COLUMBIA.

Saturday Morning, March 24, 1866.

Our Manufacturing Capacity.

Heretofore, the Southern States have devoted their energies to agriculture, and her staples—cotton, rice and tobacco—have mainly supplied the wants of mankind. The great change in the labor system of the South suggests, and it is to be reasonably expected will effect, a change in her industrial pursuits. There is no reason now that the South should not, at once, embark in manufacturing. Our cotemporary of the Richmond *Dispatch*, in an article on the manufacturing capacities of the South, says that she has countless rivers and illimitable mineral treasures, the means of conveyance to other nations; cotton and wool are among her great staples, and she can use them to much greater advantage than to export them abroad, since the cost of transportation is so great, and since she needs a large portion of the manufactured goods for her own consumption.

The *Dispatch*, after quoting a letter from Abbott Lawrence to W. C. Rives, in 1840, urging the capitalists of Virginia to invest their capital in the water-power of the James River, says that it is sound advice from one of the wisest and most practical minds of the country. It is furthermore admitted, by a Boston journal, that the South can produce cotton cloth, and a better article, cheaper than either Old or New England, because she has the cotton on the ground, and [illegible] better condition than it can possibly be after a removal [illegible] hundreds or thousands of [illegible], exposed to drenching rains, to [illegible]olled in the mud to wharves, or [illegible] be bleached or rotted by exposure in its long travels by sea and land. If cotton has done so much to make England great since she received the first bale from our shores; if it has added so much to the industry and prosperity of New England, what [illegible]t not do for the South when she [illegible] manufacture it at home, [illegible]ng many valuable home [illegible] the agriculturist, and [illegible] cotton a king in a double [illegible] as the *Dispatch* very sensibly [illegible]ks, and as we have frequently [illegible] in this paper, if the South is [illegible]vail itself of its extraordi[illegible] advantages to become a great manufacturing country, it must begin with revolutionizing its antiquated prejudices against the dignity of labor, and accept the common-sense ideas of all other nations on that subject. Our universities and colleges [illegible]uld adopt the system of the French [illegible]ary schools, and perfect the stu[illegible]s in mechanical as well as classical and scientific knowledge. Our young men must learn that it is as honorable to labor with their hands in the field and work-shop as it is to stand behind counters or study the professions, and a good deal more honorable than to live in idleness and dependence. The world is getting wiser on these subjects every day. The absurd notions of the superior respectability of any one honest vocation to any other honest vocation are steadily disappearing before the progress of civilization and the growing importance of the useful arts. Besides, necessity will soon compel [illegible] to work or starve. We [illegible]ake a virtue of necessi[illegible]cept gracefully that which [illegible]. If we can save Vir[illegible] South by dignifying [illegible] dignified in France—a [illegible]h is as proud and chi[illegible]other—we ought not to [illegible] sacrifice of middle age [illegible] of [illegible] to learn [illegible]y be sold [illegible]sing citi[illegible]doubt the [illegible] be one of [illegible]bia. Only [illegible]tly to work, [illegible]t barren and [illegible]its, as we by [illegible] and [illegible]

and manufacturing, are ample, and if we do our whole duty in developing them, we will soon retrieve our shattered fortunes, and start on a new career of prosperity.

The Political Game.

"Patience, and shuffle the cards," were the words of Durandante in the cave of Montesinos. This would make at the present time a good motto for the South, if the cards were in its hands. But, unfortunately, they are not. The privilege of the deal lies at this point of the game with the radical party, and that party seems inclined to avail itself of every art which may help it to win the stakes. Still, we say to the South, be patient, and, above all, be cool. Passion will only give your adversary a double advantage. The gambler who stocks his pack does not always come off with flying colors. He is sometimes detected, exposed, disgraced, and he is then glad enough, if he be permitted, to withdraw without having his retreat hastened by a boot. The radical party may be served in a similar way. Its cards have already been overlooked, and its trickery made plain. It is very generally known to be playing falsely both with ourselves and the country at large. The motives by which it claims to be influenced are manifestly little else than surreptitious aces and kings. In other words, (to drop a figure which, if used in connection with politicians less base, would be of questionable taste,) it has been discovered that the devotion which that party professes to the Union is the merest pretence; that with the word Union upon its lips, it means something as bad as secession itself. So patent is the imposition that the honest men of the party have all left its ranks; the brave Johnson has openly denounced the cheat; and there are not wanting many signs that the people of the North are preparing to do so, likewise, through the medium of the ballot-box. Patience, therefore, we repeat, ye "pigeons" of the South—patience for a little while, and ere long you may have the pleasure of seeing the "pluckers" become the "plucked!"

