

The Charlotte Observer.

AS TO CIVIL RIGHTS.

An Editorial Which Places the Matter in the Right Light.

Referring to the recent refusal of a landlord at Troy, N. Y., to admit as guests the Fisk Jubilee Singers, a negro company, the New York Times says: "The trouble is that the case is one which almost everybody judges in one way when it is presented to him as an abstract question and in a very different way when it confronts him in the concrete."

"There is a dispute about the facts in this case, as appears by our dispatches, but there can be no dispute about the public feeling. A hotel or a theatre in this city to which it was generally understood that negroes were admitted on the same terms with whites would be in danger of being abandoned to the negroes."

PROVISIONS FOR THE MIL-LION.

Amount and Value of the Grain Crops of the United States.

The estimates of the statistics of the Department of Agriculture for the principal crops of 1885 have been computed, and the aggregate in bushels, in round millions, are as follows: Corn 1,936, wheat 857, oats 629. The area of corn is 78,000,000 acres of wheat 34,000,000, oats 23,000,000.

KATIE PUTNAM IN LUCK.

She Gets a Gift and a Mine is also Advertised.

The following dispatch from Hot Springs, Ark., is now going the rounds of the press: "The newspapers of this place print today an account of the sudden wealth heaped upon Katie Putnam, the actress, who is now filling an engagement here. Five years ago, when she was in Helena, Montana, the owner of a newly discovered mine was captivated by her acting, and asked the privilege of naming his mine after her."

A Liquor Dealer Assigns.

CHATTANOOGA, Jan. 4.—S. Rosenthal, dealer in liquors, has made an assignment. His liabilities are about \$15,000, chiefly in New York, Cincinnati and Baltimore. Assets unknown.

Coast Defense--Inland Water Line from New York to Florida.

Our coast defense seems at last to have aroused the attention of our Government. Mr. Tilden has written a letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives on the subject, and the President has appointed a commission to take the matter into consideration and report to Congress such improvements as they may deem advisable. The defense of our National Capital is, of course, of the greatest importance. I notice that the commission has devoted several months to examining the defenses of New York city and Philadelphia, but as yet nothing has been done looking to the protection of the Chesapeake from invasion. Fortress Monroe and Fort Wool (Rip Rap) are relied upon to defend the United States Navy yard at Portsmouth, the city of Norfolk, James river, and our State Capital, as well as Baltimore and Washington. Fort Wool is incomplete and never will be finished. Modern guns and ships rendering it useless, we must rely upon the torpedo and improved ordnance for our security. As the Rip Raps is an artificial island of no value, would it not be well to remove it to a point half way between Cape Charles and Cape Henry, on the shoal known as the Middle Ground, using its granite as a foundation for the erection of a steel clad fort with all the modern improvements, including a torpedo station, which could be duplicated on Cape Henry, to command the approach of all vessels from the ocean? Lynnhaven river, so celebrated for its fine oysters, would make an admirable rendezvous for the boats, as it is entirely land-locked and would be a safe harbor at all times for such small craft; besides, a short canal from Linhorn Bay to Back Bay would make a continuous waterway to Currinck and Pamlico sounds with little cost, and this inland channel might be extended to Florida; thereby making an inside water route from New York, passing Philadelphia and Baltimore, to the extreme south, free from the perils of the sea, and safe at all times for the transportation of munitions of war, provisions, and the products of the adjacent country, and enabling a concentration of torpedo boats at any point on the coast, to protect our seaboard cities.

The inland route from New York to Newbern, N. C., is now complete. The Delaware and Raritan canal, forty-three miles long, enabling vessels of 500 tons capacity to come from New York to Philadelphia; the Chesapeake and Delaware canal, fourteen miles, from Philadelphia to Baltimore, and the Albemarle and Chesapeake, fourteen miles, continuing this channel from Baltimore and Norfolk to Newbern, N. C. The latter canal opens up 1,800 miles of inland navigation in Virginia and North Carolina, and is the only canal in this country on which steam is used exclusively as a motive power. The work to be accomplished may be done in two years from this time, provided liberal appropriations shall be promptly made by Congress. The materials are at hand and dredging machinery in abundance.

MARSHALL PARKS, NORFOLK, Va., Dec 23, 1885.

The Politician's Way.

