

The citizens of Kershaw District, who have taken the oath of allegiance to the United States, are requested to assemble in the Court House at Camden, on Wednesday next the 12th instant, at 12 m., to take the initiatory steps towards reconstruction of civil Government.

The Provost Marshal's office will be open in future, until further notice, from 10 a. m. to 2 p. m.

The Sea Island Hotel, at Hilton Head, is opened for the reception of guests and visitors. It occupies the Eastern bank of Hilton Head Island.

Admiral S. M. Dupont died in Philadelphia on the 23d ult., in the 62d year of his age. An appropriate order in regard to the sad event has been issued by the Navy Department.

The New York World says there is no ground for the report that an extra session of the United States Congress will be called, and that there is no truth in the rumors of changes in the Cabinet.

It is said that the officers of the North Eastern Railroad are using every effort to finish the connection with Florence, and in all probability will be in good running order for through trips in a few days.

The Government is now said to be feeding 200,000 of the inhabitants of Virginia of all classes, white and black. 11,000 rations are daily issued to the citizens in Richmond alone.

By reference to the President's proclamation, to be found in another column, it will be seen that all the ports of entry west of the Mississippi, including that of Galveston, are declared open from the first instant.

PEOPLE'S BANK.—The assets of this bank have reached Charleston in safety, and are confided to the familiar place of sepulture. The business of the bank has been removed, and the books are opened, and the officers ready for the reception of deposits.

The trial of the conspirators for the murder of Lincoln still hangs—dropping its length along slowly. It appears, from the testimony of Charles A. Dana, Assistant Secretary of War, that Lincoln was repeatedly warned of his danger, but that, from the very frequency of the warning, he treated the danger lightly.

By late Mobile papers we learn that the recent terrible explosion has not in anywise been exaggerated as to its effects. It is now estimated that over one thousand human beings were buried in the ruins.—The "Tribune" says that every building in the city was more or less injured, and that scores are in danger of falling at any moment.

The bill defining the right of suffrage, which has recently been passed by the Legislature of Tennessee, ignores the negro entirely, and limits the franchise to loyal white citizens only. All those who have served in the armies of the Confederacy, or who have given aid and comfort, are excluded from voting for a term of six years, after which they may be rehabilitated by petitioning the courts and by giving proofs of loyalty to the United States.

NEW POST MASTER APPOINTED FOR CAMDEN.—We are glad to learn that our friend Mr. J. M. GAYLE has received the appointment of Post Master at this place. We are not believe that any one could have been selected who would come nearer giving universal satisfaction than Mr. Gayle. We trust that ere long we will have with an extension of mail facilities as will give the newly appointed officer sufficient opportunity for displaying in a noble sphere than now, his well known business sense and courteous and obliging disposition—grant discrimination in a P. M.

By a circular dispatch we have seen, we learn that travel has been resumed on the Wilmington Railroad, from Kingsville to Camden, twice a week—leaving Kingsville on Thursdays at 6 a. m.—connecting with the N. E. Road at Florence. Tickets for the stations for passage, which cannot be obtained. Fare 20 cents each station, or \$3.50 from Kingsville to Florence.

TIGHT LACING.—We give place in to-day's paper to an extraordinary communication from a "cross-eyed" individual signing himself a "Critic at Church." We hope the whole class of our fair correspondents attacked, will pitch into our correspondent and give him "a Poland for an Oliver." Cry Havoc, and cut loose all the dogs of war upon him. We give timely notice that we are on the side of the ladies, even if we do condemn too tight lacing! We must think our correspondent is really "cross-eyed," or he could not see so crookedly into Camden society. Yet nevertheless we know him to be what he says he is, a true and devoted admirer of the ladies. We rather think he is in love, certainly, deeply in love with some of those whom he would attack; and he has not the courage to approach them in propria persona, but hides himself in the dark corner of a newspaper, and lets fly upon his fair unsuspecting victims, from behind his alliterative non de guerré.

Although, in deference to the principles he advocates, that the press is the great sentinel on the outposts of liberty, we have given place to his article, but we must confess our sympathies are with the ladies; and we hope they will administer such a castigation to their critic, that he will be sorry indeed that he ever dared raise a voice against "Woman's Rights." Our columns are open to them. Who will speak first?

GREENVILLE EXTENSIVE.—We are pleased to notice the re-establishment of the Greenville Enterprise.

APFRAY ON THE CHARLESTON BATTERY.—From the Charleston Courier, of the 19th, we learn that a sensational affair took place on the Battery the previous afternoon, which greatly enlivened the scene, even if it did not add to its pleasures. Un gentleman d'Afrique, rejoicing in newly made and richly colored wings, avorted in some fashion at the expense of a lady of the Caucasian race. The Sergeant, with four men on guard at the spot, ordered the sable gentleman to *vamosé*, on his refusing to obey, proceeded to arrest him. Whereupon certain brethren came to his relief, and a general melee was the consequence. Brick bats flew and blood flowed. Private Jesse Rayner was badly wounded on the head, and sundry black and white civilians and soldiers also received the stab. The appearance of Gen. Hatch upon the scene arrested the conflict, which threatened no small amount of mischief.