SEIZURE OF A SUPPOSED CONFEDERATE STEAMER.—We learn from the Baltimore *Sun* that a libel of information was filed in the United States Court on Saturday, March 17, against the iron steamer Coquette, lying in that port, for violation of the laws of the United States in being used to aid the insurrection, and therefore forfeited; and also as the property of the former Confederate Government, and therefore by inheritance the property of the United States. The Coquette was built at Renfrew, Scotland, and is said to have been the property of Trenholm & Co., Charleston, S. C. The property was seized in the possession of Captain Daniel Squires, who, it is stated, claims that he purchased said steamer at Nassau, in November, 1865. The steamer claims to be under the flag of Great Britain. The claimants have not yet filed an answer to the information. The ship now lies at Henderson's Wharf, Fell's Point. An interesting case.

THE CHURCHES.—The General Assembly of the Old School Presbyterian Church in the United States of America will meet in St. Louis, on the third Tuesday in May. At the same time the General Assembly of what is known as the "New School" Presbyterian Church will also meet in the same place. These two assemblies represent the largest bodies of Presbyterians in the United States, but have no correspondence with each other.

The General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, composed of delegates from all the Annual Conferences of the entire Church, will meet in New Orleans, on the first Wednesday in April. The General Assembly has tendered the the Legislative Hall for the use of the Conference. Nearly two hundred ministers will be present from every section of the South, and the session will probably continue one month.

A despatch from Portland, Oregon, says the Indians in the Owhyhee regions are very troublesome. The citizens had offered bounties for their scalps, and intended to make a clean [illegible]eep of them.

[illegible] Radicals occupy the anomalous [illegible] of favoring the Union by [illegible] upon disunion. The Con[illegible]es are called [illegible] for advo[illegible]s restorati[illegible]

Correspondence of the Phœnix.

WASHINGTON, March 16, 1866.

The civil rights bill having passed both Houses, it is now before the President for his signature. This is a very important bill. It provides, in substance, that the freed people shall have the same rights before the law that any person else has, except that it excludes the right of suffrage, which is left with each State. Any person infringing any of their legal rights, is liable to five and two years imprisonment. A final appeal in all cases arising under this bill lies to the Supreme Court at Washington.

Opinions differ as to what the President will do with this bill. Some say he will veto it on the ground that he will sign no bill affecting the South until the Southern members are admitted to their seats. Others say he will sign the bill, because he has all along wished their rights to be secured to the freed people—the only point he has made being in the right of suffrage.

The most injurious tales are constantly written from the South and published in the Northern papers, in order to convince the North that the Southern people cannot be trusted with political powers. To give you a sample of the letters written from the South, take the following, in one of the morning papers of this city, of to-day:

"RECONSTRUCTION.—Official advices were yesterday received from South Carolina, to the effect that a band of outlaws, led by an ex-rebel major, has been committing depredations and murdering Union men and negroes, on account of their devoted loyalty. The guerilla leader exhibits as trophies of his prowess eight ears, cut from colored persons."

The scene of the above is laid in Edgefield District. It is surely impossible that this can be true. Yet it is by these horrid tales the public opinion of the North is being formed.

The question is frequently asked, whether the people of the States now having representation in Congress will support the President. On this point, I heard a public man of great experience say he could always tell, in advance, what the people were going to do, by simply asking himself what it was wise and proper that they should do, and then, by taking it for granted that they would do the opposite, and juding from this rule, he said he felt satisfied the Northern people would "go it blind for the radicals against the President."

It was determined, at the opening of the session, by the House of Representatives, that they would support the Secretary of the Treasury in the policy he had announced of a gradual reduction of the amount of the paper currency, with the view of reducing slowly to the specie basis. But recently, this policy has been changed by the radical leaders. They are now unwilling to any essential reduction of the volume of paper money. It is thought the main reason is this: They fear the chief argument against them will come from their policy being unfriendly to the material interests of the country, by keeping up the agitation; hence, to weaken this argument as much as possible, they desire to have as much paper money in circulation as possible, so as to keep business matters moving along easily.

Several of the Southern Senators are here now. They had a sort of indefinite notion that something good was going to turn up for them by the month of March. But March has come, and their prospects are no better than in December. Indeed, there is not the slighest possibility of any one being allowed to take a seat in either House, without taking the test oath, while this Congress lasts.

It is understood that the Committee of Ways and Means will report a bill making many alterations in the internal revenue system. One thing is luckly for the South, in the political condition of the day; they are escaping the payment of large sums of internal taxes. Certainly this is not to be regretted, if the Government consent to it.

