THE SENTINEL.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18, 1868

THE ORGANIZATION.

The Convention met at 12 o'clock, on yesterday, and proceeded to organize, agreeably to the determination of the caucus, held the night previous. C. J. Cowles, Esq., of Wilkes County, was chosen permanent President of the body; Mr. J. A. Burns, of Cumberland, Principal Clerk, and Mr. J. H. Boner, of Forsythe, Assistant Clerk. Jas. H. Jones, (negro,) was elected Doorkeeper, and J. T. Ball, (white,) Assistant Doorkeeper. Scattering votes were cast for Plato Durham, Esq., Col. Rodman, Mr. Hodnett and Mr. Bradley, for President.

The selection for President has thus fallen upon Mr. Cowles, of Wilkes, who has been identified with the interests of the State far more than Col. Heaton or Gen. Abbott, who were supposed to be prominent for the position; but we regret to learn that, so far, he has disappointed his friends in the poor exhibit he makes of his qualifications for the position. He is a man of passable business habits, but, beyond this, he has no claim.

It is probable that Mr. Cowles felt greatly embarrassed in his new position, and it may be, that *conscience*, that sleepless monitor, when not utterly dead or benumbed, had something to do with his embarrassment. For, if we have learned correctly the history of Mr. Cowles, for the last eight years, according to our construction of the Reconstruction Acts, he is not entitled to be a voter, much less a member of the Convention. It is alleged that Mr. Cowles filled offices, both before and during the war, which, according to the Reconstruction Acts, distranchise him. We do not speak positively, knowing this to be so, but we have heard the statement made by several persons. If it be not so, we shall be glad to correct it; but if he seeks shelter under the construction of the District Attorney, Mr. Starbuck, who determines the "loyalty" of men, not by what they say or do, but by their *motives*, which of course can only be determined by the acts and sayings of men, we shall regret it. Such a construction may do for *so-called* loyal men, but will hardly pass muster with those who are either intelligent or virtuous enough to do right.

The other officers, we suppose, are commended to the Convention for their well-known Radicalism. Jas. H. Jones, the negro Principal Door-keeper, no doubt, is a Radical of the true type. During the war, he was a devoted servant of President Davis, and was with him up to the hour of his capture, but he is now one of the "loyal" saints.

THE CRISIS.

Pending the late war, and almost up to the period of its termination, it was frequently remarked that the government was passing through a crisis,—that its strength and durability were being severely tested; and when the war terminated in the success of the Federal arms, the Northern people rejoiced that the government had passed through the fiery ordeal, and had come out unscathed, or, rather, that the Federal Union had been preserved, and that the principles of the Federal Constitution had triumphed. Thousands, who had fought in defence of Southern interests, were at least hopeful that the Federal Union and Constitution *had* been rendered permanent, and that the only thing which remained to be done was the recuperation of our lost fortunes and the cultivation of those kindly feelings which had been uprooted by a sectional war, in order to the return of harmony and concord between the two sections.

To the eye of the true statesman and patriot, the road to such an end was easily discovered. The love of the Union and the Constitution had been the great stimulus which prompted the masses of the North to sustain the war. A continuance of that spirit would have soon restored the harmony and quiet of the whole country. But alas! the same spirit of fanaticism and greed of party control, which forced the unnatural war upon the country, now seek to wreck the government entirely beyond the hope of recovery.

We believe that the utter destruction of constitutional liberty and law was never so imminent in the history of the government as at present. The scheme projected by the Radicals of Congress, for the removal of all the checks out of their way, provided by the Constitution for the maintenance of the authority of the Executive and Supreme Court, as equal, co-ordinate branches of the government with the Congress, if successful, will settle, perhaps forever, for the people of the United States, the question, that the people are incapable of self-government.

We have approached no "crisis" in the history of the country, so imminently hazardous as the present. At no time have we needed so much the wisdom, the statesmanship and the patriotism of the best men of the country. One of the strongest evidences of the incapacity of the American people to govern themselves, is to be found in the proposition of the ruling party of the country, to confer universal suffrage upon the male portion of the negro race—a race semi barbarian, improvident and incapable, unaided, of providing for their corporeal wants. The evidence becomes cumulative, when, in the rashness of the hour, that party will jeopard the sacred principles of our republican institutions, in order to effect their crazy schemes.

Who does not see just ahead of us, if the Radical programme, constantly evolving new schemes and new plans to secure its party triumph, is carried out, the wreck of all that is desirable or hopeful or stable in Republican government? The subjugation of the Southern States to military rule, under the new Congressional programme, if not checked by the sober sense of the country, will most certainly terminate in the assumption of all government by the Congress, the driving of the President and the Supreme Court, or, as they become the obsequious tools of the Congress, from their seats, and soon must follow the proclamation of martial law over the entire country. A conflict in the Congress for supremacy among its members, must ensue, and the military ruler must then assume the reins to prevent utter anarchy and ruin. If matters drive on at the rate they are now going, what is to be the fate of the Republic, *in the mouth?* Heaven only can determine.

