

THE NEGROES KICKING.

There is in the Washington Post of Saturday an interesting article on the political situation in the South, growing out of the attempt of white Republican leaders to ignore the negro and eliminate him from the party—to build up a white Republican party. The recent action of the Republican State Committee of Alabama practically excludes negroes from acting as delegates in the State convention which meets at Birmingham on the 16th of September.

The leading negroes of the State, and those of the white leaders who are opposed to ignoring the negroes, have entered their protest against this and declare that if this rule be enforced they will call another convention and put a separate ticket in the field. A similar threat is made in Missouri, where the negroes say they have not received the recognition they are entitled to. They propose to organize, nominate a ticket of their own, and, while they do not expect to elect it, they claim that they hold the balance of power and can teach the white Republicans a lesson, if they can't do any more. Speaking of the conditions in other States and in North Carolina, the writer in the Post says:

In South Carolina, Florida, and some other Southern States, negroes have been made postmasters with the consequent result of much friction between them and the white patrons of the postoffice. In North Carolina, however, these troubles have been avoided. Senator Pritchard having been very conservative in his recognition of the colored people for such positions. It is due to this fact that recently the negroes of Warren county held a meeting, at which Mr. Pritchard was denounced in severe terms for his attitude, and it is likely that if any attempt is made to ignore them, because they have been disfranchised, they will follow the lead of their brethren in Alabama.

The negroes in this State have caught on pretty well to Senator Pritchard's game, to how he has been turning the cold shoulder to them with the hope of drawing white men into the party and making it respectable. He didn't show his hand in this quite as early as Hon. Thomas Settle and other leading Republicans did who supported the constitutional amendment and gave that as one of the reasons for doing so, namely, that it would result in practically eliminating the negro from politics, and give the Republican party a chance to secure some white recruits who wouldn't go into it while it recognizes the negro. He didn't show his hand as early as those Republicans did, for he opposed the amendment, opposed it in the East because it would disfranchise the illiterate negro and in the West because it would disfranchise the illiterate white man who did not come under the saving grandfather clause. But while he was doing that and since he has been throwing cold water on the "ward of the nation" who gave the Republican party of this State all the victories it ever won, and has been freezing him out whenever he could do it on the sly. He has passed the word along the line, and as a consequence very few negroes appear in county conventions where the white Republicans are numerous enough to control them. A few weeks ago a convention was held in one of the Western counties (Swain we think) and a few days ago in Guilford, a central county, in both of which resolutions were passed denouncing the disfranchising of illiterate white men and their poll tax, but didn't have a word to say about disfranchising negroes who have heretofore constituted about three-fourths of their party. They have so far ignored the negro as to avoid naming him in their platforms. No wonder the negroes are kicking at this throwing them off in the hope of inducing white men to join the party and give it some "respectability."

The action of the Warren county convention, to which reference is made in the above extract, is simply following the suggestions of a circular sent out a month or so ago calling on the negroes and other Republicans who are opposed to the Pritchard and revenue rule to organize to defeat his re-election to the Senate. The Warren county negroes are the first to respond, and they did it in the resolutions which denounced him as a Judas Iscariot and Benedict Arnold run into one. We published those resolutions as edifying reading. The Raleigh circular, while talking for the negroes, was doubtless inspired by some white Republicans who do not recognize the claims of Jeter C. Pritchard to hold on to his soft snap and continue to be the spoils distributor for this State, the only thing which has given him any hold on the party.

But the negroes are beginning to learn now what they might have learned years ago if they were willing to learn anything, and that is that the leaders of the Republican party, North and South, have no more use for the negro as a political associate than the colored brother has for a disembowelled watermelon.

A DEAD LETTER ARBITRATION LAW.

The coal strike in Pennsylvania has long ago ceased to be a State affair, or a dispute between mine owners and miners, for it has become a matter in which the public is even more interested than either the mine owners or the miners. Anthracite is now quoted in Northern cities at \$10 a ton, and in some cases at \$12.50 with the indications that it will go still higher if the strike continues, and it probably will if the strike were ended today.

From the fact that there has been no appeal to the courts by either side to arbitrate has led to the belief that no arbitration law in Pennsylvania, but it seems there is and one that was framed to apply especially to disputes between mine operators and miners, although it covers all labor disputes. It provides that in case of dispute either or both parties may apply to the Court of Common Pleas to name a board of arbitrators. When the application is jointly made the court may or may not appoint a board according to its discretion. In the event that only one party apply the court must serve notice on each to select three men, within ten days after notice, to act as arbitrators. In case one of the parties refuse or neglect to select the three men the court will appoint six men to act jointly with the three chosen, and there will act as a board.

It further provides that their decision shall be "final and conclusive," and they are instructed to "duly execute their decision." This law has not been appealed to in this strike because the mine operators did not want to arbitrate, and the supposition is that the miners have no confidence in the courts, and for the further reason that the law does not provide any way by which the board can "duly execute its decision." It is a board without power and hence the law, if for no other reason, is a dead letter.

Perhaps this strike has taught a lesson showing the necessity of some law to protect the people from such strikes. Twelve dollar and a half coal ought to be a pretty convincing argument.

A man was arrested in Connecticut a few days ago for kissing his sweetheart, to whom he was engaged to be married. This confirms us in an opinion that we have entertained for some time, which is that Connecticut is a very good State to move out of.

There is money in growing peaches in Georgia when they hit all right. A citizen of Augusta, writing to the St. Louis Globe-Democrat, says some of the growers netted this year over \$500 an acre from their crops.

One celebrated packer, on return from Europe, says he knows nothing of the proposed beef trust. It is surprising how these big combinations form themselves without those interested knowing anything about it—Chicago News, Ind.

The position of Gov. Shaw, Seddy's Secretary of the Treasury, touching Tariff Reform, may be summarized as follows: When everybody is in favor of it, and a Congress which will support it, can be relied on to do what the American Protective League requires of it, he proposes to complete the job by spontaneous combustion. Louisville Courier-Journal, Dem.

Coal has been jumped a dollar a ton again. The only reason for it is the strike in the anthracite regions. The American people have to foot the bill. It would seem that a little more of that sort of thing should suffice to convince the people that they are the real sufferers and have a right to take a hand in the strike business in cases of this sort.—Norfolk Virginia-Pilot, Dem.

WELL PRESERVED.

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Federstein—I saw a load of hay through this morning. "Moonshine."

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WILMINGTON MARKET.

SPRITS TURPENTINE—Nothing doing. ROSIN—Market steady at \$1.10 per barrel for strained and \$1.15 per barrel for good strained. TAR—Market firm at \$1.80 per barrel of 220 lbs. CRUDE TURPENTINE—Market firm at \$1.40 per barrel for hard, \$2.50 for dip, and \$2.60 for virgin. Quotations same day last year—Spirits turpentine firm at \$36.00 per barrel; Rosin firm at \$11.00 per barrel; Tar firm at \$1.85; crude turpentine quiet at \$2.00 @ 2.00.

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