham, S J Coates, J Woodruff and daughter, Charleston; E W Fenn and wife, Orangeburg; S M B Gillespie, D L Fillyan, N C; T P Mitchell, wife and child, Fairfield; R C Richardson and wife, Clarendon; G P Cotchett, S E Co; W H Evans, A A Brown, E H Brooks, H E Mazyck, Ga; L B Austin, Greenville; T S Moorman and wife, Mrs J M Baxter, three children and a nurse, Newberry; J B Steadman, Union.

THE ENTERPRISE RAILROAD.—The Charleston *News* has a lengthy article on this new freight and passenger city railroad, from which we extract:

This, it will be seen, is an ambitious and comprehensive route. The length of the road on the East side, running from the battery to Magnolia, will be seven and a half miles; on the West side, the distance from the battery to the Savannah and Charleston Railroad, by the route proposed, is about four and a quarter miles; and the cross-town, from the North eastern Railroad Depot on the East, to the Savannah and Charleston Railroad Depot on the West side of the city, will be one and a quarter miles long.

Active operations have now been begun in the actual construction of the road, and large gangs of laborers are at work in different portions of the city. Ground was first broken in East Bay last week, and some of the curves have already been laid in that street. Yesterday morning, a force of 100 men were set to work on Meeting street, commencing at John street, and going North. It will, of course, be necessary, with the approach of warm weather, and in view of the danger of turning up the soil during the hottest months of the year, to get through with the digging as soon as possible; and it is claimed by the officers of the company that they will have their foundation laid from the battery to Magnolia Cemetery within four weeks.

DISTRESSING OCCURRENCE.—Three colored men—Elias Caldwell, Rob Biggers and Joe Huston—were engaged one day last week blasting rock in a well on the premises of W. B. Byers, a few miles distant from Rock Hill. They were at the bottom of the well, fastening the fuse, when one of the iron tools with which they were working struck fire from the rock, the fuse ignited, and a terrific explosion took place, severely wounding Elias and Joe, slightly injuring Rob, who hastily climbed out of the well and called for assistance. The wounded men were taken out and brought to this place, where they are receiving proper medical attendance. Elias had his leg broken. Joe was fearfully injured, having both jaw-bones and his collar-bone broken. Both of the unfortunate men were baply burned by the powder.—*Rock Hill Lantern.*

Mr. Columbus Moise, an old citizen of Charleston, but recently a resident of New Orleans, died in Charlottesville, Va., a few days ago.