The Press.

Abbeville, S. C.

W. A. LEE, EDITOR.

TERMS—Three Dollars a year in advance. No Subscriptions taken for a shorter time than six months.

Friday, August 13, 1869.

The Radical Party and Universal Suffrage.

The results of the recent elections in Virginia, Alabama and Tennessee seem to be convincing the leaders of the Radical party, that universal suffrage, after all, is a very imperfect means—a very unreliable instrument—in sustaining the power of the party. It has proved a two-edged sword more damaging to friend than foe—a blunderbuss whose recoil has been more disastrous than its discharge. Yet universal suffrage was the very Shibboleth of Radical party—a synonim itself for Radicalism—the very keystone of those odious Reconstruction Acts, which extended to the ignorant and the incompetent, those dear-bought franchises, which in all past time, had been the cherished prerogatives of the intelligent and the virtuous. That which, is was supposed, was to give the party a new and indefinite lease of power, has proved not only ineffective to aid, but has been turned into an instrument of destruction against itself. The gun has been captured by the enemy, and is now pouring hot shot into the ranks of its friends. Is it to be wondered then that the Radical party are disposed to change front upon the suffrage question, and to renounce once and forever so dangerous a weapon of party tactics as universal suffrage. They must feel indeed that the ground is crumbling under their feet, and be driven to desperate shifts, when the prominent organ of the party at Washington—the mouthpiece of Messrs. Cresswell and Boutwell—the *National Republican*—can hold such language as the following:

"The system of *putting the ballot-box into the hands of the ignorant masses—no matter of what origin*, if continued, cannot fail to lead to very serious, if not disastrous results. Congress will be remiss in its duty to the country if early action on the subject is neglected. It is contended by many of our ablest men, and with great force of argument, that the best suffrage qualification would be ability to read and write the English language correctly. With this as the universal qualification test in all Federal and State elections, the ballot-box would be protected against ignorance, and to a very large extent against the possibility of corruption."

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"It is objected that we cannot deprive any portion of our citizens of the right of suffrage already granted them. *There is no ground upon which to base such a conclusion*; but if even the argument was sound it would afford no plea against the proposed change in the laws governing the right of suffrage. Suppose Congress, during the next session, enacted a *sixteenth* amendment to the Constitution, requiring the qualification of ability to read and write the English language correctly, as a condition of a right of suffrage, to take effect in one, two, or any certain number of years hence that might be agreed upon and called upon the different States to ratify their act, what State or class of intelligent citizens would object to the proposition? None whatever. The measure would be universally popular, as affording a check against the control of the ballot box by ignorance and corruption now dreaded in the native city of the wisest statesman."

So it seems, that instead of universal, a qualified suffrage is to be adopted—an educational qualification of being able "to read and write the English language correctly" as the only sure means of saving the life of this party of moral reform and social progress. Is it objected that the right of suffrage once granted cannot be recalled, yet this objection could interpose no obstacle to the passage of a Sixteenth Amendment of the Constitution which would properly modify and restrict the exercise of the right.

But why assume this ground, or suggest so roundabout a course? The power to enact pre-suppose an equal power to repeal. Let the various reconstruction Acts be repealed, and the Southern States be enabled to alter their Constitutions and reject the Fifteenth Amendment of the Constitution, and the object proposed is accomplished simply and directly. The question will then remain where the fathers of the Constitution intended—under the sole control of the several States.

When universal suffrage has become unavailing to save the Radical party, what else can prove more effective? Has they ever proposed it in case of very eve of disintegration and death? Such must ever be the fate of any political organization which lacks the [illegible] friends, and for [illegible] to add [illegible]

THE ECLIPSE ON SATURDAY.

According to the projections of the almanac maker, the long looked for, and eagerly expected eclipse took place on last Saturday afternoon—an object of interest to all, of dread to the ignorant, as it,

——"disastrous twilight sheds
On half the nations, and with fear of change
Perplexes Mona cha,"—

to the man of the science, it furnishes the best proof of the accuracy of his calculations, the highest triumph of his art, and the surest basis of his most elaborate researches.

As usual on such occasions, nature was propitious, and gave us a clear field for observation. Smoked glass was in demand, and some of us tested satisfactorily the perforated card.

As it is known to most of our readers an eclipse of the sun occurs only at the new moon, and is caused by the moon passing between us and the sun, and obstructing his rays. Had the moon been in perigee, or at its nearest point to the earth, the shadow would have enveloped the whole earth, and the eclipse been total. On the other hand had it been in apogee, or at its greatest distance, the eclipse would have been annular. As it was the eclipse was total only to those who came within the range of the shadow.

