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THE SENTINEL.

WM. E. PELL, Proprietor.

U. S. BANKRUPT LAW.

The number of persons who have sought relief from the Bankrupt law in this State, seems to be much smaller than was anticipated. There are many objections, in all [illegible] kind. Yet there are [illegible] which honest men are fully justified in seeking its advantages. If ever a people can be justified, it is the people of the South. Yet many are deterred, first, by the hope that [illegible] may turn up which will relieve them, without going into bankruptcy; secondly, by their anxiety that what they have left might and ought to be applied [illegible] class of creditors, [illegible] instance, [illegible] ing to see their property [illegible] as it must be [illegible] per cent. fourthly, [illegible] tors such [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] almost every [illegible] present [illegible] [illegible] next four or five years.

We believe the [illegible] are fast tending [illegible] certain [illegible] tion, can it [illegible]

Now if the general [illegible] Southern man [illegible] What [illegible] debt, *debt, debt.* [illegible] work daily [illegible] their demands, is there any hope. Who can pay debts, when property will not bring twenty five per cent. of its value. Who can hope to pay debts, when money cannot be borrowed [illegible] per cent. on short time? [illegible] the [illegible] Radical candidates [illegible] which meets in January next, [illegible] everything. What folly! What [illegible] United States [illegible] lieve that a State Convention would be worth the paper upon which it was written [illegible]

We have thought on this subject, and we have been anxious to find out some way of escape for our people [illegible] begin life upon and [illegible] bankrupt law. That law allows [illegible] which is not enough to enable him to purchase a little home [illegible] support for his family. But [illegible] said, will make [illegible] [illegible] with debt, to be the tools of Shylocks who will ultimately take all we have, and leave *nothing* for ourselves or honest creditors.

Heaven knows we [illegible] valuable [illegible] We therefore, must say, that it is our [illegible] every man or woman, or corporation, in the South, who is really bankrupt, had better at once take the benefit [illegible] The Books of the [illegible]

If our [illegible] [illegible]

Who may take advantage of the law?

Any person or firm who owes debts to the amount of three hundred dollars or upward, whether they be individual, or partnership debts, or both, and it makes no difference what is the character of the indebtedness, whether it be by bill, note, judgment, as principal or surety, or otherwise.

What does the law permit the applicant? That he shall surrender his property, except such as is hereafter mentioned, to his creditors, for a pro rata distribution among them.

What does the law permit the applicant to keep?

First. Household and kitchen furniture, [illegible] to the amount of $500.

Second. The wearing apparel of himself and family.

Third. The uniform, arms and equipments of any person who is or has been a soldier in the militia or the service of the United States.

Fourth. If the applicant is the head of a family, his homestead, to the value of $500. [illegible] to the value of $500.

[illegible]

The law went into operation on the 1st day of June 1867, and persons who [illegible] the consent of a majority in number and value of the creditors.

* * *

SENTINEL. — A friend has called our attention to two articles in the *Standard*, [illegible] a Confederate [illegible] Executive [illegible] South [illegible] at the steps, dropped [illegible] the Senior Editor of the *Standard* [illegible] "the poor man." The [illegible] that the Senior [illegible] good he has intended. He only seeks to [illegible]

[illegible] the Editors of the *Standard* [illegible] For the Senior Editor most [illegible]

The *Standard*, which never loses an opportunity [illegible] Governor [illegible] Gov. Worth [illegible] He has [illegible] Every one knows [illegible] Gov. Worth, and that [illegible] poor [illegible] in the State.

[illegible] *Standard* [illegible] [illegible]

* * *

[illegible] We [illegible] stated that the [illegible] *Standard* and its [illegible] Capt. Lee and Mr. Farris, in consideration of their valuable services in the late elections, &c. Farris was particularly anxious, we learn, to get Sheriff Ray's place, but the superior claims of Capt. Lee for the office of Sheriff led to the nomination of Mr. Farris for Mayor! We simply mention these things as items of news, without knowing whether they are true or false.

RADICAL REGARD FOR THE "POOR WHITES."

