

Hillsborough Recorder

THE CONSTITUTION AND THE LAWS—THE GUARDIANS OF OUR LIBERTY

Vol. XLVI.

HILLSBOROUGH, N. C., FEBRUARY 14, 1866.

No. 2324.

HON. A. H. STEPHENS.

The following is Mr. Stephens' letter positively refusing the use of his name in connection with the senatorship, before the Georgia Legislature:

Milledgeville, Ga., Jan. 22d, 1866.

Messrs. J. P. Johnson, Charles H. Smith and others:

Gentlemen: Your note of invitation to me to address the General Assembly on the state of the country, and assuring me that it is the almost universal desire of the members that I should do so, if consistent with my feelings, &c., was received two days ago. I have considered it maturely; and be assured if I saw any good that could be accomplished by my complying with your request, I would cheerfully yield my personal reluctance to so general a wish of the members of the General Assembly, thus manifested. But as it is, seeing no prospect of effecting any good by such an address, you and your associates will, I trust, excuse me in declining. My reasons need not be stated; they will readily suggest themselves to your own minds upon reflection. In reference to the subject of the election of United States Senators, which is now before you, allow me to avail myself of this occasion to say to you, and through you, to all the members of the General Assembly, that I cannot give my consent to the use of my name in that connection. This inhibition of such use of it is explicit and emphatic. I wish it so understood by all. As willingly as I would yield my own contrary inclinations to what I am assured is the general and unanimous wish of the Legislature in this respect; if I saw any prospect of my being able, by thus yielding, to render any essential service to the people of Georgia, and, as earnestly desirous as I am for a speedy restoration of civil law, perfect peace, harmony and prosperity throughout the whole country, yet, under existing circumstances, I do not see such prospect of the availability of my services to these ends in any public position. Moreover, so far as I am personally concerned, I do not think it proper or politic that the election should be postponed with any view to a probable change of present circumstances, or a probable change of my position on the subject; and I do trust that no member will give even a complimentary vote to me in this election.

Yours, truly,

ALEXANDER H. STEPHENS.

THE PROPOSED NEW NATIONAL REVENUE SYSTEM.

The Commission authorized by the last Congress, and appointed by the Secretary of the Treasury, to revise the revenue system, and simplify the machinery for collecting taxes, has made its first report to Secretary McCulloch. The members of the Commission are David A. Welles, of New York; Stephen Colwell, of Philadelphia; and S. S. Hayes, of Illinois. They entered upon their work in June of last year, and since then they have been constantly engaged in the discharge of the duties assigned them. With what they claim to be a less oppressive, and consequently more popular mode of taxation, they propose raising nearly twice as much revenue as was obtained by the present system in 1864. The secret of successful taxation, say they, is to raise the most money with the least possible inconvenience to the people, and the Commission has proceeded upon this principle throughout. Among the changes they propose are an increase of the tax on raw cotton from two to five cents per pound, the tax to be collected not on the plantation, but from the manufacturers and from the exporting merchants at the port of shipment; an exemption of all incomes under one thousand dollars from the present income tax; a repeal of all taxes now levied upon wearing apparel, books, magazines, pamphlets, repairs of engines, cars, carriages, ships, watches, pianos, &c.; a reduction of the tax now levied on brokers' sales of stocks from \$5 per \$1,000 to \$1 per \$1,000; a repeal of the taxes now levied on pig-iron, (\$2.40 per ton), coal, (six cents per ton), and crude

petroleum, (\$1 per gallon); a reduction by one-half on the duties now levied upon home manufactures generally; a reduction of taxes on distilled liquors from \$2 to \$1 per gallon. The general effect of all the changes proposed will be a reduction of about one-fourth of the present burden of internal taxes. With these reductions, the Commission is of opinion that the internal revenue will yet amount to \$237,000,000 per annum; the duties on imports to \$120,000,000—making a total revenue of \$357,000,000. If this can be realized, there will remain about \$100,000,000, after paying the current expenses of the Government and the interest on the national debt, to apply annually to the reduction of the principal of the debt. The success of this calculation would result in the utter extinguishment of the entire debt in less than thirty years.

