

WILMINGTON, N. C.
Saturday Morning, October 2, 1875.

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THE CONVENTION.
Ever since the assembling of this body the people of North Carolina have had their eyes steadily turned towards the capital in Raleigh, where every day has been watching with absorbing and even painful interest the proceedings, and every hour of the Convention doing?—What is the Convention doing?—Since 1868 the State has been enthralled and crippled by the restricting provisions of a constitution which was forced upon them at the point of the bayonet. Not people have patiently borne the weight of the oppressions which this instrument has imposed, and have patiently waited for the day of their deliverance. They have patiently waited until the day when they could rid themselves of this onerous legacy of the civil war, more baleful and destroying to the welfare of the State, than the wrecked lives and fortunes and material devastation which this contest inflicted. Begotten of passion in the minds of our fathers and discontents, at the close of the war, the last throes of deadly strife, it has remained the hot-bed of corruption, and protection to a perminating corruption which has thrived and flourished in rank virility for seven weary years.

Reparation from the physical destruction of the war left in its sanguinary path, was possible to energy and patient industry; but the demoralization of mind and principle which followed in its wake and survived the clash of arms, have been added and protected by the operations of an instrument which has been impermeable to the corrective influence of public opinion. It was the dominating ongrowth of a tempest of passion and excitement incident to the closing scenes of an armed internecine conflict, and was intended to release the restraints which a refined civilization had imposed upon the people of the Commonwealth in their social and political relations. It has given free rein to impetuous natural propensities which the rule of public opinion and the law would in an ordinary well governed State, hold in check.

To whatever department of the State government we turn, we find that the Constitution has opened up the road to corruption, and that that road has been pursued by a few footed travelers, with and without the shamelessness distinguished for their iniquity. In the gubernatorial chair—on the Supreme Bench—on the Circuit Bench—in the offices of the Judges of Probate, and the clerks of the Superior Courts—in the Boards of the County Commissioners—in the Townships and in the offices of the Justices of the Peace—wherever we turn, we find that the miserable instrument amend, has hedged about the paths of crime and corruption, and that along these paths it is no great task to find the foot-prints of many who have walked therein.

The Convention thus far, has shown a thorough appreciation of many of the great faults of the instrument, and have taken the matter of reform firmly in hand. It has taken a bold stride towards the reformation of the Judiciary system, and we trustingly hope that it will take one more step in the same direction. We turn back with longing eyes to the past, and severally lift them up in contemplation of the purity, the learning and the ability, of a Judiciary which was once the brightest jewel in the coronet of our good old mother—sighing that we may again turn into the "old paths".

The Conservative party have at last been enabled to turn aside the Epithetian Pandora box, and to close the lid of the Pandora box, ere hope, its last great treasure, had fled. This hope animates, while it leads us to expect, that the Convention when it shall adjourn, will present to the people for their ratification, a Constitution which will restore our Judiciary to its ancient glory and renown.

OUR LIVING AND OUR DEAD.
The marked improvement which this magazine presents with each succeeding number must be a source of self-gratulation to the editor, as it should be a source of pride to every reading North Carolinian. The October number contains a great variety of entertaining and instructive literature: Mr. John Paré's "Soldier's History of the War"; Gen. Clingman's and Col. Marshall's "Report of the Engagement near Goldsboro"; Mr. Kingsbury's further illustration of the "Valor of North Carolinians at the Battle of Gettysburg"; Gen. Terry's very interesting account of "Terry's Fort Fisher Expedition"; "Johnson's former" further discussion of the "Evidence of the Mecklenburg Declaration"; Poems, by the late Henry Linwood, and James R. Randall; Col. John H. Wheeler's commencement of a "History of the Ashe Family of North Carolina"; Mr. Kingsbury's critique of Tompkins's new drama, "Queen Mary"; the continuation of Mrs. C. W. Harris' charming story—"Margaret Rose"; Gen. Clingman's fine literary address upon "Religious and Popular Orators"; besides many other classic and interesting articles of prose and poetry, combined to make up one of the most readable numbers of this most excellent periodical. It is truly a magazine of literature and information. It deserves, and will obtain, a liberal patronage throughout the South.

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MILLIONS OF IT YEARLY.
AND WILL BE TWICE AS WHEN...

Carolina Central Railway
GENERAL FREIGHT DEPARTMENT.
NOTICE.
THE ATTENTION OF THE PUBLIC IS RESPECTFULLY INVITED TO THE fact that the Carolina Central Railway, being completed and fully equipped for business from South to Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York, Boston, and Providence, and via Wilmington to all Eastern cities, has now opened for the regular service of freight and passengers.

PROPOSALS.
The Wilmington & Coast Turbine Co.,
Proposals for the construction of a steam turbine engine for the use of the Wilmington & Coast Turbine Co., will be received until October 15, 1875, at the office of the Engineer-in-Chief, Wilmington & Coast Turbine Co., Wilmington, N. C.

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