We had occasion, some time since, to produce some extracts from a speech of the Hon. Mr. Kelly, of Pennsylvania, a prominent Radical politician, in the lower House of Congress, in which he indulged in the most shameless caricature of the character and condition of those whom he termed the "poor whites" of the South, including, as he said, by far the larger portion of the population. He described them as living in idleness and abject poverty, or subsisting only by thieving and poaching.

Virtually the same infamous slander has just been reiterated in the Senate of the United States, by Mr. Drake, the Radical Senator from Missouri, who, in the course of a bitter diatribe against the President, a few days since, and while justifying negro suffrage, said:

"The negro voters were now *as much superior to the* WHITE TRASH around them, as the white trash was superior to the negro when he was in slavery."

We do not know the fact but we will venture the opinion, that the man Drake, who thus libels the Southern people, [illegible] with the temper and disposition of Southern renegades to vilify those whom they have betrayed and by whom they are despised. If he be from the South, he is unlike any of the family of that name with whom we are acquainted. He has gotten so low that they would scorn to recognize him.

But we put Mr. Drake's declaration on record as an illustration of the Radical estimate of the laboring white men of the South. The Radicals are so enamored of Cuffee, that they regard him as a species of ebony demigod in comparison with whom the white men of the South, in point of character, virtue, fitness to enjoy the blessings and prosperity [illegible] privileges of government [illegible] degraded [illegible] tendency of the Radical [illegible] suffrage and [illegible] [illegible] Hitherto, they [illegible] Radicalism [illegible] on the floor of the United States Senate, [illegible] superior mental [illegible]

We call the attention of our white working men [illegible] They [illegible] Radical leaders in this State, who profess, because just now [illegible] They may see, as [illegible] negro suffrage, their own debasement and degradation, in all the elements of manhood and in all the competitions of trade, *below* the level of the African.

We [illegible] with scorn and contempt the infamous libel of this Radical Senator. There is not on the face of the globe a more worthy, industrious, high minded class of people, than those whom he impudently stigmatizes as "white trash," by which offensive epithet he means our laboring classes. The [illegible] "nigger" which he glorifies.

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DESTRUCTIVE FIRE IN WILSON. — We regret to learn that a fire broke out in the Dry Goods Store of a Mr. Walton, in Wilson, on Sunday last, which, before it could be subdued, consumed a large amount of property. The fire originated as above, and then communicated to the adjoining building, occupied by Mr. Rosenthal. Next Messrs. Biggs & Co., grocers, met the same fate; then the adjoining house, occupied by Mr. E. E. Blake, and the next occupied by Mr. Kincaide. So rapid was the spread of the flames, and so threatening for the safety of the town, that it was found necessary to tear down the post-office building adjoining that of Mr. Kincaide. This stopped the conflagration.

Mr. Walton's stock was entirely consumed, he saving probably but a few hundred dollars worth of goods. His loss is estimated at $7,000. The other dealers were mostly fortunate in saving their stock. The buildings were all composed of wood and consumed very rapidly. It is estimated the entire loss will reach $75,000. The fire was the work of an incendiary.

* * *

AN ACT OF SHEER COWARDICE. — From the report of the proceedings in the House of Representatives yesterday, it appears that the District negro equality bill was passed there as well as by the Senate. The passage of the bill is the most cowardly act that any body of men could be guilty of. There is hardly one man among those who voted for it who would dare to advocate its enforcement in his own State, or his own district, but simply because they have the power, they have attempted to impose upon the people of this District obnoxious and oppressive laws that they dare not even advocate at home. The passage of this bill by Congress is an insult, not only to the people of the District of Columbia, but to the whole country, and particularly to Pennsylvania, New York, Ohio, Indiana, Kansas, Connecticut, and the other Northern and Western States, which have lately emphatically expressed their opposition to negro suffrage. — *Nat. Intel.*

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It is as certain as day, if the Radicals do not now relax their hold upon the throats of the Southern white population, whether stratified with the rebellion or not, the gloomy fate that awaits the negro after the reaction that is now occurring in the North shall swell, as it certainly must, into an overwhelming torrent, will be neither distant nor problematical. The white people of the North and West will in no event sanction the horrid policy of negro supremacy, and their verdict will, in due time, settle the whole question. — *New York Herald.*

CONSERVATIVE MEETING IN CHOWAN.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. S. T. Bond. Mr. Saml. Long was chosen Chairman and Mr. W. B. Shepard Secretary.