Some curious features of electioneering methods come to the surface here, says the Washington correspondent of the Cincinnati Times-Star. A party of politicians were sitting together the other evening when some of them began to chaff Mr. Neese about the methods by which he carried his district, which has a very large granger vote. Neese, according to the accounts given by these gentlemen, doffed his beaver, collar and store clothes, and dressing himself in farmer costume, with breeches in his boots and a buckboard vehicle, made a canvass which caught the hearts of the farmers and carried the district for the Democrats against a former Republican majority of two or three thousand.

"That reminds me," said Judge Thoman, who was one of the party, "of my friend Hill, of Ohio, and the way he carried a Republican district for the Democrats a couple of years ago." Mr. Hill happening to be one of the party and making no objection to Thoman's remarks, the Judge continued, saying: "I was traveling in that part of Ohio making some speeches, and when I came to Hill's town naturally went up to his office to see him. As I reached the door I saw standing near a very dilapidated and aged buggy, the seat broken down at one end, and the horse apparently broken down at both ends. Going up to Hill's room, I found him sitting there hatless and coatless and collarless, hayseed in his hair and his breeches in his boots. He was discussing politics with a couple of granger friends. He was as thorough a countryman in appearance as you could possibly imagine, and quite the reverse of the polished, well-dressed gentleman who sits just beside me here. He invited me to a seat, which I found difficult in accepting, by reason of the accumulation of dust upon every article of furniture in the office."

"Great heavens, Hill!" I said, when his granger friends had disappeared, "what does this mean? You look like a scarecrow. Why don't you go out and dress yourself up and black your boots, put on a collar and make yourself respectable?" My dear fellow," said Hill, as he deposited his muddy boots on the office table and leaned backward wearily, "I am making my canvass. If I should black my boots and follow your advice in other particulars I should never see Washington again as a member of Congress from this district. This is a Republican district, but if my clothes and buggy last a week longer and my horse don't die, I shall carry it." And he did carry it, although the Republican majority against him was several thousand."

THAT FORGED DRAFT.

How a Swindle Was Attempted on Montgomery Banks.

Montgomery Advertiser, Jan. 2. About the 23d or 24th of December the First National Bank and the Merchants and Planters Bank of this city, each received a letter having all the appearance of being genuine, from the Stock Growers National Bank of Cheyenne, Wyoming Territory. The letters were for the purpose of indentifying George Sanders, to whom it alleged the cashier of the Cheyenne bank had issued his check No. 3,142 on the Fourth National Bank, of New York, for \$6,000, and requested in behalf of Mr. Sanders, the usual courtesies. Upon the receipt of the letter by the First National Bank, Mr. Chambers, the cashier, replied acknowledging to the bank at Cheyenne. This letter of Mr. Chambers to the Cheyenne bank was the first intimation its officers had of Mr. Sanders, and the letter purporting to be written by them, and a dispatch was promptly sent here that they had written no such letter and had issued no such check. The arrest of Sanders, if he presented himself, was requested. Similar letters, it is evident, from the dispatches in yesterday's Advertiser, were sent to other banks. It has not been ascertained to what extent Sanders was successful in his schemes. Letters of identification were sent to many points and he no doubt expected in due time to present himself and reap the rewards of his rascality. If it had not been for the letter of Mr. Chambers to the Cheyenne bank, he might have swindled several banks. He has never been here and consequently the surmise that a Montgomery bank had been victimized is incorrect. Some bank, however, has been caught for \$6,000, and the probabilities are that it was a Texas bank, as Mr. Chambers yesterday received a telegram from Texas warning him against any check purchased by Sanders from the Cheyenne bank, as he was a forger.

Wanted a Civil Answer.

Detroit Free Press. "What is this about the President's message?" he confidently asked the man occupying a window-sill in the postoffice corridor.

"Why, don't you know what the President's message is?" exclaimed the man.

"He has, eh? Writes a purty good hand, I suppose? Who got the message?"

"It was sent to Congress."

"Exactly. That was purty white in the President, eh? I'll be hanged if I would do it unless they paid me purty well. What did Congress want of the message?"

"Why, don't you know what the President's message is?" exclaimed the man.

"Of course I do! Haven't I been Overseer of Highways in my town for the last thirteen years? You needn't snap a man's head off because he asks a civil question. Was the message in poetry?"

"Did you ever see a President's message in poetry?"

"No, sir, but I don't claim to have seen the hull earth! The message hasn't anything to do with a play, has it?"

"See here--You go home. You don't know enough to pound sand!"

"You're a liar!" was the prompt response. "I come up to you in a gentlemanly way and ask a civil question, and you fly mad and abuse me! You are no gentleman, sir! I didn't know but what the message was to be dramatized."

