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## THE SENTINEL.

WM. E. PELL, SEATON GALES,  
EDITORS.

SATURDAY, JULY 6, 1867.

THE MASS MEETING INDEPENDENCE DAY.

The attempt which was made in this city by the leaders of the mongrel Convention which met here the 27th of March last, to connect partisan politics with the legitimate proceedings of the 4th of July, was in complete keeping with the deception and hypocrisy of the leaders of the Radicals in this State.

For more than six weeks before the 4th, a "great mass meeting in Raleigh" was publicly advertised to take place on that day. It was to be a party rally, "a mass meeting of the Republicans; distinguished speakers from a distance may be expected. Let the people of both races come up by thousands to aid in the great work of reconstruction." No mention was made of Independence day, nor are we aware that any subsequent announcement was made of a public celebration of the day by oration, &c.

In this and the adjoining counties, the blacks were very generally urged to come to the "great celebration of the 4th" to come with their banners and the paraphernalia attached to their numerous secret associations. And they came in large numbers and were marched down, in company with similar associations of the City, to the grave in the rear of what used to be the Governor's Mansion, to the *celebration*. The number of blacks, male and female, who did not join in the procession, out-numbered the procession largely. A gentleman with a practised eye, and who went to see the crowd and to estimate its numbers, informs us that the largest estimate of the colored persons present, which he could make, was about 4,000, nearly half of whom were women and children. Knowing the uniform and prevalent disposition to overestimate large crowds, we are of opinion that it did not exceed three thousand. During the speaking, it was observed that a large number of blacks were still on the streets in groups and passing about, who did not go to the speaking. Three thousand blacks actually in attendance upon the great mass meeting, is, therefore, a safe estimate. There were a number of white persons who went to see the sight, but not to participate in a partisan political meeting on the 4th of July. Not a single U. S. officer in uniform, we are told, was observed on the ground. Capt. Pepper, we understand, was the only U. S. officer who participated in the meeting. Not a speaker or a gentleman, from abroad, appeared in the assemblage. The only whites observed to participate were Messrs. W. W. Holden, J. W. Holden, C. L. Harris, Capt. Pepper, David Wicker, "Hawk" Rogers, Mr. Brewer and C. L. Rogers, and Fauntleroy Taylor, in the eleventh hour.

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intelligence or position have any thing to do in making up a fit political mass meeting, with the view of controlling public affairs.

The object of those resolutions could not receive the votes of 5,000 people in the State, black or white, at all capable of understanding them. Numbers, unless they have some intelligence, ought not certainly to control in public affairs. No intelligent Republican in this State, unless he has caught the Radical frenzy, but would soon to give his sanction to any such project.

## HISTORY OF NORTH CAROLINA.

It is important that the idea of drawing out of some competent citizen, a correct and thorough history of the people and State of North Carolina, must not be suffered to pass from the public mind. The suggestions of the *Warrington Indicator*, some time since, upon this subject, and endorsed by the press of the State, seem to have slumbered and been forgotten. We would like to give those suggestions, and again urge their importance.

Time is rapidly passing away. Our old men are fast being removed from the stage. The present is the only generation that can, with any degree of certainty, connect the past with the future. What is known and treasured up by the present actors will hardly be left in such reliable and trustworthy form, if no real history be written, and a world proper data for the future historian. Hence the absolute necessity of having a history begun and completed by one now living, who has himself been conspicuously connected with the past.

There are several gentlemen in the State fully competent to do this work, could they have access to the many sources of information which might now be obtained, but we can think of no one so well prepared, from his long habits of research, and the vast fund of information at his command, to write the history of North Carolina as the Hon. D. L. Swain, of the University. He could, by no means, embute in the memories of the people of N. C. his own virtues and excellencies, nor rear a better monument to his own services for the State, than by giving to his fellow citizens such a history as he could bring forth. We hope, therefore, he will once longer hesitate, but commence the work at once, seeing he has no time to lose.

RECONSTRUCTION.

The New York *World* says: "The Southern people have been hardly and unjustly dealt by in this whole business of reconstruction. It was no fault of theirs that the different departments of the Government fell to quarrelling over the conditions of restoration. When they had thrown down their arms and submitted, they were entitled to know what would be required of them. Two years and three months have elapsed, and they still kept in ignorance. They have a right to demand that this uncertainty, so disgraceful to the Government, shall be removed by a simple, perspicuous, self-interpreting law, informing them without ambiguity of the terms imposed, and pledging the honor of Congress to their prompt readmission when the prescribed terms are complied with."

## STATE ITEMS.

The Winston *Advertiser* understands that eight cents per pound have been offered for dried berries, and one merchant has paid as high as ten cents, but it has no idea the price will be justified in expecting such prices in future.