Mr. W. A. Moore moved that a committee of five be appointed to draft resolutions expressive of the object of the meeting. This motion being carried, the Chairman appointed the following named gentlemen: Messrs. A. M. Moore, Saml. T. Bond, Rich and D. Simpson, Timothy Ward and A. R. Creecy.

After a short absence the committee reported the accompanying resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

Whereas, the recent election in our State has made apparent to the Conservative people, a united and bitter opposition to every interest not fostered by the Radical party, a persistent attempt to throw the political power into the hands of alien citizens, demagogues and wicked and malignant men; and whereas it has been, and is now, proclaimed that all who supported Conservative men, are opposed to the government of the United States, enemies to the black people and malcontents and rebels at heart; and whereas, in times of danger, it behooves [illegible]

Resolved, That we behold [illegible] systematic course of the black people [illegible]

Resolved, That we are attached to the principles of the Constitution of the United States as framed by our forefathers, and as expounded by the great and wise statesmen of the country.

Resolved, That we hail with pleasure the apparent return to reason and justice of the masses of the people, as manifested by the recent elections in the Northern States, and we assure them that no effort will be spared on our part, to restore the State of North Carolina to its proper position in the Union on Constitutional principles.

Resolved, That we are in favor of the encouragement of every interest tending to develope the resources of the State; that we are in favor of a united and liberal inducement to emigrants and are willing to extend to them every advantage in our power; that in our opinion a Convention of all the counties of the 1st. Congressional District, to take into consideration and devise some plan to induce emigration from abroad, would be highly expedient and practical, and to that end we hereby extend a cordial invitation to the people of those counties, to elect delegates to such Convention, to be held in Edenton on some early day.

Resolved, That we favor the organization of a Conservative party, opposed to all the higher law doctrines advocated by ultra men of both sections; that we accept in good faith the results of the war, and throwing aside all former prejudices and resentments call on Conservative men of all parties to unite with us in the work of restoration and peace.

Resolved, That we approve of a Convention of the Conservative men to meet in the city of Raleigh.

Mr. J. R. B. Hathaway then moved that three delegates from each District of the County should be appointed by the Chairman to attend the Conservative Convention to meet in Raleigh. This motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. A. M. Moore then addressed the meeting in an appropriate and animated speech, and was followed by Mr. S. T. Bond with some very appropriate and suitable remarks.

It was resolved that these proceedings and resolutions be published in the Raleigh *Sentinel* and Edenton *Express*.

SAML. LONG, Chm'n.

W. B. SHEPARD, Sec'y.

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SCHOOL GIRLS POISONED BY BELLADONNA. — One day last week a physician in good standing was hurriedly sent for to attend a little girl who had come home from school in absolute convulsions, [illegible] by rolling over the floor and screaming like a mad Indian. The doctor saw evident traces of some sort of poison, and closely questioned the [illegible] had been eating, [illegible] "Nothing." [illegible] patient No. 1, [illegible] squares away [illegible] repeating the prescription [illegible] and revealed a similar case exactly.

These three [illegible] *apolis Journal.*

* * *

Impeachment has been put [illegible] National Grand [illegible] dictment against Andrew Johnson. Now let us proceed to Retrenchment, Reform, and the final Reconstruction of the State. — *N. Y. Tribune, December 7.*

All mere cant, Mr. Greeley, [illegible] Your party is like the [illegible] boy in fear of detection. [illegible] ped now I'll be real good always after this." What you mean to say, Mr. Greeley, is this: "We Have Made Ourselves Ridiculous, Contemptible, And Disgraced The Nation But perhaps The Nation will Forget It, If We Pay A Little Attention To Our Business Hereafter, And are Real Good Fellows."