OBSERVER.

A RADICAL PAPER ON MR. SEWARD. A Washington correspondent of the Cincinnati *Gazette* makes some grave charges against Mr. Seward, brought out, as he says, by his recent contemptuous expressions in speaking of Mr. Johnson. The writer relates a conversation which took place at Demopolis, Alabama, in November last, between one of the prominent politicians of the South and a Union officer who had gone South to procure a plantation. The Southern man stated that it had been decided that the South could not elect a Southern man as President, and to make sure of success, they must select a man who could carry Pennsylvania or New York, and that after negotiation, they fixed upon William H. Seward.

But the correspondent does not stop here. He more than insinuates that Mr. Seward was in complicity with the rebels during the war; that he gave pledges to the Southern Commissioners that Sumter would be evactuated; that he defeated the possibility of relief to that fortress, and finally sent word to the rebels in Charleston, informing them that a fleet had sailed to relieve Sumter; upon which, the rebels opened fire on the fort and reduced it.

The correspondent adds, that Mr. Seward's recent course was in conformity with his original determination to be the opposition and Southern candidate for the Presidency in 1868, and deals in inuendoes as to whom he might have met during his recent visit to Havana, the rebel city of refuge.

A GOOD HIT.—The New York *Herald*, knowing well that Catholics are said to be governed in political affairs, as well as religious, by the clergy, has an article concerning the priests and the Fenians, in which it makes the *naive* remark that, "*unlike* the followers of many of the political churches who are led by such men as Cheever and Beecher, our Irish fellow-citizens appear to understand the difference between the duties of their pastors in religious and in secular matters."

A merited rebuke to political parsons.

Tennyson is paid a guinea a line for everything he writes.—*Exchange.*

If we got that much, it would be *all* [illegible] with us.

From Washington.

The correspondent of the Baltimore *Sun* says:

Wall street certainly expected the passage of the loan bill, for gold opened at twenty-eight and a fraction, this morning. Wall street was mistaken. The bill being opened for discussion, Mr. Broomall, who had voted against it, stated that he was in favor of its object, but opposed to its details; that the same was the case with many other members. He would tell the Committee of Ways and Means that they cannot carry this bill; that the Democrats, but not the Union majority, might go for it, and that it must be recommitted and amended.

The House has passed a joint resolution for the termination of the present session on the —— Thursday in May. It passed by a vote of 80 to 64. It means nothing more than an expression of a willingness to adjourn as soon as possible in reference to their political interests. Two hundred members are engaged in a fight for their re-election. The next is the President-making Congress, and every nerve will be exerted to carry it. The same power that elects the next Congress will elect the next President.

This Congress will not admit Representatives from the eleven Southern States, and this Congress intend to make the next, which will persist in the same policy towards the South. After the election of the next President, there will be less object in the exclusion of the South.

Many members are willing to close the session as soon as the appropriation bills can be passed, leaving the President to administer the Government, as far as the law will permit, according to his own policy. They assume that the President will not enter into a general system of political proscription in the recess of Congress, and that, if he does, they will make as much capital out of it as he will.

It is now stated in a high Executive quarter that Mr. Stanton supports the policy of the President. Meantime, Mr. Sumner asserts positively that the Secretary of War is quite up to him in the radical race, or somebody is cheated.

I can state authoritatively that the report in the newspapers at the North that Secretary Welles has written a letter favoring the election of General Hawley, the radical candidate for Governor in Connecticut, is untrue. He is openly and expressly for the candidate who supports the Administration in the restoration or reconstruction policy. He considers that issue the only live one. He is opposed to those who oppose the President on that absorbing question.

There begins to be a doubt about the President's signing the civil rights bill.

The President has endorsed in his own handwriting the course of a clerk who refused to answer to an assessment for the New Hampshire election, and to go home and aid the radical element in that State.

It is Senator Foote, of Vermont, who is understood to be inspirator of the Stewart resolution.

The correspondent of the Richmond *Dispatch* writes:

There is no doubt now of the formation of a new party, composed of conservatives throughout the country, to uphold and endorse the principles set forth by the President in his recent declarations of the method in which he intended to administer the Government. Several leading Republican members of Congress who have very recently had interviews with the President, and discussed this measure, have given in their adherence, and in a very few days its objects will be made known, and the principles publicly announced. Messrs. Raymond, Doolittle, Cowan, and others prominent before the country, are said to have been consulted, and have given advice upon the subject. Several leading men were in conversation with the President yesterday, and it is surmised that the new conservative element was the theme of extended remarks. The radicals fear the strength of the opposition, and it is a knowledge of recent movements which induced Stevens to say recently that in three years the Government would be in the hands of the rebels and their Northern allies. Other extremists have asserted that, at the opening of the next Congress, the Democrats (by which is meant all opposed to radicalism,) will be in the majority in the House without the admission of representatives from the South.