The Salisbury *Banner* says that quite a storm passed through that section last Tuesday, heavy rain, hail and wind. Crops in some portions of its passage were seriously damaged. Fences were blown down, and, it adds, "we regret to learn that Mr. Pennington's house top was blown off. Mr. Pennington is the same gentleman whose house was struck by lightning a short time since."

The Fourth of July celebrations in Salisbury and Greensboro were purely formal. The *Old North State* gives the following account of its observance in the former place:

In compliance with the order of Gen. L. Harris, (who voted against negro evidence), pre-arranged. The reading of the Declaration of Independence, though anything else but a Radical document, and the oration, were necessary to catch those who came to the *celebration*. A good judge tells us that Capt. Pepper's oration indicated ability and oratory in the speaker, but was expressed in language quite above the capacity of his hearers. The rain which dispersed the crowd marred the oration, though it was completed afterwards of its political character, we have no satisfactory information, though what we heard of it authorized the humor in which we indulged on yesterday. Of the other speakers we have no information beyond our yester day's remark.

The speaking being over, Mr. Holden offered a series of resolutions, the main feature of which was, imploring the Congress to remove the State Government. This was the chief object of the whole affair, doubtless. We are further informed that Senator Wilson, or some body else at Washington, was telegraphed to, informing him that 7,000 persons had assembled in mass meeting here. This of course is designed to make capital with Congress, to induce it to do a very foolish thing, i.e., the entire destruction of all law and all civil rule in the Southern States. If this rumor about the colored people in town have conducted themselves with much propriety."

Wm. Eaton, Jr., Esq. of Warrington, has contracted with Jno. Murphy & Co., Publishers, of Baltimore, for the publication of the second edition of his valuable "Book of Forms."

The murderers of the Foshee family of Jones County are still at large. The citizens of Newbern are making up a considerable sum to be offered as a reward for the capture of the black villains, and we presume that the Governor will also offer a substantial reward.

THE IMPEACHMENT COMMITTEE.

The Judiciary Committee of the House, having in charge the investigation of the conduct of President Johnson, in view of pre-meditated impeachment, held another session yesterday, at which ex Attorney General Speed was examined. We understand no facts have been elicited by the recent examinations of witnesses calculated in the slight degree to change the opinion of a majority, officially expressed on a former occasion, namely, that the evidence does not warrant a recommendation of impeachment. It is understood that majority and minority reports will be made. Mr. Wilson, chairman of the committee, will prepare the former. His report will not be delivered, however, in Messrs. Marshall and Eldridge in all respects, but the conclusion arrived at, as embodied in the resolution to the effect above stated, will receive their sanction and that of a majority of the committee. — *National Intelligencer*, 3d.

We stated, on yesterday, that just about the time Mr. Holden introduced his resolutions, the platform fell, tumbling the load off which it bore. A woman and child were considerably hurt, we learn, by the fall. But the resolutions most pass, the "mass meeting," and after the excitement was over, they were read and of course adopted. We venture that not more than five hundred of the crowd heard the resolutions, distinctly, and we are sure that not more than one hundred of them were capable of appreciating the character and design of the resolutions. A more perfect fail in the pass, for a mass meeting, has seldom occurred in the State, if character, in-

## Correspondence of the Sentinel.

THOMASVILLE, N. C., July 3rd, 1867.

Messrs. Editors.—Although I have traveled over a large portion of our State, I have seen few prettier villages of its kind than Thomasville. It is evidently a Rail Road town, and seems to have grown up alongside the N. C. R. R. The houses are mostly of late dates, and house painting is evidently more highly appreciated here than in most towns.

It is becoming noted for its manufactures, especially the article of shoes. There are at present two establishments for manufacturing men, women, girls and boys' shoes all pegged work.

The Shelly Brothers, two enterprising young men, have a shoe factory that does them very great credit. They have the latest machinery. The leather for soles is rolled and cut by machinery; the soles, pegging, closing, and all, is done by highly improved machinery. They have visited the best factories of the country, and purchased such implements as have been found to be the best adapted to the business.

The prince among the machines of the factory is the pegging machine. I saw a shoe pegged within *thirty six seconds*, and yet strongly done, so as to render it very durable. Every article is made to last, and the cost of production is less than that of hand labor.

This establishment is as clean and well arranged as a place of the kind could well be kept. Everything is in order, and the ten years have exposed the "old debtors" will have disappeared. It is safe to say the

construction will not allow this. A Constitution which allowed the evil, will allow the remedy. A way can be found if it is sought for. With regard to debts, I would advise the manufacturer to pay him, and to sue for damages, if necessary to exempt from execution. I think this rule will be generally accepted and, before the ten years have expired, the "old debtors" will have disappeared. It is safe to say the

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