Don't deceive yourselves, Messrs Radicals. You have made your bed, and, nasty as it is, you must lie in it till you are pitchforked to your proper place. — *N. Y. World.*

THE GREAT VIRGINIA CONSERVATIVE CONVENTION.

The great Convention of the Conservatives of Virginia, which assembled in Richmond, on [illegible] was attended by between 800 and 1,000 delegates, embracing a large number of the most distinguished gentlemen in the State. Thus far, we have only seen, in detail, the first day's proceedings, through the telegraph, our yesterday's [illegible]

The following is the [illegible] of the Hon. A. H. H. Stuart, on taking [illegible] the Chair:

Gentlemen of the Convention: I thank you for the honor you have done me in calling me to preside over a Convention which [illegible]

[illegible] Thank Heaven [illegible] Whigs or Democrats [illegible]

Whatever may be [illegible] draw from the Union, I think I may safely affirm that they have been abandoned [illegible]

The people of Virginia [illegible] They feel [illegible] the longer continuance of the present unhappy state [illegible] all the evils of which we complain.

When the war ceased we were told that if we annulled our ordinance of secession, and repudiated the Confederate debt, and perfected the emancipation of our slaves by adopting the constitutional amendments, we would be restored to our Constitutional rights. To these conditions we promptly acceded, because they involved no sacrifice of our self-respect and were attended by no national degradation. We have faithfully fulfilled all these conditions, and yet our rights are withheld. May we not, under these circumstances, appeal to the justice and good faith of the North for the redemption of the promises thus made to us.

Looking to events which have happened in other Southern States, the people of Virginia have been led to fear that a policy is to be inaugurated there which tends, if it be not designed, to subvert our whole social fabric and to bring the land of Washington, Henry, Jefferson, Madison and Marshall, under the dominion of an alien and inferior race. We should be false to all the instincts of humanity, false to the blood which courses through our veins, false to every obligation of duty to ourselves, our kindred and our country, if we did not earnestly protest against and seek to arrest so fearful a calamity.

We hope our fears may be unfounded. We hope we may be spared this attempted degradation. But it is the part of prudence to guard against all contingencies. It is for this purpose that we have met to take counsel together to-day. We wish with one united voice to appeal to the patriotic people of the North to come to our relief and stay the hands of those who would oppress and degrade us.

We desire further to perfect our organization, so that all who desire that this shall continue to be a white man's government may be able to act in concert, and by one vigorous and united effort save ourselves from ruin and disgrace. We prefer military rule to the despotism of an ignorant rabble. And we wish to declare, with earnestness and emphasis, that, come what may, we and those we represent can never agree that this shall be any other than a white man's government. Our rights may be wrested from us by violence, but we will never agree that our proud old mother shall be presented in the attitude of consenting to her own degradation.

The Richmond *Enquirer*, commenting upon the character of the Convention, says:

"The vast throng of gentlemen who yesterday filled every seat in our spacious Theatre, proved that Virginia is neither dead nor sleeping. In the days of the old Commonwealth there could not have assembled a body more remarkable for distinguished talents than the Conservative Convention now in session [illegible] the leaders of the old Whig and Democrat [illegible] [illegible] Washington, Henry [illegible]

No one can [illegible] this very able body [illegible] will not become the serfs of the negroes and their depraved white [illegible] upon the part of every delegate to the Convention a ready acquiescence in the right of the Federal Government to exact obedience to the Constitution and laws, but there is a fixed and most resolute determination that the negro shall not be permitted to destroy that splendid fabric of civilization, the foundation of which our ancestors laid centuries ago. There is not a delegate to the Convention who does not cheerfully award to the negro every right which is essential to the security of his life and property, but the bold, resolute spirit of the body dwelt on the thought of the brutal negro, and the still more degraded white renegade, becoming their masters.