Richmond Examiner

THE SOUTHERN COLONY IN MEXICO.

General Sterling Price writes under date of Cordova, Mexico, Dec. 16th, as follows:

"I write in camp and without shelter, but upon my own six hundred and forty acres near the town of Cordova and the railroad leading from Vera Cruz to the city of Mexico. The lands in this vicinity are not surpassed by any of the Platte lands in fertility of soil, and is the finest I ever saw. The thermometer never above ninety degrees or below seventy, and in full view of mountains covered with perpetual snow. I am gratified to be able to say that as soon as the survey was completed, the thirty Confederates now here unanimously tendered me choice of sections. I think I have made a judicious selection. I have donated to the colonists twenty-four acres for a town site on a rushing stream of water and by a large spring of excellent water.

"We have laid off the ground into towns and lots, and named it Carlotta, after the Empress, and we are all upon our lots clearing away the brush to erect houses. I write to my family to-day to join me here as soon as they can raise the means to do so. I cannot think of returning to the States and be required to ask pardon for the action I took in the struggle. I am entirely satisfied with the part I took. I would do the same again under similar circumstances. I did all that my talents enabled me to do to avert the calamity of war. I was not a secessionist; but when the struggle came I did not hesitate to take the side of the South.

"I pray to God that my fears for the future of the South may never be realized; but when the right is given to the negro to bring suit, testify before courts, and vote in elections, you all had better be in Mexico.

"There is no doubt of the stability of this government; French troops are arriving every week, and the marauding bands that have infested the country for ages past are fast being exterminated; no quarters are given.

"When the character of our lands is well understood, immigration will be a fixed fact under any circumstances, and the finest lands that can now be procured at low rates will command large prices. I have never known the cultivation of lands to yield such large profits. My neighbor, Mr. Fink, (a man of science,) cultivates eighty acres in coffee with ten hands, and sold his last year's crop for \$16,000. His coffee field, shaded with every variety of fruit trees, in full bearing, and the walks fringed with the pineapple, is the most beautiful sight I have ever seen.

Your friend truly,

STERLING PRICE.

COUNTERFEITING OF THE UNITED STATES NOTES.

The New York Post referring to the number of counterfeit notes in circulation, remarks:

"Compare the note of the National Bank in Maine and one of a National Bank in Missouri, of the same denomination, and you will find them exactly alike. They

are printed from plates made from the same dies; face and back, lettering, scroll work, figures, all are in every particular alike. Only the name of the bank is peculiar to each. There are, it is said, some two or three hundred persons in the country whose chosen profession is the manufacture and circulation of forged notes. These men must have been greatly delighted when they became aware of the national currency scheme. Under our former banking system every bank in the country had its own devices, its own plates, and took especial precaution to guard its notes against forgery. Great skill and ingenuity were developed in this way; and though we had hundreds of banks, the tribe of counterfeiters had a hard time of it, and a false note could not long pass undetected. But since the national bank system has been obtained, it is complained that counterfeiting has increased fearfully."

Illinois is a great state. One million five hundred thousand pounds of cotton of good staple, have been raised in the vicinity of Carbondale, Jackson county, the past season. The gins are in operation at the present time, preparing the cotton for market. Preparations are being made in the county of Jackson, to devote a large breadth of land to the growing of cotton the coming season. Illinois farmers consider that at the present prices it is the most profitable crop that can be raised. In addition the state produced in 1865 one hundred and seventy millions of bushels of corn, twenty-five millions of bushels of wheat, eight hundred thousand bushels of rye, one million of barley, and twenty-eight millions of bushels of oats.

MANUFACTURES IN THE SOUTH.

Nothing would prove more useful in restoring the prosperity of the war-stricken South than the establishment of manufactures. They would furnish a home market for agricultural products, render the undeveloped wealth of forests and mines available, and provide profitable employment for all their population, not otherwise engaged, who are willing and able to work. A full cotton crop can be sold for a large sum, but the value of raw material, in that or any other form, is but slight compared with that conferred upon it by skilled labor and machinery when it becomes a manufactured fabric. When the Southern States diversify their industry and fairly begin to reap their shares of the profits which other communities have derived from converting their great staple into muslins and colicoes, they will be on the highway to solid wealth.