The path of the shadow, in which the eclipse was total, passed from Siberia across this continent to the Atlantic ocean, and included within its limits portions of Alaska, British America, Montana, Dacotah, Nebraska, Iowa, Missouri, Indiana, Kentucky, East Tennessee and North Carolina. An imaginary line, drawn lengthwise through the middle of this umbra, would indicate the path of the central eclipse, designating upon the earth the various places where the centre of the moon's shadow will seem to coincide with the centre of the sun. In St. Louis, Omaha, Cairo and Knoxville, it was only for a moment seen as a total eclipse; at Fort Clark, Fort Union, Sioux City, Frankfort, Louisville and Raleigh it was seen longer, whilst at Desmoines and East Conolly it was central or very nearly so.

Our neighbor in North Carolina enjoyed the eclipse, and the following extract from the Wilmington *Journal* will enable our readers to determine what it is like:

"At a few minutes past five o'clock the eclipse commenced. Those who watched its progress through smoked glasses could see the body of the moon gradually shutting out the bright circle of the sun, and casting its shadows upon the earth. In about thirty minutes the sun was half eclipsed, and at a few minutes past six o'clock the eclipse was total. In the mean time the earth grew dark, and as the light of day became obscured by this premature darkness the atmosphere grew cold and a chilly feeling swept over us. The thermometer fell four degrees, and the wonderful change was every where apparent and even the chickens began to prepare for sleep, and actually went to roost. The darkness was that of early night, but not so great as that of night lighted by the moon. It seemed a premature night of unnatural darkness, and one that could be felt. The total eclipse lasted for the space of three minutes. The sight was then for the naked eye. The body of the moon fully obscured the sun, and around its edge was a crimson circle from which mellow rays shot forth. Upon the lower edge of the moon appeared a considerable spot or cap, through which a deadened light was seen. In other parts of this planet and within the circle were seen two or three small spots through which the light penetrated as through a yellow medium. Several stars became visible in their appearance bright in the heavens, and the temperature detected high."

Announcement by the Treasurer of the Abbeville Agricultural Society.

Mr. P. A. Connor, the Treasurer of the Abbeville Agricultural Society, writes us as follows, and our readers would do well to heed his suggestions, and give the Society a long pull, a strong pull and a pull all together:

"COCHRANE, Aug. 12, 1869.

DEAR EDS.—Will you please announce to the people that I will be at Abbeville, on Monday and Tuesday next, and would be glad to see every man in the District, who has not joined the Agricultural Society. I can give them two dollars worth of value for one dollar, and I can furnish them with receipts which will be worth more than two dollars to them the balance of the year. Hoping to have the pleasure of being in the midst of good people, I remain, Yours truly,

P. A. CONNOR."

Abbeville Chapter of the Masonic Fraternity, from the ashes and [illegible] in Agriculture [illegible] Who does the [illegible] for the past [illegible] good man [illegible] have [illegible] the [illegible] complishments of the good [illegible] and pleasant gentleman. We plead [illegible]

THE TENNESSEE ELECTION.

The election news from Tennessee carries the gratifying intelligence that the Conservative party has carried the State by an overwhelming majority. Senter has swept Western and Middle and East Tennessee, and his majority in the whole State is estimated at 65,000. And all this too has been accomplished in spite of the persistent efforts of the Radical party abroad, and the unwarrantable interference of Messrs. Boutwell and Cresswell, of Grant's Cabinet, in behalf of the Radical Stokes. Rest of all, the Legislature is two-thirds Conservative, which will give a Conservative member of the United States Senate—either Andrew Johnson, Bailie Peyton, or Emerson Etheridge. Johnson would render good service not only to the people of Tennessee but to the whole South. With so many personal indignities and private wrongs to avenge—mortified vanity and wounded self-love, would give keenness to his blade, and point to his thrust. Above all, the invincible pugnacity, and sturdy strength of the man, and his experience of all the arts of Radical intrigue, and the length and breadth and depth of Radical corruption, would make him a terror to his foes, and a pillar of strength to his friends.

The result of the recent election heralds a "year of jubilee," not only to downtrodden Tennessee—so long cursed with the most grinding despotism which ever crushed out the life of a free people—but to the whole South. One by one the States are falling into line, and preparing for the final assault which is to sweep away the last relic—the *disjecta membra*—of Radical mismale.