THE QUESTION OF NEGRO SUFFRAGE SETTLED.—STATE RIGHTS NOT ALL LOST BY THE WAR.—The delusions which the dream of subjugation at first presented to the Southern people are one by one passing away; and as the grimvisaged calamity is smoothing its wrinkled front, we are led to the hope that it is not the terrible monster which the imaginations of many of us would have pictured. Although ours is a fate which we do not pretend to deny we deeply deplore—and which millions of high hearted, pure and noble Southerners deplore—and deplore for great and immeasurable reasons, not the least of which is the oceans of our best blood poured out in vain; the millions and millions of treasure wasted and squandered to the winds of heaven; and the households of sorrow, and poverty and desolation, where once were joy and luxury and peace; yet notwithstanding all our griefs and our humiliations—we begin to believe that in our political relations our rights will remain unchanged and as they stood before the war—the doctrine of secession and the principle of slavery alone excepted. These we must regard now as settled forever—at least for generations to come. If the time shall ever come when these shall be advocated and resorted to again, it must be when those attempting it shall be better prepared to sustain themselves than we of the South have been. What time this may be, it is not either our province or policy to discuss or revert to. What stands forth now as the duty of each and every member of Southern society, is honest allegiance to the national government, cheerful acquiescence in the conditions it imposes, and implicit faith in its authority and willingness to protect a peaceful and law abiding community in their rights. None feel this more than we do—none urge it more than we.

The last delusion that has been swept away is the question of Negro Suffrage. As a question there is no use now of arguing to it or discussing it. President Johnson never doubted a plainer, yet more perplexing point, when he sent a body of impudent, interfering negroes away from Washington with their hands and feet for their ruminating fancies. We have to thank the rights of Negro Suffrage in the first week of July. It was right; the national government

has no right to interfere with the qualifications of voters in the States. But these radicals, not content with personal freedom for their black idols, were roaming about seeking to further destroy the South and her interests by putting into the hands of the negro the ballot box. The generosity and self-satisfaction of their minds made them oblivious to the fact that while they would impose the rights of allowing negroes to vote in every Southern State, each of them came from States where the negro had never been invested to the least with political privileges.

Their purposes are concealed beneath a very transparent hypocrisy. It was not love of the negro but hatred of the Southerner that took the petitioners for negro suffrage to the President. Thanks to the executive wisdom and courage for the prompt endorsement of this much of State Rights! We say courage, because it was these abolitionists that placed Mr. Johnson, through an accident of assassination, in his position. To yield the vast ground they have given him to State Rights in the conquered South, is to desert his friend and go over to enemies of rebellion, though it be in a justly conceived sense of duty and right in supporting the principles of the national Constitution.

So we are to have State Rights after all. The dream of Southern Statesmen is not dead—is not inutile. A terrible incubus had perched upon our breasts, but we are fast shaking it off, and find that it is only a consequence of an overgorged meal. The States are not to be reduced to territorial provinces, as many here feared, and the radicals at the North hoped. The Federal Government is not the seat of one grand centralized power, in anything else save in asserting the supremacy of the UNION. The Southern States will continue great integral parts of the one, but in consequence of the rebellion against the Union, their peculiar sovereignty has been temporarily destroyed. But it is fast returning; and the general government rejoices to know it; it encourages us in the hope that we may yet control our own interests, and even the negro, though he be free. North Carolina in her initiation into the Union again, has given the negro a political quietus—if political quietus it may be called. Virginia has strangled the monster of her suffrage in its embryo, and we all know what the constitutional voters of South Carolina will do with it.

The whole South is willing to give the negro a fair trial, as a certain element of society but not of Government. If, in time, he proves himself worthy a state of freedom in our midst, as a part of society, it will be time enough, with those years of proper civilization, of culture in education, and sufficient study of the political rights of man—then we say it will be time enough to discuss the policy of granting him a part in the formation of Government.

[FOR THE CAMDEN JOURNAL.]

TO THE EDITOR:—As the press is a sentinel on the watch tower of a nation, guarding its rights and its liberties; and being likewise, in this age of civilization, the great lever by which public opinion is moved and society perfected.—I have taken this method to criticize through the columns of your paper, an evil which I regret to see prevailing to an alarming extent in Camden society. It is said that America is the "land of liberty," and now of "perfect freedom." Yet notwithstanding this, our society has ever been so well guarded, by the weapons of the law, that the right you and I, and Murrell's and Booth's have to kill our neighbors, has been subject to such terrible penalties, that but few have attempted the deed. Although it is a liberty you have to take away a human life, yet the law takes away your life. You have the right to take away the good name of your neighbor, yet the law holds you amenable for the worth of that good name. And so it works, on reacting and retaliatory principles. But I can see the most dreadful murders being committed on our streets and in our churches, and in our parlors and drawing rooms every day, and yet there is no law for the punishment of the offender. Do not be startled and hold up your hands in horror, my dear lady readers; it is not these dreadful Yankees here, shooting rebels and secessionists, to vindicate Uncle Sam's rights; neither is it the poor freed nigger, rising up and displaying his rights in this land of freedom; it is not the work of the midnight assassin in your chamber, either, doing the work of death. No; it is none of these; but it is simply the right that you seemed to think you have to kill—I mean in tight lacing! O yes, you are enjoying the "right," notwithstanding the Yankees have "subjugated" you and me, there is no law human or divine—not even a Yankee military order No. 68, to hold you accountable for the deed—in this world I mean! Now what is to be done in this dreadful emergency?