In no convention which ever met in Virginia was the State so thoroughly represented as in this body. Not less, we imagine, than eight hundred delegates, at a time of great pecuniary scarcity, have braved the inclemency of winter, and are here from the mountains to the sea-shore. From the Valley, [illegible] Tidewater, [illegible] and the Eastern Shore [illegible] Venerable Virginians of the old school, the friends of Randolph, of Jefferson and Monroe, the surviving members of Conventions and Legislatures which have become famous in history, have emerged from long retirement, and are here to encourage by their counsels the youth who are just entering upon the arena of life.

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THE GEORGIA CONSERVATIVE CONVENTION — CLOSING ADDRESS OF THE HON. B. H. HILL, ITS PRESIDENT.

[illegible]

Never, my friends, be afraid of the truth. Never be afraid to speak, to act, to defend the truth. In proportion as you have been maligned the Constitution has been tattered and torn. Too long have you been absent from the Councils of the Nation, and during that absence the Constitution has been disregarded, despoiled, trampled upon and cast out. And now, with glad hearts and glorious welcome, the true friends of liberty will hail your coming again! And you will return with an earnest purpose to aid those whom you have left too long in unequal contest, in restoring the Constitution of our fathers and the prosperity of our common country. Do not be discouraged. Stand by the Constitution, and the day of your restoration and its triumph is sure and near.

True, your work in Convention has ended, but the great work has yet to be accomplished. Go home, and as you go, and when you go, speak words of encouragement and counsel to your neighbors. Let it be in your hearts, in your actions, in your determinations that this fair land in which we were born and reared ought not, need not, and *shall* not be brought under the dominion of the negro and destroyed as the heritage of our children.

Organize; in every county organize. Not in secret, hidden conclaves as those who do evil, but in the open daylight and before the eyes of men, for the sun in the clearest hour of his noon is not brighter than the [illegible] purpose which moves you and the high work which you seek to accomplish.

You represent a people who know what suffering means. They have lost their property [illegible] their children and companions, they have seen their cities burned and their country laid waste; even now they see their industry paralyzed and their fields lying [illegible] But thank God, [illegible]

[illegible] this Convention adjourned without a day.

* * *

THE LAWFUL JURY REINSTATED.

The order of Gen. Hancock reinstating trial by jury, [illegible] his administration, the spirit and policy of his administration. This order is [illegible] powers of the State to prescribe who shall be eligible as jurors, and for the courts of the State to decide upon the qualifications [illegible] existing legislative provisions. Gen. Hancock's predecessor [illegible] the composition of [illegible] determined by the judiciary in [illegible]

A [illegible] for military interference in this [illegible] identity [illegible] Under the Constitution [illegible] Congress [illegible] all events, before [illegible] legally drawn by the officer of our State Courts, while the State law respecting juries remains as it is, the Convention is [illegible] to adopt a Constitution which shall confer suffrage on the blacks, and this Constitution must be ratified, as provided in the reconstruction act, and be recognized as obligatory and operative by the judiciary of the State. To overlook the distinctions here indicated, and to seek an argument for a flagrant military interference with the rightful power of the judiciary by confusing persons who have voted under the self limiting reconstruction act with the qualified voters under the existing Constitution and laws of the State, was something below ordinary pettifogging. — *New Orleans Crescent.*

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From the National Intelligencer.

In California the resolutions adopted by the State Convention *were unequivocal in their condemnation of negro suffrage and the usurpation of Congress*; and Governor Haight, immediately after his election was announced, addressed the citizens of San Francisco, and proclaimed *that the vote of the State was a protest of the people of California against the military bills.*

In Ohio the resolutions under which the canvass was conducted denounced, in the most emphatic manner, *negro equality in the North and negro supremacy in the South.*

In New Jersey the language of the canvass was directed against the action and measures of the Congress *in every respect unmeasured.*

And in Pennsylvania the resolutions of the Convention were worthy of the palmy days of Virginia, and reasserted the great fundamental doctrines of the Virginia and Kentucky platform of '98-'99.

In every State in which the negro suffrage issue was presented, they discarded it with an indignant uprising heretofore unexampled. In Ohio there was a change of nearly one hundred thousand votes. In Pennsylvania the Democratic party overcame the large balance of seventeen thousand standing against them. And in New York the Republican majority of 1866 was not only overcome, but a Democratic majority was carried of nearly fifty thousand.