The New York *Tribune* says: "For a long time the result of the Tennessee election has been conceded on both sides. The fight made by Mr. Stokes has been the hardest kind of uphill work, and his changes have diminished more and more certainly as the time for voting drew near. The few returns at hand as we write, indicate the majority for Senter at even a larger figure than claimed by his partisans."

The *World* says: It is very gratifying in view of the efforts made by a portion of Grant's Cabinet to secure the election of that bold radical Stokes. More important than this is the probability indicated by the returns that a majority of the members of the Legislature just elected are conservatives—thus sparing the nation the disgrace of an addition to the United States Senate of another radical. Whether the Senator to be elected will be Andrew Johnson, or Bailie Peyton, or Emerson Etheridge, or some person whose name has not yet transpired, remains to be seen. It is enough if the radicals have been beaten in a State which they have held by the throat for years, through a system of disfranchisement as sweeping as it was outrageous. Thus one by one the States that voted for grant and Colfax are repenting of their folly, and courageously ranging themselves under the banner of the Democratic party.

MEMPHIS, August 7.—Reports from East Tennessee, indicate that Senter carried that section. If so, it will alter his majority to 50,000.

Letter of Dr. Hicks.

On our first page, we publish a letter from Dr. Hicks to the Charleston *Courier*, written from this place, which we commend to the attention of our readers. It furnishes a timely vindication of the law abiding character of our people, and exposes the falsity of the charge, which would represent us as being in "armed rebellion" against the authorities. The letter, shows that we are more "sinned against than sinning"—that if there is war, we are warred upon—that if there are disturbers of the peace, it is more likely those who earn their bread by fomenting disturbance—the State Constabulary. Coming from one who has been among us, and who testifies to what he has seen and knows—a man of high character, and who has no motive to misrepresent—the letter will carry "confirmation strong" to all fair minded persons.

Laurensville Female College.

We learn that the Rev. D. McNeill Turner, D.D. of this village, the distinguished divine, has been elected to the Presidency of the Laurensville Female College—and we think everything assures the College a full [illegible] we love Laurens, for Laurens more [illegible] Turner [illegible] long [illegible] prosperity [illegible] South [illegible] complishments of the good [illegible] and pleasant gentleman. We plead [illegible]

THE LECTURES.

We had the pleasure on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings of the present week, of listening to two very interesting Lectures on Egypt, Hieroglyphics, and Palestine, by W. Pinckney Starke, Esq. Mr. Starke was reared in Abbeville, was a first-honor-man of the South Carolina College, and has devoted a life-time to study and travel. He is a gentleman of versatile talents and varied attainments; and discourses upon the Past—its dead past and living present—with the enthusiasm of the scholar and the antiquary. He gave us a graphic picture of boat-life on the Nile—the manners, customs, and habits of that land of the palm tree and the pyramid—of torrid heat and desert sand—where the centuries look down from the summit of Cheops, and the record of long forgotten dynasties is preserved in the hieroglyphics of Carnac. His explanation of these symbols, their connection with the leading facts of astronomy, and the light which they throw upon the great historical eras, was lucid and highly interesting. A graphic sketch, and at times truly eloquent, was given of the journey from Joppa to Jerusalem; and of all the famed localities of that holy land

"Over whose acres walked those blessed feet,
Which eighteen hundred years ago were nailed
For our advantage to the bitter cross."

Description was varied with narrative, and all enlivened with personal incident, and agreeable anecdote, which engaged the attention of the interested audiences for more than two hours, during the delivery of each lecture.

THE COMET.—A comet is said to be now visible in the Northern heavens, between midnight and day, and more terrible than the one,

"That fires the length of Ophiuchus huge
In the arctic sky, and from his horrid hair,
Shakes pestilence and war."—

—this one is said to threaten collision huge and "combustion dire."

"Astronomers assure us that this comet will approach nearer the earth than any comet ever did before, and that either the earth or the comet will have to change its course, or a collision is inevitable. This comet is said to be many thousand times larger than the earth. It is a solid mass of fire that would kreach around the earth more than a hundred times, and a collision with our planet is not an event to be very ardently desired." A number of our star-gazers have been on the lookout, but have failed to descry the monster.

The Escape of Tolbert.

The *Phœnix* announces the escape of W. K. Tolbert, the notorious, from the State Penitentiary in Columbia. A number of shots, it is said, were fired at him, but without success—he was bullet-proof and escaped. Perhaps the guns were badly loaded, perhaps they were badly aimed, perhaps—but we will conjecture no further, but leave it to time and the State authorities, to explain it.

