

## THE SENTINEL.

Thursday, June 7, 1866.

### The Washington Mission.

The point was well and forcibly pressed by Mr. Clark, of Craven, in the debate in the Convention, on Saturday, that the resolutions of Mr. McDonald, of Moore, were, in their present verbiage and shape, an indictment if not a positive endorsement of the Radicals of Congress. The preamble to the resolutions expresses the hope that was felt "that the President (during the recess of the Convention) would have been authorized by Congress to declare the State restored to the Union." As the President, in an official proclamation, has emphatically declared that very thing, the irresistible inference follows that the resolutions is, as far, Clark concluded, that the President has done, without the consent of Congress, what he had no right to do. In other words, it is a direct endorsement of Stevens and Sumner, and is an assertion that Congress has sole control of the subject of reconstruction. It ignores the Executive's negative, and repudiates, besides, the theory upon which the President's policy has been based, i.e., that the States of the South are and always have been in the Union, they having failed to make their revolution successful. Still more than this: Does not the Convention itself, in its first resolution, after having itself declared the ordinance of secession, passed by the Convention of 1861, to have been at all times and until it practically this will be the effect; for whatever their professions to the contrary, all the legislation of the Radicals thus far, and all that is proposed for the future, is founded upon the assumption that the most just measures are to be resolved. In their haste and eagerness to act *dicti*, *ad hucsum*, some of the members of the Convention are in danger of saying their own words, as well.

We shall not, however, until the actual results of the election, come to a different conviction, that the Convention is prepared to place itself in a position antagonistic to President Johnson, as it would be by the adoption of these resolutions. We do not over-state the fact, when we assert that ninety-nine one-hundredths of the people of North Carolina gratefully endorse and support his wise and benevolent policy. We do not exaggerate, when we further declare the opinion that, in the same proportion, they would prefer to extort their present harsh grievances, rather than voluntarily accept the extension, proscription and degradation of the Stevens-Sumner-Holden-Brownlow programme. Profoundly anxious for reconciliation, and willing to do as they have already done, everything that corresponds with honor, fidelity and safety, in order to accomplish it, there is still a depth of disaffection in which they are unwilling voluntarily to descend. They may be precipitated down to it by the strong arm of Radical fury and vindictiveness, and there may be recrassion in their own midst who will assist in giving them a thrust in the same direction, but we cannot yet believe that an enlightened Convention of the people, accustomed to reflect their sentiments and interests, and acting under the same obligations which the times devolve upon them, will aid in the work.

To return to the subject of the mission: We take the liberty of warning the Convention in time, to beware of their action. So far as the press of the State is an index of the popular will and opinion, it is unanimous, as yet, with one scarcely exception, in its disavowal of the step, particularly that feature of it which proposes to commit Congress upon the subject of reconstruction. Such a proposition is an absurdity, in that no one can specify the means of approaching Congress in its organized capacity; and it will entail a burning disgrace upon the State, if it is contemplated that the State of North Carolina shall look for her rights in the Union with such indignation as Stevens, Sumner, and *co.* are.

P. S.—Since the foregoing was written, the Special Committee to whom the resolutions were referred, will be seen by yesterday's proceedings of the Convention, have reported them back in a modified form—extending the ampler portions of the programme animadverted upon above, and providing for a commission to wait upon the authorities of the Government, instead of upon the President and Congress, as was done. The modified resolutions, in this respect, are open to the same objection as the original. There is no necessity for my Commission, at all, the President having already announced what was required at our hands, and having declared that we have fully complied with his demands—but a proposition, particularly, that conveys a certain application to Congress, aggregately or individually, directly or indirectly, will, we trust, be summarily rejected and spurned.

**JUDICIAL CONVENTION OF N. C.**—This body assembled in the City, to-day.

We are requested to inform delegates that they are expected to assemble in the Sessions Chamber Room, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

The General Synod of the Lutheran Church, in the Southern states, will hold its annual convention in St. John's Church, Cabarrus county, N. C., commencing on the 11th day of June, 1866.

The Memphis correspondent of the New York Evening Tribune, in his report to that journal of the local element, which we copy here, writes that "the citizens of Memphis" are told, "has resulted in the destruction of a low and worthless class, with horrid exceptions, who are directly responsible for these disturbances, and whose conduct is execrable. Mayor is even a yet more guilty participant in this."

