

THE GLEANER.

E. S. PARKER, Editor.
GRAHAM, N. C., SEPT. 7, 1875.

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HARMONY.

The Constitutional Convention for the State of Missouri has just finished its labors, and strange as it may appear in these days of dissensions, and partisanship, it has framed a constitution which is approved by every delegate in the Convention. All present affixed their signatures to the instrument, and those absent have the privilege of signing it as soon as opportunity is afforded which it is understood they will do. Could not our State Convention learn a lesson from Missouri, and for once, forgetting party spirit and mere party interest, act in harmony and concert in framing for us a constitution suited to our wants and condition. We sadly need such an instrument. Our future prosperity as a people very much depends upon the organic law of the State.

Our present constitution is an incubus, that in various ways retards all efforts at bettering our condition, and entering upon an era of prosperity. But there is no ground or reason upon which to found a hope, that our Convention will so act. The republicans have seen fit to make every effort at Constitutional reform in the State a party question, and they have done so for the benefit of party, and nothing else. In their opposition they have appealed to the fears of the people, and by these appeals, supported by unfounded statements, they have really made party capital by their opposition.

The republican party, in the Southern States, has shown no disposition to do anything for the good of the people, and in fact to do anything that did not promise, pay corruptly obtained, to members of the party. The struggle for ascendancy of republicans in North Carolina, and in any other Southern State, is not a legitimate party contest for legitimate party purposes, but it is an effort to control that the people may be plundered to enrich individuals. The history of every Southern State furnishes incontestable proof of the grave charge.

We are now only speaking of the South, and where, throughout the land is there a State, controlled by republicans, that has not been robbed and bankrupted by them? The facts are so patent that even republicans do not pretend to deny them. Can we hope for anything from such a party? Should they do anything for the benefit and good of the State, it will be in the absence of any temptation to act otherwise for their own advantage and gain. The strange thing is that some good men support a party that by its record shows itself so little worthy of support—that shows itself so entirely deserving of condemnation.

THE BANK OF CALIFORNIA.

This mammoth bank has failed, at least suspended. There are various reports concerning this failure or suspension, some of which are to the effect that its assets in amount exceed its liabilities, and others are to the effect that the failure is complete, its real assets not amounting to one-half the sum of its liabilities. The President, Ralston, was by the Directors requested to resign which he did, and they committed suicide. Its liabilities are set down, at about thirteen millions whereas its assets are variously estimated at from five to fifteen millions. This bank was what is known as, a hard money bank, that is it was operating upon a specie basis, and its failure furnishes the Ohio Democrats, in their campaign, with what is claimed as an illustration of their theory, that specie, no more than paper money, is proof against the changes, fluctuations, and vicissitudes of trade. This grand failure necessitated the suspension of other banks, and finally it is represented that the exchanges were all closed and business in a State of suspension. This bank was at the head of the fiscal institutions of the Pacific coast, and was organized in 1864, under the laws of California with a capital of two millions, which was afterwards increased to five millions, upon which a monthly dividend of one per cent. was regularly paid. The principal stock-holders are represented to be men of great wealth, and enterprise. Its business connections, both foreign and domestic were very extensive, and it is said that it was largely concerned in the mining interests on the Pacific coast, some of which were very expensive and unprofitable. The failure was immediately caused by a depositor's run, yet is said to be really the outgrowth of a conflict between the different classes of speculators. It is a financial crash that is already, and will for a long time to come, be felt throughout the country.

Maj. John S. Morrison, of Fredrick county, raised three hundred and fourteen bushels best quality of wheat from fifteen acres land.

A TRUE PICTURE.

From 1865 to 1875 we have had ten years of nominal peace throughout the United States. The radicals have ruled through all, and Grant through six of these years. And they between them have brought us—wither? A financial and industrial crisis, which began in 1873, with the ignominious collapse of two or three swollen radical banking houses, the pets and favorites of the party in power, has led us on to a financial and industrial catastrophe involving in one common ruin the East and the West, Massachusetts and California, our railways on land and our shipping on the sea.

The negroes who were to have been civilized and educated at the expense alike of the tax-payers of the whole country and of the fundamental principles of self-government, are relapsing into barbarism and planning here and there throughout the fairest regions of the republic new Havits and Santo Domingos. Misery and lawlessness stalk hand in hand over the North and West. Vagrants fast ripening into ruffians make the rural homes of New York and New England as insecure as frontier settlements. In this great metropolis of the nation, a laboring man was picked up on Wednesday night in a public park by the police, and on being carried to the hospital was found to be literally dying of starvation. This in a population of a million of souls and a city to which for long years the pauper thousands of the Old World were taught to look as the New Jerusalem of honest labor. Meanwhile, at the head of the Government we have a self-indulgent soldier whom the war found eking out an humble and not altogether creditable existence in an obscure calling, and who is now reckoned by his associates with vulgar and shameless ostentation among the new made "millionaires" of the land.