GEN. GRANT.

Perhaps it is rare, that men who have once had a taste of almost imperial power should content themselves with less than its continued enjoyment, and should be willing, when the emergency which invested them with it has passed away, to subside into humbler relations. Yet there have been instances of such noble abnegation in history, and the annals of our country have furnished the most conspicuous illustration of it on record, in the person of *Washington*. But the day for such exhibitions has passed. Certainly, there is no prospect of its revival in the case of the present General of the armies of the Republic, (so called.)

Gen. Grant is in a fair way to dim, if not to wither, in 1868, the laurels which, however adventitiously, he acquired in 1865. We say adventitiously, for any man, of his military education and experience, combined with a proper degree of persistency and will, might have accomplished, with the same inexhaustible advantages and resources, precisely the results which he chanced to be in the position to accomplish in the Fall of 1864 and the memorable Spring of the ensuing year. However that may be, the evidences are entirely wanting that, outside of his professional capabilities, he possesses the first element of a man of mark. He certainly has not displayed the faintest shadow of civic sagacity, or the most ordinary appreciation of the requirements of an elevated statesmanship. At a period like this, in one of Gen. Grant's commanding position, and in view of the probable *role* which he will be called upon to play on the great theatre of national concerns, reticence or attempted concealment of views, on the great questions which are convulsing the country, are the proofs either of incompetency to grapple with the mighty exigencies of the times, or of a time serving inclination to watch the progress of events and shape his opinions by the petty and contemptible guage of *policy*. What would have been thought of the *great* men of the country, in other perilous days of its existence, if they had been actuated by such narrow and *little* considerations? What would have been thought of a prospective candidate for the Presidency, pending the exciting issues of 1820, 1850 or 1860, if, when approached for an expression of views on the momentous questions of the day, he had put off his inquisitors with a dissertation on the merits of a popular *filly* or the points of a favorite *trotter*? "Horse-talk" would hardly have passed for statesmanship in those days.

But Gen. Grant has his views, or rather his prejudices and his aspirations, though he affects to hide them under the mask of professional impenetrability. The evidences accumulate that the late move on the Radical checker board, which is to crown him with well nigh absolute authority and dictatorship, has both his approval and connivance. Having political aspirations, he has the right to advance them in a fair, manly and legitimate way; but to conspire, with a set of fanatics, who are laboring to destroy the government and the Union which the armies he led were seeking to save, affords a melancholy evidence how readily and often weak men will sacrifice substantial realities for a glittering bauble.

Grant, manœuvering to deprive his constitutional superior of his rightful prerogative, is a very different personage from Grant receiving the surrender of a conquered army, and pledging them the word of a soldier for their security and protection!—So History will pronounce. So the speedy verdict of the country will adjudge.

GEN. HANCOCK.—This distinguished and patriotic soldier may never expect to receive forgiveness at the hands of the Radicals for his respect to constitutional requirements and civil law. He has been singled out for persecution, and the veteran, whose fame during the war, resounded all over the North, is now being reviled by those whose only part in the struggle was enacted at a safe distance from danger. If Congress should dare (but it dares do anything, in its desperation,) to strike down a soldier with so honorable a record, it is a consolation to know that persecution only builds up those whom it seeks to destroy, and that such an act will endear him the more to the people, who will, sooner or later, atone for the madness and injustice of their representatives.

Is Gen. Grant privy to this vainly-attempted degradation of a soldier, whose services in the "war for the Union" are so brilliant and unchallenged?

THE MAJORITY of the Committee on compensation, in the Mississippi Convention, have reported in favor of $20 *per diem* for the President and $10 for the members, $15 for the Secretary, $10 each for his assistants, $10 for the Sergeant-at-arms, and twenty cents mileage. Wonder how much our unselfish patriots will be satisfied with? We remember the howl of indignation which the Radical press raised, when the last "rebel" Legislature voted its members $6 per day, when the Treasury and the people were in a better condition than they are at present.

IN VIEW of Butler's visit to Richmond, a Mr. Liggett offered the following preamble and resolution in the Virginia Convention:

"Whereas, General Butler is soon to favor Richmond city with a visit,

Resolved, That the citizens thereof be requested to observe more than ordinary vigilance in the preservation of their plate and silver-ware."

JUDGE TRUMBAN has been elected United States Senator from Ohio.

The "Constitutional Convention," (So-called.)

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 15, 1868.

According to adjournment, the Convention was called to order at 12 o'clock,—Mr. King, Chairman *pro tem.*, in the chair.

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Logan, delegate from Rutherford.