Philadelphia Press.

PASSION AND DEADLY WEAPONS.—A sad but practical lesson is taught by the suicide in this city of Dr. S. Meyer. Passionate men should never carry deadly weapons. In this case a boarding house dispute, trifling at the start, went on until Dr. Meyer, in a fit of passion, attempted to kill one of his fellow boarders, and thought that he had killed him. He fled away from the consequences of this rash act, and was almost instantly seized with such remorse that he killed himself. His intended victim, however, was unhurt. In ninety-nine cases in every hundred where murder is committed, the murderer regrets the act almost as soon as it is done, and would undo it if in his power. Yet men will not learn that priceless lesson, enforced as it is by after history of nearly every murderer. Instead of holding before their minds the teachings of experience, they give way to the fit of momentary passion and do deeds which no subsequent regret or repentance can recall.

Philadelphia Ledger.

STRONG CHARACTERS.

Strength of character consists of two things, power of will and power of self-restraint. It requires two things, therefore, for its existence, strong feelings and strong command over them. Now it is here we make a great mistake; we mistake

strong feelings for strong character. A man who bears all before him, before whose frown domestics tremble, and whose bursts of fury make the children of the household quake—because he has his will obeyed, and his own way in all things—we call him a strong man. The truth is, that is the weak man; it is his passions that are strong; he, mastered by them, is weak. You must measure the strength of a man by the power of the feelings he subdues, not by the power of those which subdue him. And hence composure is very often the highest result of strength. Did we never see a man receive a flagrant insult, and only grow a little pale, and then reply quietly? That is a man spiritually strong. Or did we never see a man in anguish stand as if carved out of solid rock, mastering himself? Or one bearing a hopeless daily trial remain silent, and never tell the world what cankered his home-peace? That is strength. He who with strong passions, remains chaste; he who, keenly sensitive, with many powers of indignation in him, can be provoked, and yet restrain himself, and forgive—these are the strong men, the spiritual heroes.

Rev. F. W. Robertson.

BUCKWHEAT CAKES.

A lady of culture, refinement and usual powers of observation and comparison became a widow. Reduced from affluence to poverty, with a large family of small children dependent on her labor for daily food, she made a variety of experiments to ascertain what articles could be purchased for the least money and would at the same time "go the farthest," by keeping her children longest from crying for something to eat. She soon discovered that when they ate buckwheat cakes and molasses, they were quiet for a longer time than after eating any other kind of food. A distinguished judge of the United States Court observed that when he took buckwheat cakes for breakfast, he could sit on the bench all day without being uncomfortably hungry; if the cakes were omitted, he felt obliged to take a lunch about noon. Buckwheat cakes are a universal favorite at the Winter breakfast table, and scientific investigation and analysis has shown that they abound in the heat-forming principles, hence nature takes away our appetites for them in Summer.

Hall's Journal of Health.

CAUSES OF SUDDEN DEATH.

Very few of the sudden deaths which are said to arise from diseases of the heart, do really arise from that cause. To ascertain the real origin of sudden deaths, an experiment has been tried in Europe, and reported to a scientific congress held at Strasbourg. Sixty-six cases of sudden death were made the subject of a thorough post mortem examination; in these cases only two were found who had died from disease of the heart. Nine out of the sixty six had died from apoplexy, while there were forty six cases of congestion of the lungs—that is, the lungs were so full of blood they could not work, there not being room enough for a sufficient quantity of air to enter to support life. The causes that produce congestion of the lungs are—cold feet, tight clothing, costive bowels, sitting still until chilled after being warmed with labor or a rapid walk, going too suddenly from a close, heated room, into the cold air, especially after speaking, and sudden depressing news operating on the blood. These causes of sudden death being known, an avoidance of them may serve to lengthen many valuable lives which would otherwise be lost under the verdict of heart complaint. The disease is supposed to be inevitable; hence many may not take the pains they would to avoid sudden death if they knew it lay in their power.

Dispatches to the State Department indicate that immigration from Europe to the United States will this year exceed that of any previous year. All the German ports especially are filling up with persons desirous of securing a passage to this country.