This head of the Government has for his right hand a Minister also a "millionaire" Mr. Columbus Delano, who has been and is now openly arraigned as a public robber and the friend and protector of public robbers by men of his own political faith, but of stainless public repute. This is the record and this is the result of Radicalism and of Grantism in these United States. How much longer is the disease to be left to mind its way unchecked through all the foundations of public order and of private prosperity?—N. H. Herald.

[From the Hillsboro Recorder]

The following announcement is made through our columns. It is published as an advertisement, but we give it a place among reading matter that the real expectations of the colored people may be known:

For the Recorder.

CHAPEL HILL, August 20th, 1875.

EDITOR RECORDER.

As there is a vacancy in the Convention caused by the death of Mr. Graham, and as I suppose there will be a member to elect soon to fill said vacancy from this county; I announce myself as a candidate to fill the vacancy. I am a colored man and I appeal to the colored men of Orange to rally to my support. We, the colored people of the county, have been treated badly by our white Republican friends and I think it is time for us to show some of the offices. The way we have been treated by our white brethren reminds me of a transaction which happened in Alabama some time ago between a white man and a colored man in the division of a crop. Some one asked the colored man how they divided? He scratched his head and said, he didn't hardly know; then the white man took out his pencil and began by saying nought is a nought and a figure is a figure all for the white man and none for the nigger; so it is with the white man; they get the offices and we do the voting. I am out and out in favor of Civil Rights and for mixed schools and colleges and am also in favor (if elected) of altering the Constitution so that the whites and blacks can intermarry as well as have all other rights that the white people enjoy; and now I call upon my party friends to rally to my support.

Very Respectfully,

ALEXANDER CRAIG.

Alexander Craig, whose card appears above is up to the present writing, so far as we have heard, the only opposition Maj. Patterson has in Orange. We suppose Craig will carry the strength of his party, especially so, as he has the eloquent revenue officer, Col. Ike Young stumping in his behalf. The Negroes don't want civil rights! Oh no!

In the colored convention at Richmond last Friday a resolution was adopted petitioning the Legislature against the proposed amendment to the Constitution disfranchising a person convicted of petit larceny. The interests of colored humanity demands this concession.

If some leather-jointed, supple-skinned Yankee does not come to the front immediately and swim the English channel two thirds sooner than Webb did, the British lion will bray its neck by the ecstatic wag of its tail.

[From the Asheville Pioneer, 28th Aug.]
The Strange-Murray Homicide.

It has been many years since the good people of Haywood county have been so wrought up and excited by any incident as they are now and for ten days past have been, by the killing of young James Murray of that county, by Thomas W. Strange, of Wilmington.

The shooting took place on Cove Creek, thirteen miles from Waynesville, on the afternoon of Thursday, the 16th inst.

The weapon used was a No. 1, Smith & Wesson pistol, borrowed by Stange of young Bridgers, (son of Robert R. Bridgers, President Wilmington & Weldon R. R. Co.) who with Strange, John D. Williams, Jr., and other young men made up a fishing party bound for the Catalooche river at the time of the unfortunate occurrence.

It appears that on the morning of the 16th, Murray had given Strange the lie in front of Smith's Hotel in Waynesville, which insult he at the time undertook to resent by striking Murray with a chair. The interference of friends restored peace, and Strange seated in Murray's wagon set off for the fishing grounds with his companions.

Dinner was taken at Boyd's store ten miles from town, all the party eating freely and in the best of humor. No whiskey was taken by either Strange or Murray at any time during the fatal day though some of the other gentlemen took a glass before table time.

Three miles from the store the rear vehicle broke down, which caused the front wagon (Murray's) to stop just in the turn of the road—his passengers alighting and going back with the view of rendering assistance.

It was found that one wheel of the wagon had given way so badly as to need the aid of a workman, and while it was sent off to the shop in charge of Mr. Williams' colored boy, the party of young gentlemen now all gathered together in the road, amused themselves by playing Auction Pitch.

The last seen of Murray unhurt, he was seated on his wagon, lines in hand, in the curve of the road above described, out of sight of the card party; though the rear part of his wagon was visible. The party, which had now been joined by several countrymen who heard from the colored boy of the broken wagon were startled by the report of a pistol, after which in a few seconds Murray came in sight advancing toward them horribly bloody. He staggered, fell to his knees, lay down in the road and died in their sight.

Every attention was at once given the body, and Strange, who now came on the scene, was arrested by his own friends. Up to this time he had not been missed by some of the party.

Esquire Leatherwood was sent for, who committed Strange and Bridgers to jail in Waynesville, where both now are at this writing. We refrain from all comment in this matter, giving the facts only as we have learned them from an eye-witness.

At one time threats of mob violence were freely indulged in by the Haywood people; but this feeling, we are glad to know, is giving way to cooler influences of reason.

Though the pistol was borrowed of Bridgers there seems to be absolutely no proof that he was in any wise acquainted with the use to which it was to be put. The party had been firing at paper marks, trees &c., during the earlier part of the day, and it is said that as Bridgers handed Strange the pistol he remarked, "Don't shoot away all my cartridges, Tom."