Tolbert had a work to do, and he has done it, we suppose, to the satisfaction of his employers—he has made as much capital for the party, as so worthless a fellow could—and has escaped. It was never the intention to place him on the witness stand in a court of justice. It required no gift of prophecy to divine this from the very beginning.

THE EXTRA COURT.—The extra term of our Court commences here on Monday next, Judge Orr presiding. The Dockets are crowded, but the Judge dispatches business rapidly, and will likely see the end before he remits his labors. At Greenville, Anderson and Pickens he is threatened the Dockets, and we suppose that he will do the same good thing for Abbeville.

DEATH OF GEORGE DUSCABERY.—We learn that Mr. George Duscabery, a member of the present Legislature, from Abbeville, died at his residence, near this village, on Wednesday last, of a pulmonary affection. He had been in declining health for some time past, and his death was not unexpected. He leaves a wife and several children.

TAX.—The tax-paying business has drawn large numbers of our fellow-citizens to the village during the past week. Crowds are here, but there is no cheer. The darkies seem to feel the tax-paying more keenly than the white man—they are not used to

[illegible] Turner, the negro postmaster at Macon, it is said, has been removed. Tom Williamson declines to accept the appointment at Abbeville, [illegible]

ABOUT JOHN CHINAMAN.

The Difference between the Chinese and the Coolie.

Mr. Butler Anderson, of Memphis, writes to the Appeal, giving his opinion of Chinese laborers, founded upon his personal experience as a resident of the Pacific coast for ten years:

In the mines, he says, the Chinaman is skillful, industrious, patient and persevering beyond any other class of men who follow that hard, tiresome and trying occupation. In that intensely exciting and hazardous business that never seems to contract idle or improvident habits. Constant, steady, untiring labor seems to suit them better than all the fascinations that continually beset the miner. You will really find them "prospecting," i. e., hunting for newer and better "diggins." If they are mining on their own responsibility they seek the "diggins" which will pay them steadily fair wages in preference to uncertain and prospective ly rich ground that promises a larger yield. This steadiness of purpose with them is observed, by all who have ever seen them in the mines. It is a trait of character universally different from that which possesses all other nationalities when they go gold hunting. As servants in every position—in the house, in the kitchen, in the stable, on the steamboat, on the farm—they are obedient, good tempered, docile, tractable and industrious; apt to learn, and ready, willing and anxious to be taught; they perform the services set for them cheerfully and without a murmur. It requires a little time and some patience to get them broken in. After they once get on the beaten road of duty they show no disposition to leave it. In yielding obedience to the laws of the land, no people are their superiors and but few their equals. No American ever entertained such respect for authority as they exhibit. The criminal records of the Pacific coast bear evidence that as a class there is no smaller number of offenders among them than among the best citizens of the country. All this is said of the Chinese laborer—of the coolie. They are of the same race of people, but altogether of a different kind. The one is free, the other is a slave. The coolie is bought and sold for a term of years or for life, as the case may be, and a sale transfers the right to control the services. The laborer makes his own contract, and acts for himself entirely in all matters relating to his services. Because those laborers in California have always chosen to engage themselves through agents of their own race they have been confounded with the coolie, and for no other reason. No sane man will ever attempt to introduce a coolie into the South or any other part of the country. The hired laborer would be preferable if no anti-coolie law existed. He adheres faithfully to his contract, and when well treated will soon become attached to his employer, and take a deep interest in his welfare and prosperity. Those laborers think, reason, and receive information just as the educated white man does. When once taught how a certain kind of labor is to be done they never forget it, and seem to perform it in the same way ever afterward.

On Saturday last, Hon. Sidney Clark, of the Committee of Indian Affairs, held a council with thirty chiefs and counsellors of three of the five bands constituting the Osage tribe. He told them he wanted to hear what they had to say in regard to the Sturges treaty of May 1865, according to which Osages had agreed to sell their land to Sturges, or the Leavenworth, Lawrence and Galveston Railroad Company, for 19 cents per acre. They denounced the treaty as a fraud and swindle, and declared it was procured by means of threats and promises of bribes. They complained, also, that their annuities are not paid according to treaties; that the agent fails to give them their rifles; that white settlers destroy their timber, and that they are cheated on all sides. Mr. Clark will lay their grievances before the President and Indian Bureau. It is stated that upward of 1,500 white settlers have settled upon the Osage reservation, and more are going upon it every day. Under such circumstances, it need not be wondered at that many of the Indian tribes have gone upon the war-path, or that others, hitherto peaceful, should eventually do so. The Indian policy has been a very loose and vicious one for many years. It sadly needs amendment, and the institution of a little humanity and justness.

