

building were set apart for debating clubs, in which some of the distinguished men of the country have delivered their first oratorical essays.

They had no gaol at Columbia, only a guard-room, but one was building. From inquiry I learned that they had no state prison in South Carolina, but adhered to the ancient system of flogging and hanging. Short terms of imprisonment were sometimes resorted to. Thus, for horse-stealing, an instance was mentioned of "three months, and three whippings." This least troublesome, and most economical system is also pursued in North Carolina, which, as a Report of the Virginia state prison observes, "has never departed from the old system of the gallows." The "fine old English gentleman" had the same method of correction for his serfs and for his hounds.

From Columbia I returned by the cars about 30 miles, to the junction of the Columbia and Cambden with the Charlestown railroad. Here other cars were waiting to take us on to Wilmington, in North Carolina, and I set off about two, p. m.

After travelling a few miles, the train came to the junction of the Columbia and Cambden with the Wilmington and Manchester railroad, and drew up there. As these railways meet at a very acute angle, the narrow space between them was filled up by a platform, in the rear of which was a wooden shed with "Ticket Office," in large letters, over the door. Besides our train there was another in waiting on the other road for an interchange of passengers, and among a number of people who were walking on the platform I discerned two young men with whips in their hands,