

The Semi-Weekly Sentinel.

VOL. 2.

RALEIGH, N. C., SATURDAY, JULY 13, 1867.

NO. 13.

THE SENTINEL.

W. E. PELL, PROPRIETOR.

ABOLISHING THE STATE GOVERNMENTS."

In the resolution said to have been adopted by the Radical mass meeting in this City, on the Fourth of July, calling upon Congress to abolish our present State organization, the reason for the demand is based upon the ground that the persons composing that meeting would thus be relieved "of a government that oppresses us, and which, as its interests and impulses are hostile to reconstruction, loses no opportunity to impede or embarrass the return of the State to the Union." Now we have heretofore expressed the opinion that not five hundred individuals in this gathering heard the resolutions read, and that, perhaps, not one-fifth of that number understood their purport and design, when heard, and that, consequently they really go to Congress and the world only as the vindictive utterance of a mere handful of disappointed and despoiled political adventurers.

Still, it is claimed that the resolution in question expressed the sentiments of those who were present. In all the audience large as it was, there were only some six or eight persons with white skins *participating* in our people. The inconstancy as to the future parades every business operation in the State. It is worse than military rule or bushwhack or hot crops.

Believe, therefore, that speedy reconstruction is due to the material, present and future interests of the people, and satisfied that the *conservative* programme is even less fully, though all opposition, we regard it as one of the highest duties of all citizens, white and colored, who are destined to *resist* and to *vote* for delegates to a State Convention. We cannot conceive that any good reason can exist why any citizen of the State who is not disfranchised should *not* be registered and vote.

But, letting differences alone, the counsel of the *Register* establishes one thing which we have always believed, viz.—That the genuine, consistent, all the time, friends of the State are influenced by none of the vindictive and proscriptive person and party that mark the latter day *anti*-the Radical *epoch* that have been hatched from the seces' *egg*. The men who do not believe in the right of self-government, and who are destined to *resist* and to *vote* for delegates to a State Convention. We cannot conceive that any good reason can exist why any citizen of the State who is not disfranchised should *not* be registered and vote.

Every voter in the State should register, and, if necessary, he should be compelled to do so, in order to perform at least his duty. We can conceive of no better method than the one just adopted in Rowan County, at a meeting held at Salisbury on Saturday last. We copy the following proceedings from the *Old North State*:

In pursuance of a previous notice, on Saturday, the 10th inst., a goodly number of citizens of both white and colored, assembled at the Court House to consider the importance of registering, and to have an explanation of the rules to be applied to those who propose to register.

The meeting was opened by the appointment of John K. Graham, Esq., as Chairman, and Thaddeus Wood and Lewis, Esq., as secretaries.

The object of the meeting was briefly ex-

plained by Major Robbins, after which the audience was addressed by Messrs. Luke Blackmer, W. H. Bailey and F. E. Shober, Col. A. C. Jones and Dr. J. W. Jones.

It was then declared to be the sense of the meeting, that the Chairman appoint one or more committees to address the people of the county at each of the Sheriff's Tax Gatherings, where the following gentlemen were appointed: Mr. Gholson's Bridge, July 18th; Luke Blackmer, Esq., Gillespie's, July 18th; Dr. J. G. Ramsey, Mt. Uta, July 19th; F. E. Shober, Esq., McCompton's, July 19th; Col. H. C. Jones, Attwells, July 21st; J. E. King, Esq., Latimer's, July 25th; Dr. T. W. Bailey, Hartwell's, July 25th; Dr. T. W. Hall, Haines' Shop, July 31st; W. H. Bailey, Esq., Morrisons, August 1st; Oberholser, Westmoreland, Esq., Gold Hill, August 2d; M. J. Hodges, Esq., Miller's August 2d; James M. McGehee, Esq.,

Information, the papers of the town were requested to publish the proceedings, when the meeting adjourned.

John K. GRAHAM, Chairman
Oleander Woods, Esq., Secretaries.
Lewis Bane.

Now we fully endorse the objects of that meeting, and the plans adopted. We insist upon it, that the *conservative* people of the State, who we mean all of those who are in favor of a full registration of every white vote, as well as every colored voter, in the State, should call at once a meeting in every County, and that similar plans shall be adopted everywhere to effect *universal registration*.

Did not these men, we mean the few whites who concocted these resolutions for we have no idea they express the sentiments of any of the blacks, except a few "sooty" and ambitious "darkies," realize the fact that in masking such a statement as obtained in this resolution, they were casting a severe reflection upon Gen. Sickles, Gen. Miles, and the military authorities generally and thereby "impeding and embarrassing the work of reconstruction?" If any class of men in this State are "oppressed," is it not Gen. Sickles' sworn obligation, under the Sherman Act, to see that justice is done and the guilty parties punished? If freedmen, particularly, are "oppressed," where is the Bureau, with its Argus eyes and its far-reaching arms? If any officer of the State government, in any of its ramifications, has, in any manner, interposed to retard, much less "impede or embarrass," the due and proper execution of the Reconstruction Acts, was it not a deficiency, on the part of Gen. Sickles, to allow it? Has he not had full and plenary power to prevent and arrest it? Did not Gen. Pope promptly do this, in the case of Gov. Jenkins, of Georgia, when the latter simply published a letter in opposition to the acceptance of the terms of the Military Bill?

The truth is, as we have said, this resolution is all clap-trap. It asserts a false hood,—the offspring of blind and impotent malice. It will return "to plague the in-victors."

We invite attention to the excellent article, on our first page from the New York *Advertiser*, in reference to secret political organizations, outcome especially known as the "Grand Army of the Republic," an association highly commanded by certain Southern Radicals, who never were in any army. We are pleased to see that the *Advertiser* of this City repudiates the same article, as evidence that its own views, on the subject, are in accord with those of the *Advertiser*.

CHARLESTON, July 11, 1867.
To his Excellency, Jonathan Worth,
Governor of North Carolina.

The Registration of voters in this Military District, provided by Gen. Order No. 18, dated May 8, 1867, will not take place until further orders.

By command of Gen. Sickles,
J. W. CLOUD,
Capt. & A. A. G.

THE MISERATION.—We have seen the statement going the rounds, that Gen. Sickles had compelled the recent marriage of the white man, Thornton, in Fayetteville, to the negro woman. The last Fayetteville *News*, alluding to the matter, says that the whole affair was done under no compulsion by the military or any other agency. An order was granted by Gen. Sickles, giving permission and authority for the marriage to take place, but it was coupled with an express disapprobation of the step to be taken. This is as we expected. The previous relations of the guilty parties, taken in connection with the man's peculiar politics, rendered it necessary that the marriage should take place; and permission was accordingly given.

A circular has been issued from the Freedmen's Bureau of Tennessee, instructing the negroes to vote for whom they please, and assuring them that they should be driven from their crops or denied employment in consequence, the Bureau will make provision for them.

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The cry of our young men, if more of them may be expected.

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