These good ladies, every body tells us, are kind, and generous, and benevolent, and amiable, and handsome, and lovely—you, possessed of all the noble virtues—"only they will lace tight." Now, dear ladies, since you have these noble reputations, and are, we all hope, good christians, or at least are church-goers—wont you listen to a little charitable advice—listen to a little common sense by one of your true and sincere admirers? (I would like to say I love you all dearly. I can say it, for I love all things beautiful, and you are all beautiful—only some are more so than others.) I hear it said, every day, about some of you—"Yes she is pretty—only she will lace tight!" There it is—this everlasting exception to your beauty. It ruins you.

Let me tell you how it ruins you. I could give you a whole sermon on the text "she is pretty—only she will lace tight," yet I prefer in this dull hour to give you only a hint. You will not think me an unreasonable creature and a slanderer, when I say that at least half of you would marry—would like a husband and a husband of good common sense. Your tight lacing is no charm or beauty to those young men of good taste and judgment. They invariably shake their heads, and say—she has ruined her health by tight lacing—she has murdered her own life, and the life of her offspring if she ever has any. By tight lacing you destroy the very end you seek to achieve—the admiration and love of others. If you can sew your ribs into a smaller compass than the lady who walks before you in the evening promenade, you excite her envy of course. In the estimation of your desired lover, your brain—your sense to use the "vulgarianism"—is measured by your corset, (for no woman of rational mind is going to commit suicide,) while you entail weakness and misery on future generations, should you become mothers. Feeble women make feeble men, says a classical critic; and the Roman and Spartan mothers were taught that in the vigor of their offspring reposed the liberties of their countries, and when pride and luxury possessed their people, and their soldiery were degenerate and effeminate they fell a prey to their rivals. The picket on the opposite cry out, now, the approach of an enemy. That enemy is TIGHT LACING. It jeopardizes life and health, now, as well as our future liberties, which must be sustained and protected by a strong and vigorous soldiery. Will our lovely maidens listen and beware! Oh! be wise. If you would win and well secure the respect and admiration of your friend and lover, now, and the pride and glory of the coming generation, oh avoid tight lacing! And then we will no longer hear that unpleasant exception to your loveliness that "she would be handsome—only she laces tight," while none will feel more proud and grateful than your sincere admirer and humble servant,

THE CROSS EYED CRITIC AT CHURCH.

COLUMBIA PRICES CURRENT.—We give below the current prices ruling in Columbia, as given by the Columbia Phoenix of the 26th ult;

- Ale, on draft, \$2 per gal.
Brandy, Apple, 3 a 5 per gal.
Peach, 3.50 per gal.
Bacon, 12 1-2 cents per pound.
Beef, fresh, 10 cents per pound.
Butter, 20 a 30 cents per pound.
Corn, \$1 per bushel.
Cheese, Im. English, 50 cents per pound.
Coffee, 50 a 75 cents per pound.
Cigars, per hundred, 2.50 a 12.
Candles, 25c a \$1 per pound.
Chickens, spring, per pair 50c.
Eggs, per dozen, 10 a 20c.
Flour, \$1 a 8 per bbl.
Herrings, \$1 per box.
Homespun, white, 25 a 30c. per yard.
Longcloth, 35 a 60c. per yard.
Mutton, fresh, 10c. per pound.
Meal, \$1 per bushel.
Molasses, 50c. a \$1 per gal.
Peas, \$1 per bushel.
Potatoes, \$1.50 a 2 per bushel.
Pork, fresh, 10c. per pound.
Raisins, 40 a 50c. per pound.
Salt, \$1.50 per bushel.
Sauson, \$12 per kit.
Sugar, 30 a 50c. per pound.
Soap, 40 a 50c. per bar of 1 1-2 pounds.
Sardines, 75c. per box.
Tea, Green, \$2.50 per pound.
Tobacco, Chewing, 25c a \$1 per pound.
Smoking.
Vinegar, \$2 per gal.

WILL STAND.

THE THOROUGHBRED CANADIAN HORSE "BUCK HILL" ARD, at the residence of Benjamin Cook, 10 miles north of Camden. Price \$25 in current funds. Crown, \$1.00. July 2