EXECUTIVE CLEMENCY.—Rumor hath it that Stapleton Crafts, who was sentenced and convicted as the murderer of a young Commander, a citizen, in the military, some time in 1866, and whose sentence of death was commuted to imprisonment in the Penitentiary, has been pardoned by Governor Scott. [illegible]

The Cotton Crop of Texas.

"July makes the cotton crop," is a common saying among planters. Since 1863 we have not had it dry, or comparatively so, in the month of July until now. The rain ceased on the 5th of the month, and up to the present time, with the exception of an occasional shower during the past week, the weather has been hot and dry. The progress cotton has made in growing this month has been most marked, and we expect to hear of picking being general at least two weeks earlier this season than last. The total failure of the cotton crop in our coast counties in 1867 was attributable more to the excessive and continuous rains which fell in July and August than to the ravages of the caterpillar. Reports come to us from the country of the appearance of this cotton destroyer in many sections; but we do not fear his assaults while the weather, as a general thing, continues fair.

Last year's crop is now all in and disposed of aggregating some 133,000 bales at this point. The principal channel through which our receipts have come is the Central Railroad, which brought down some 90,000 bales since the first of September last putting the receipts by boat from the Trinity River at 11,500 bales, and from Sabine, Indianola and Lavaca at 5,500 bales, would leave 23,000 for the Harrisburg and Columbus Road. Making ample allowance for the damage to the crop on the Colorado from the overflow, we expect to see the receipts by this road the coming season double what they were last. A full crop to the acreage, throughout the region tributary to Galveston would swell our receipts to 200,000 bales for 1869–70—but as already stated the crop in the West has met with a severe backset from an unexpected source, and taking into account the liability to injury, from various causes, of this product, we may assume that 150,000 to 175,000 bales will be nearer a correct estimate.

Texas is likely to be favored this season, over the other cotton States, in having some weeks the start of them in the way of early picking.

The New York *Tribune* says: "The art of nose-pulling was nicely exhibited on a railway train out of Boston out of Boston last week. Mr. Curtis, banker and lawyer, was vastly annoyed by Mr. Churchill, who was going to see his family in the country, and who seated himself beside Mr. Curtis, with a large carpet-bag and a small toy wagon. Mr. Curtis expressed his wrath at this baggage. Mr. Churchill said, 'You are no gentleman;' whereupon, said Mr. Curtis in his testimony, 'I took hold of his nose and turned it in a moderate and quite manner.' It should have been a satisfaction to Mr. Churchill to have had his nose not disgracefully pulled, but moderately and quietly turned; but it wasn't; for he called Mr. Curtis a scoundrel, whereupon Mr. Curtis entirely destroyed Mr. Churchill's spectacles by a well delivered blow aimed at the nose of the unhappy proprietor. His turn has now come now, for the moderate nose-wringer and annihilator of spectacles has been sentenced to jail for two months, besides receiving a particular and particular and personal wigging from the judge. Such are the hardships which await the quiet nose-turner."

General J. B. Kershaw lectured on last Tuesday evening before the Greenville Literary Club. Subject, St. Paul.

The postoffice formerly at Travellers Rest, has been re-established. Miss Elizabeth Coleman has been appointed postmistress.

The Greenville *Enterprise* says: The assessments of taxes on real estate in Greenville have been indiscriminately doubled by the Central Board of Equalization. Many applicants for relief recently sent to the State Auditor have been returned disapproved on the ground of want of due formality.

The Commissioners of the Greenville Peabody Schools held an election on Wednesday last for principal and assistants in the schools, resulting in the election of Captain J. B. Patrick principal, and Judge W. H. Campbell, assistant, in the male department. For the female school, Miss Jamelle Whilden, of Charleston, was elected principal; 1st assistant, Miss Eliza Powell; 2d assistant, Miss Eliza M. Talley; 3d assistant, Mrs. Sarah E. Butler. A branch of the primary school has been established on the west side of the river, and Miss Eliza Ward elected teacher.

The Yorkville *Enquirer*, says: "There were few public sales last Monday, and the attendance from the country was small. Messrs. Thompson & Jeffreys assignees in bankruptcy, sold a lot in Rock Hill, containing three quarters of an acre, belonging to the estate of John Gallagher, the cost of which has been [illegible] by the bank. [illegible] Commissioner [illegible] Sale [illegible] Commissioner [illegible] Sale [illegible] Commissioner [illegible] Sale