An editor of West, who had served on a jury, says that he is so full of it, that it is hard for him to keep from chafing somebody.

There is an old negro in Danville, one hundred and fifteen years old. He has lived over three hundred and seventy years, and the old man, has buried seventeen masters who, we suppose, did not care for him.

### Political Parties.

It cannot be successfully controverted, that the untoward and disastrous results which have befallen the country, within the last five years, were the result of the fierce conflict of parties, the one to hold and the other to gain the control of the government. Conservatism was at too low an ebb in the country, to counteract and defeat the ends and aims of partisan rivalry.

The *carrots* of the whole nation were but a feather in the balance, when contrasted with the stake the schemogogues and fanatics had in the success of the party.

At the North this same bitter, partisan rivalry still exists. The so-called Republican party will sacrifice political consistency, the Constitution and the country, to retain its power. This is a forcible conclusion, and no stone will be left unturned to defeat, and if possible, to demolish the Democratic party. The Democratic party, with a platform conservative, national and constitutional, is nevertheless too weak to contend with the opposition. Its hatred of the opposition is not less intense than that of the enemies, and its eager pursuit after power, after the control of the government, is only equalled by the determination of the Republicans to hold it.

It is thus that, between the two, without any intention on the part of the Democratic party to effect that object, the South is to be ground to powder, if help comes from no other source. We say the Democratic party is too weak to accomplish its object, however good that object may be. Though composed of peace and war Democrats, the party is liable to the stigma of the unpopular nature of having opposed a war for the restoration of the Union. Many of them may truthfully deny this destructive charge, yet the public mind at the North cannot be made to think otherwise. The most rational conclusion therefore must be reached, that while the majority of the war was fought in the memory of the North, no party liable to be stigmatized as the anti-war, anti-Union party, can by any possibility be successful.

With such facts before us, we are forced to the conviction, that any reliance upon the Democratic party at the North, at present, to defeat the Republicans and the utter prostration of the South by the agency of Radical measures, will prove a failure. We, therefore, fall, on one of the best signs of the times, the organization of the Constitutional Union party, composed of conservative men. Hitherto acting with both the Republican and Democratic parties, leading-men throughout the country, who are truly conservative, both Democrats and Republicans, are rallying to that party. It is believed to have the sanction of the President, and certainly gives hope of an organization around which all conservative men can rally, who give their support to the policy of President Johnson, and are ready to re-recognize the South.

This presents the case in its true and proper aspects. The only "dissidents" now to be found, throughout the entire length and breadth of the land, are the Radicals of the North, and their few sympathizers, South. They are not simply theoretical dissidents, either, but the practical tendency of their course is revolutionary and destructive of the bonds of Union.

It will be found, upon examination, that the greater portion of the Southern Radicals are men who were dissidents years before the war, who always preached the doctrine of separation and sought to educate the people to its support. It is impossible for them to learn the lessons of a lifetime. They were for disruption long before there was the necessity imposed to exist for it. They are for it now, practically and really, whatever their professions are.

This view is correct, what is the plain duty of the people of the North Carolina? In this State, whatever may have been the former political differences of our people, it cannot be doubted, that, upon the only vital question which now concerns us, there is a wonderful approach to unanimity. Four-fifths, at least, of the people of North Carolina are united in the support and defense of President Johnson, and his policy, as opposed to "strait-secession" or Radical measures. Our people may almost be said to be unit, in their utter abhorrence and condemnation of the policy of the Radical Congress, and in their desire for the restoration of a Constitutional Union, under the Constitution as is, without further amendment. Gov. Worth is the representative and leader of the Constitutional Union men of North Carolina. He is identified actively with the success of President Johnson's policy, as opposed to Holden-Brownlowism and Radicalism, and his supporters all over the State sympathize with him. Opposition to Gov. Worth, therefore, must embolden and encourage Radicalism, and is calculated to weaken the influence of the President and to engender a spirit of collision and discord, where none should exist.