It follows, then, beyond all cavil, that the people of the North and West have plainly and most substantially condemned and repudiated the [illegible] policy of the Republican party in Congress. It is also [illegible] that the mischievous innovations and [illegible] of the Republican party, combined of an equal proportion of [illegible] and [illegible] optimism, [illegible] power of the Congress, have been equally condemned by the people. It is no less clear that the people have pronounced, with a voice of thunder, which had better be heeded, the military bills to be alike offensive, repulsive, illegal, and inexpedient to American freemen.

Will Congress, in its agency for the Republican party now venture on the tremendous experiment of bearding the Northern and Western people? Will the usurpers and revolutionists still have the hardihood and daring effrontery to press their disorganizing schemes to a conclusion so ominous of foreshadowed dangers? We shall see.

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From the New York World.

END OF THE IMPEACHMENT FIASCO.

If the Republican party had only made itself the jest and scorn of mankind, that is an evil which could be cheerfully borne. But unfortunately that party is in possession of the Government, and the reputation of the country suffers by its absurd and degrading antics. What will foreign nations think of the dignity of a government which has been managed for the last eleven months on the hypothesis that its Chief Executive was an uncondemned, merely because he was an untried criminal, and is at last driven to confess that there is no evidence to warrant such treatment?

The abandonment of this preposterous proceeding is extorted from Republican fears. Adverse elections have frightened the party from a course it was bent on pursuing. While the elections were pending, the impeachment tocsin was vigorously sounded by their most noted stump-orators. Speaker Colfax, whose official position should have taught him decency, courted popularity in the West by menaces that the heels of the President should dangle in the air. Senator Conkling, who presided over the Republican nominating Convention in this State, spread himself, in his opening speech, on the same subject, but with more logic and decorum. We select these two for particular mention, because they are ardent popularity hunters, and it is the instinct of popularity hunters to study the humor of the multitude and say what the multitude applaud. Their utterances prove that before the Republican party was so beaten in the elections, and when it had no apprehension of its doom, impeachment was one of their favorite measures. "How art thou fallen from Heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning!" The breath of the people has passed over the Republican party, and this project lies still and cold as Sennacherib's army. To the disgrace of meditated injustice the party has added that of cowardice.

"Curses, like chickens, come home to roost." The Republican party, in failing to impeach the President, has impeached itself. All its proceedings for the last eleven months have gone on the assumption that the President was guilty; and his triumphant acquittal convicts Congress of wanton violations of his rights.

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GEN. HANCOCK'S PRESENCE. — The effect of Gen. Hancock's presence as commander of the Fifth Military District is already felt on every hand. It is diffused as a pervading influence. It permeates official precincts, penetrates the avenues of business, and spreads an atmosphere of hope and cheerfulness in social and domestic circles. Our people realize, in short, a sense of reassurance which has been [illegible] to their experience since the [illegible] of the Bird of Southern woes [illegible] in the various phases of "reconstruction." Before Gen. Hancock arrived and began to develop his policy, the horizon wore a leaden hue. It was impenetrable even to the eyes of hope. To-day was but a [illegible] and the poor solace of hope [illegible] means; and to-morrow, with its [illegible] of new burdens and perplexities, was a menace which no courage could despise, and an incubus which no energy could throw off. [illegible] upon the scene has produced a wondrous change. Men breathe more freely. An unappeasable sense of unrestraint and insecurity does not fill their days with anxious thoughts and rob their nights of calm repose. Energy and enterprise begin to stir and break the chains of despair and of apathy. The coming day shines as a beneficent promise, and the thought of it no longer vexes and oppresses.

Yet, in working this remarkable change, Gen. Hancock has done no more than to act in his extraordinary position [illegible] becomes an honest, straightforward [illegible] gentleman and soldier, imbued [illegible] a genuine patriotism [illegible] views of a comprehensive [illegible] — *N. O. Crescent.*