Whilst there are many of the opponents of the Administration who claim that they will, without doubt, carry the State of Connecticut, (others being distrustful of their power in that section,) yet they admit that the issue is not yet fairly defined, and the coming fall will prove which party is to be in the ascendant. In fact, almost every day gives fresh evidences of the great concern felt by the Stevens party for the permanency of their organization.

The Secretary of War has an individual under lock and key who is suspected of being Quantrell; but suspicion does not make him that individual, and the party in question denies that he is the person. Who can identify him? Telegrams have been despatched to portions of Missouri for parties who are supposed to know the prisoner, and when they arrive, perhaps the present mystery may be cleared up.

A. H. Stephens, Esq., does not make any particular haste in obeying the alleged summons of the Reconstruction Committee to appear before them, as I learn from a letter from him that he was quietly at his home on the 12th instant, ten days after the reported summons was said to have been issued. By-the-way, the two or three columns from a "Georgian" that appeared in the New York *Tribune* some time since, in which Davis, Stephens and others were introduced—the "folly" of the former and the "foresight" of the latter, and "why the peace mission failed," forming the prominent points of the letter—Mr. Stephens characterizes as "a *fancy* sketch throughout; there were some facts—some truths in it, but these were so distorted, and so mixed up with errors, that the whole may be set down as the work of imagination." "The *truth* of history," adds Mr. Stephens, "is hard to get."

[*Cor. Philadelphia Ledger.*

Senator Nye, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Enrolled Bills, placed before the President, on last Friday night, the civil rights bill. It is deemed tolerably certain that it will be signed. Those Republicans who claim to be his especial friends all say he will sign it, and the reconstructed who are now here denounce it as worse than the Freedmen's Bureau bill.

Leading Democrats and Republicans, including some pretty radical ones on both sides, are of the opinion that the President will return this bill with his objections. The chances of a veto, however, are not so certain on this bill as they were on the Bureau bill.—*New York Tribune.*

Some members who voted for the bill say that it must be modified so as to restrict the power of the President and Secretary. Finally, the bill was recommitted, and may be considered dead.

If so, Comptroller Clarke has beaten Secretary McCulloch, and we are not sure but rightfully, however impudent his letter was.

According to a recent decision of the Treasury Department, the separation of a coupon from a two years' five per cent. Treasury note, renders such note no longer a legal tender until interest begins on the next succeeding coupon that is attached to the note. This separation is considered such a mutilation of the note as will make it redeemable by the Government only at its par value, without interest.

Your readers may rest assured that the President will veto the "civil rights bill," and that, too, before many days. I was not able to say this positively in my last despatch, but I am able to do so now. Your readers will remember that this bill originally formed part of the Freedmen's Bureau bill, as prepared by Senator Trumbull, and was only separated from it and formed into a separate bill, because otherwise the Freedmen's Bureau bill would have been too long.

This civil rights bill contains the same principles, and is designed to effect the same ends that the Freedmen's Bureau bill had in view. The President regards it as not only unconstitutional, but entirely unnecessary, because all the rights of the people of the United States are already abundantly secured by the Constitution, and if the negroes have any wrongs to complain of, the State laws and the State Courts afford them abundant redress.

[*Special despatch N. Y. News.*

The radicals are noticeably morose and scowling to-day, and the general inference is that the unexpected somerset of Senator Stewart, two days ago, is already bearing more unpalatable fruit than any of them expected. His resolutions are understood to embody the views of his father-in-law, H. S. Foote, and Gov. Sharkey, of Mississippi, and are such as no radical, with the slightest regard for consistency, dare oppose. Vote for them they must. Their fears now are that when such men as Gov. Sharkey favor them, the majority of the Southern people may also be induced to do so, as the speediest means of ending their troubles and gaining admission for their delegations. It is also feared by many that negro suffrage in the South would turn the political ashes on the lips of its Northern advocates, and that it would, in fact, only serve to strengthen the influence of Southern leaders and increase Southern representation. It would also settle forever the "negro question," and deprive them of their principal stock in trade. Nothing but financial questions would be left for party issues, and upon them the old Democratic doctrines would everywhere prevail. Should Stewart's resolutions pass Congress and be adopted by the Southern States, the far-seeing members of the Republican party admit to-day that Democracy would inevitably come into power at the next Presidential election. The intention of the radicals is to keep the Southern States from any participation in this, and it will not be surprising if many of them oppose their own teachings by voting against the Stewart resolutions.—*Cor. New York Herald.*

The *Herald's* city of Mexico correspondent thinks that indications point decidedly to the strengthening and permanency of the French occupation.