If the friends of the Holden-Brownlow faction, in the State, that has been propounding a controversy in the State, that has been propounding a controversy of nothing, but evil, they, of course, have the right to do so, but it requires no judgment to predict their rates of overthrow. Intrinsically, this is the only issue in North Carolina. Shall the liberal constitutional policy of President Johnson prevail, or shall the Brownlow-Brownlowism and Radicalism be in the ascendancy?

"All Hail! Edgecombe!" At the County Court of Edgecombe, held last week, the following members of the Special Court were present, viz.: Ex-Gov. H. T. Clark, Chairman; W. H. Battle, David Cobb, L. H. Cherry and W. F. Lewis, Esquires. But Edgecombe, beyond the usual routine, was done.

The report of the Finance committee, of which Judge Howard was chairman, elicited some discussion. The report stated the nominal debt of the county to be \$135,500, in Confederate currency, contracted in Confederate times. This sum, stated to be paid value, amounted to only \$30,100, which the committee urged should be funded to soon as it could be done, in order to prevent the necessity of increased taxation. In the discussion, Judge Howard, who had presided at this meeting, Judge Howard and his friends, and in a eloquent and forcible speech urged the Court to vindicate the integrity of old Edgecombe by immediate action in support of the report.

The Convention, on yesterday, we are glad to see, finally passed the bill, so that it is now a law of the Constitution, and the people of Edgecombe, shall the liberal constitutional policy of President Johnson prevail, or shall the Brownlow-Brownlowism and Radicalism be in the ascendancy?

**All Hail! Edgecombe!** At the County Court of Edgecombe, holding from this City, takes the following more practical and sensible view of the "situation":

"The worthy President, in his introductory speech to the Convention, at its last session, declared that "we are trying hard." A distinguished member present, turning to another, said: "Why, we are, we have always been hard." Your correspondent is incapable of appreciating the sentiment of either; for, after so many years of trying to get there, he feels so, if the only way of accomplishing that object is to continue our course in improving our own State—governance, its organic law, cultivate fraternal feelings with both sections, bury all past strife, and, *done all*, never to let our self-respecting constituents know, *never to let our constituents* feel so hard."

The amendment was agreed to, in the same section, the word "done" to insert after "hard." Mr. Moore, of Moore, offered a substitute for article IV, except sections 3 and 4, of the Constitution, as reported by the committee, and motioned to the committee to strike out the same.

On motion of Mr. Moore, Sec. 3 of article III was unengaged, but the words "or above" and "and inserting words" of at least,

Mr. Moore moved to amend the same section, by striking out the words "or above" and inserting the words "or less than five years" and inserting the words "are immediately presented to his excellency agreed to year as

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On motion of Mr. Moore, section 1 of article V was agreed to, in the same section, the word "done" to insert after the words "and inserting words" in his speech.

The Convention adjourned until the evening of tomorrow.

The Report concerning the names of the committees appointed by Mr. McDonald's association, was made to one of its members, Mr. Winslow, member of the committee. For Mr. Winslow's report should have said

Mr. Thompson.

## STATE CONVENTION.

ADJOURNED SESSION.

MONDAY, JUNE 4.

The Convention was called to order at ten o'clock A. M.

Prayer by Rev. J. M. Atkinson, of the Presbyterians Church.

The Journal of Saturday was read and approved.

Mr. McGeehee, for the select committee to which was referred Mr. McDonald's resolutions declaring what has been done, and appointing a Committee to ascertain what is necessary to be done, to restore the State to the Federal Union, reported the following as a substitute:

"We see eleven states that have laid down their arms, are obedient to the Constitution and the laws, and are anxious to resume the exercise of their constitutional rights, forcibly deprived of them, heavily taxed without representation and ruled by laws in the making of which they have not the slightest voice. And this done by a party that calls itself Union and Republican. Pray, gentlemen, if this be Union what is disunion? If this be Republican what is despotism? Did ever any one hear English rule over Ireland, Austrian rule over Hungary, and Russian rule over Poland called republican? I fancy not—and where do they differ in principle? We see a party which calls itself Union and Republican, with a platform conservative, national and constitutional, is nevertheless too weak to contend with the opposition. Its hatred of the opposition is not less intense than that of its enemies, and its eager pursuit after power, after the control of the government, is only equalled by the determination of the Republicans to hold it.

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