Murray was about 22 years of age, the nephew of Sheriff Murray, (not the son as some of the papers have it) popular with his people, and as game as the Chivalier Bayard.

Of young Strange we hear that he had but recently been confirmed in the Episcopal Church; was supposed to be the gentlest, best mannered and most conscientious of youths.

How it was that evil hour came on him, and he was left solely to the guidance of passion unchecked by any blessed restraint of the religion he professed is one of the mysteries of the human heart not to be solved till the day when the Great Unraveler shall cast aside the glass through which we look darkly and place us face to face.

All the parties to this sad affair—the Murphys, the Stranges, and the Bridgers, have our sympathy, and the assurance of impartial utterance on our part if we ever again allude to the subject.

Judge Settle of the Supreme Bench, before whom proceedings in the Robeson county election case had been instituted, and before whom they were returnable, after a hearing has dismissed the proceedings, declaring that he had no jurisdiction; that the Convention alone was the judge of the qualifications and election of its own members. This ruling will meet the approbation of all fair minded men.

"He provoked me into loving him," was a Rochester girl's excuse for engaging herself to a man whom she always professed to hate.

GRAPES.—One evening last week we went out to our friend Daniel C. Holt's vineyard. It is worth a trip to see it: He planted this vineyard about four years ago, and the quantity of grapes he has is really astonishing. He has a fine variety consisting of the Concord Merimac, Clinton and other kinds. He has something more than an acre. The vines are in rows trained upon a trellis, and are cultivated as you would corn. These rows are hanging with grapes in luscious bunches, some of which weigh as much as a pound. Mr. Holt gathers and sells large quantities for eating; and he also makes wine and brandy; the latter said to equal the best French brandy. You know that it is pure. There is no reason why every one may not have the luxury that Mr. Holt enjoys, and the profit he makes. It only requires attention. He can furnish rooted vines of any of the varieties he has to those who wish. We never saw such a quantity or such a quality of grapes before. Mr. Holt has a good farm and is a successful farmer, but declares that his vineyard makes him more clear money than the whole of his farm. We want a vineyard.

One day last week, we had occasion to visit the north portion of the county. We found every body busy. On every hand they were cutting and curing tobacco. The blue smoke that escapes through the barns in the curing process was to be seen in all directions. Upon inquiry we learned that the crop had suffered from the continued rain during the latter part of the summer, and that as a consequence the crop would be light, that is not weigh so much as the bulk would indicate. The quality is said to be good, and good luck has attended the curing so far. This curing properly requires thorough knowledge and skill. The corn crops were never known to be better. We crossed the new bridge at the Granite Cotton Factory, and if it is not a substantial bridge we are no judge. It is an old saying that we should praise the bridge that carries us over safe. If this is observed we predict that for years to come untold numbers will praise the bridge across Haw River at the Granite Cotton Factory.

The first fall election occurred in California on the first day of this month, the next was in Arkansas yesterday, the next will be in Maine the 13th, and then comes Iowa and Ohio on the 12th of October, to be followed by Virginia, Kansas, Maryland, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Minnesota, Missouri, New Jersey and Pennsylvania on the second day of November, and with Texas on the 7th of December.

Col. I. J. Young, Internal Revenue officer and radical delegate to the Convention from Granville county, was canvassing in Orange last week in the interest of his party. He was met by that imitable stumper, Gen. J. M. Leach. It is thought that he will not be able to collect his faculties in time to be of any service to his party in any trickery that may be resorted to in the organization of the Convention.

A Father Kills His Son through Mistake
CINCINNATI, Sept. 1.—Peterson enticed farmer Trusty's daughter to this city Trusty finding her, took her home. Peterson followed making threats against the old man, and last night approached his house. Trusty took a shot gun determined to kill Peterson on sight. Trusty's son, aged eighteen, learning his father's intention, approached to dissuade him, when the father mistaking his son for Peterson, shot him dead.

The tied-out horses in the speaker ship race, are Saylor, of Ohio; Walker, of Virginia; Lamar, of Mississippi, and Banks of Massachusetts. Each is holding a place outside as a possible compromise candidate in case Kerr, Cox, Wood and Randall succeed in killing each other off. The former, who is the most capable and modest of the leading candidates, is gaining ground quietly but surely.

Since Jeff. Davis' Winnebago letter, invitations for him to speak in different parts of the North, are pouring in upon him. He was reported as having accepted one, which report is contradicted by the Tennessee papers.

The Memphis *Avalanche* utterly discredits the telegram which states that Jefferson Davis has accepted an invitation of the Knox county, Illinois, agricultural society to deliver an address. Invitations are pouring in from the north but the *Avalanche* believes Mr. Davis has made up his mind not to speak in Illinois for some time to come.

The annual convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Illinois will be held September 14, when the election of a Bishop in place of Dr. De Koven, rejected, will be in order.

"We will serve no longer," they cried, and forthwith three thousand of them went over to taste of the Turkey which they had so often served before.

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