The President of one of the leading Boston banks has just had his salary raised to $17,000 per year on account of valuable services.

Local Items.

CASH.—Our terms for subscription, advertising and job work are cash. We hope all parties will bear this in mind.

THE WEEKLY GLEANER.—The regular publication of this paper will be postponed a few weeks. Persons desirous of subscribing, will please forward the money at once. Terms $4 a year.

THE BURNING OF COLUMBIA.—An interesting account of the "Sack and Destruction of the City of Columbia, S. C.," has just been issued, in pamphlet form, from the *Phœnix* steam power press. Orders can be filled to any extent.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.—Attention is called to the following advertisements, which are published this morning for the first time:

Nomination for Mayor and Aldermen.
Wm. Gurney—Groceries, &c.
John H. Heise—Confectionary.
Bachman & Waties—Miniatures Lost.
James G. Gibbes—Tobacco, Whiskey.
" " " —Guano.
C. H. Baldwin—Candles, Potatoes, &c.
" " —Zephyr Puff.
" " —Blank Book Lost.
Mrs. H. C. Bronson—Furniture, &c.

Important Order.

For the information of our readers, we publish the following order, issued by Major-General Sickles, on the 14th instant:

I. In order that the loyal people of this State may be relieved from all unnecessary restraints incident to the existence of martial law, the administration of civil affairs in the several Districts, Parishes and Municipalities, respectively, will be remitted by commanding officers of military districts to the civil officers therein, duly qualified to perform such duties. No person shall be deemed eligible to hold office, unless he shall have taken the amnesty oath last prescribed; and, if he belong to either of the classes excepted from amnesty, shall have received Executive pardon. Civil officers will, in all cases, respect and obey the proclamations of the President, the laws of Congress, and all orders relating to the government of this department, issued by competent military authority.

II. To aid the local functionaries in resuming their proper duties, it is ordered that hereafter, without authority from these headquarters, no military tax, assessment or charge of any kind whatsoever, shall be levied upon citizens, except fines and penalties imposed by the Provost Courts, or other competent military tribunals, for offences whereof the party shall have been duly convicted; and with the further exception of the ground rents at the post of Hilton Head, that being a military reservation.

III. No prosecution or suit shall be entertained in the Courts of South Carolina against officers or soldiers of the army of the United States, or persons in any wise thereto belonging, subject to military authority, charged with acts done in their military capacity, or pursuant to orders from proper military authority; nor against loyal citizens or persons charged with acts done against the rebel forces, directly or indirectly, during the rebellion; and all persons, their agents or servants, charged with the occupation of abandoned lands and tenements, or the possession or custody of any kind of property whatever, in cases where such occupation, use or possession was authorized by the President, or by any of the civil or military departments of the Government, shall be protected from any recoveries, penalties or damages that may have been or may be imposed, or adjudged therefor, in said Courts.

IV. Superior and Circuit Provost Courts will continue in operation as heretofore, and shall have, as against any and all civil Courts, exclusive jurisdiction in all cases where freedmen and other persons of color are directly or indirectly concerned, until such persons shall be admitted to the State Courts as parties and witnesses, with the same rights and remedies accorded to all other persons. It shall, nevertheless, be competent for a State Court to hear and determine a cause or proceeding wherein persons of color are parties to the record, when they shall file a written stipulation to submit the cause or proceeding to a State Court.

GRATIFYING TO CAROLINIANS.—A correspondent of the Charleston *Courier* says:

"Another work of interest to Carolinians is the 'Life of Bertrand du Guesclin,' by the late General D. F. Jamison, about which there is an item of news that may not have reached you yet. It has been published in England, and has so pleased the French Emperor that he has ordered it to be translated into French, and to be augmented with fresh and original notes, plans of battles, portraits, etc."

CHEAP CATTLE AND HORSES.—By the expiration of the Canada reciprocity treaty and the defeat of a bill in Congress for renewing some of its rates for the exchange of commodities, the trade in live stock between the United States and the Provinces comes within the general tariff of 1862, which includes among the articles exempt from duty "animals, living, of all kinds." So we may send for Canadian horses, and supply ourselves with Canadian cattle and sheep, free from tax. This is bad for the protectionists, but good for the people.—*Sun.*