"Well, did I ever!"

"There you go again! Seems as if you don't know 'nuff to answer a civil question! I'll bet a bushel of 'aters to a cent that you don't know nothing about the message yourself!"

"I won't talk to you!"

"Neither will I talk to you! You go your way and I'll go mine, but don't you try to bluff nor bulldoze me any more or I'll crack your heels agin the ceiling! I know what the President's message is just as well as you do, and don't you dare feel yourself higher'n I am."

One Way to Collect Debts.

A district bill collector has devised a new way of collecting debts from impunctious members of the foreign legations who have sought protection behind the laws which prevent their being prosecuted for debt.

The bill collector has had a large envelope made of the coarsest and most vulgar tinted paper. Upon this envelope he has had printed from a ragged woodcut a badly drawn design of a starved chicken just emerging from a shell chucked in a fat fly, which is down well towards the horizon of the clumsy picture. By the side of the picture is printed, "If you can't catch him in five days please return to John Blank, constable and bill collector."

He pursues the foreigner who will not pay with these envelopes. He orders them sent to these distinguished representatives of outside nations at all times and upon all occasions.

A young foreigner may be calling upon some heiress whom he is anxious to ensnare, when in will come one of these terrible looking envelopes upon a waiter, handed over by a grinning servant. The result is that John Blank, constable and bill collector, has had a marked success in making certain young foreigners pay bills, where in the past they have ignored the most strenuous demands for payment presented in the ordinary fashion.

Passengers Rescued.

COLUMBUS, Ga., Jan. 4.—The steamer W. D. Chipley, which was sunk in the Chattahoochee river Saturday night, had a large quantity of miscellaneous freight and 800 bales of cotton. Many of the passengers clung to the cotton and pieces of the wreck until picked up by the steamer "Naid," which came along soon after the disaster.

An Awful Calamity.

Arkansas Traveller.

An old negro with an air of utter dejection sat on a bench in front of a cabin. Some one, seeing that he must be miserable, stopped and said: "You do not seem to be enjoying yourself, old man." "No, honey. De time for my joyment is dun ober." "What is the matter?" "Wife dun dead, honey." "I am very sorry to hear that, and I assure you that you have my sympathy." "Thakee, sah." "A man loses a good friend when his wife dies." "Dat he do, honey; dat he do. I has foun' dat out to my sor', let me tell yer, an' now my good days are all gone." "What was the matter with your wife?" "I dunno, honey. She tuk sick one night an' she died de next ebenin'. It waz er awful blow on me, fur dat woman wuz earnin' \$15 eb'ry munt. It wuz a wuful hard fur her ter die jes' arter de white folks had raised her wages. Peared like long ez she wucked fur \$12 er munt she kep' her helt, but de \$15 peared like wuz too much for her. Yes, sah, she wuz snatched off at de berry time when she wuz de mos' use ter me. I doan know what's goin' ter come o' me. I'll hab ter go ter wuck, I see ahead."

Useful Home Hints.

If your coal fire is low, throw in a tablespoonful of salt and it will help it very much.

A tablespoonful of turpentine boiled with white clothes will greatly aid the whitening process.

The best treatment for sprains and bruises is the application of salt water of such temperature as is agreeable.

Mixtures of two parts of glycerine, part of ammonia and a little rose-water will whiten and soften the hands.

If in cooking meats too much salt has been used, add one tablespoonful of vinegar and one teaspoonful of sugar.

If brooms are tipped in hot suds once a week they will last much longer, and always sweep like a new broom.

The best remedy for bleeding at the nose, as given by I. R. Gleason at one of his lectures, is the vigorous motion of the jaws as if in the act of chewing.

Cluverius' Christmas

Cor. Norfolk Ledger. "Did Cluverius hang up his stocking Christmas?" was asked of Jailer Russey today.

"No," said he, "not that I am aware of. He received a box containin' good things the day before Christmas, I suppose from his brother."

"Yes," continued the jailor, "the prisoner is very hopeful and is looking well. His aunt, Mrs. Tunstall, was here today to see Cluverius. She laughs at the idea that she has abandoned him or that she has exhausted all of her means in his defense. He is up stairs now shaving himself. He is allowed to do this in the presence of one of the officers of the prison. You know," added kind hearted Jailer Russey, "Cluverius has a good many expenses. He had a barber to shave him twice a week, and it cost him twenty five cents each time."

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WILLIAM DORSHEIMER, Editor and Proprietor.

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