The Chairman announced that if any delegates had arrived since yesterday, they would come forward and be qualified.

Mr. Andrews, of Wake, Secretary *pro tem*, proceeded to call the roll, when—

Messrs. Durham, of Cleveland, Laflin, of Pitt, Hayes, of Robeson, Long, of Richmond, Nance, of Robeson, Chilson, of Anson, Sanderlin, of Currituck, McCubbins, of Rowan, Benbow, of Yadkin, Bryan, of Wilkes, Blume, of Cabarrus, Nicholson, of Perquimans, and George, of Iredell, presented themselves and were qualified.

Mr. Abbott, of New Hanover, moved the Convention proceed to the election of President; which was agreed to.

A debate of some moment's duration took place, as to the mode of election; and finally it was determined to vote *viva voce*.

C. J. Cowles, of Wilkes, the caucus Radical candidate, was placed in nomination by Galloway, (negro) of New Hanover; and Mr. Hodnett, of Caswell, nominated Plato Durham, Esq., of Cleveland, (Conservative.)

The Convention voted as follows:

FOR MR. COWLES:—Abbott, Andrews, Ashely, Aydlott, Barnes, Benbow, Blume, Bradley, Bryan, Carey, (negro,) Carter, Candler, Cherry, (negro,) Chillson, Colgrove, Congleton, Cox, Daniel, Duckworth, Epps, (negro,) Etheridge, Fisher, Franklin, Forkner, French, of Bladen, French, of Rockingham, French, of Chowan, Fullings, Gahagan, Galloway, (negro,) Garrett, George, Graham, of Montgomery, Grant, of Wayne, Grant, of Northampton, Gully, Gunter, Harris, of Wake, (negro,) Harris, of Franklin, Hay, Hayes, of Robeson, Hayes, of Halifax, (negro,) Heaton, Highsmith, Hobbs, Hoffler, Hollowell, Hood, (negro,) Hyman, (negro,) Ing, Jones, of Caldwell, Jones, of Washington, King, of Lincoln, King, of Lenoir, Kinney, Laflin, Lee, (negro,) Logan, Long, Mann, Mayo, (negro,) McDonald, of Chatham, McDonald, of Moore, Moore, Morton, Mullican, Murphy, Nance, Newsom, Nicholson, Patrick, Parker, Parks, Peters, Peterson, Pierson, (negro,) Pool, Ragland, Ray, Reid, Renfrew, Rhodes, Rich, Robbins, (negro,) Rodman, Rose, Smith, Stilly, Stillwell, Sweet, Taylor, Teague, Tourgee, Trogden, Tucker, Turner, Watts, Welker, Williams and Williamson, (negro.)

FOR MR. DURHAM: Messrs. Dowd, Graham, of Orange, Hare, Hodnett, McCubbins, and Sanderlin.

Mr. Durham voted for Mr. Hodnett: Mr. Ellis for Mr. Bradley, and Mr. Lennon for Mr. Rodman.

The Chairman then announced the election of Mr. Cowles, and appointed Messrs. Heaton and Abbott to escort him to the chair.

On assuming his seat, the President gave utterance to a few almost incoherent remarks about his not retaining his ancient predilections for color, and offered a premature apology for future blunders, closing his painful effort by a very candid and creditable acknowledgment of utter incapacity to fill the position.

Mr. Heaton, of Craven, moved that a permanent Secretary be chosen. Adopted.

Galloway, (negro) of New Hanover, offered the name of J. A. Burns, of Cumberland, for that position. There being no opposition, he was, on motion, declared elected.

Jno. H. Boner, being nominated by Mr. Abbott, as Assistant Secretary, and, there being no opposition, was also declared elected.

After a good deal of wrangling as to the manner of electing J. H. Jone, negro, to the position of Principal Doorkeeper, a vote *viva voce* was agreed upon, taken and resulted in sustaining a previous resolution declaring him duly chosen to the position.

Hood, (negro) of Cumberland, nominated J. T. Ball, (white man) for Assistant Doorkeeper, and moved that the election be made by acclamation, no one cared to object and it was carried.

Mr. Abbott offered a resolution, adopting the rules of order used by the House of Commons, so far as applicable, until other wise ordered.

Mr. King, of Lenoir, moved an amendment, substituting the rules of the Convention of 1865-'66, on the ground that the last Legislature was "disloyal;" and it was adopted.

Harris, of Wake, (negro) thoved that the newly elected officers enter at once upon their duties; but

Mr. Smith, of Wilkes, moved that they first be required to "*take the oath*," and it was so ordered.

Mr. Burns and Mr. Boner then came forward, took the oath, and assumed their seats.

Mr. Heaton introduced the following resolution:

Resolved, That a Committee of two from each Judicial District be appointed by the President, whose duty it shall be, at the earliest moment practicable, to consider and report the best mode of proceeding to frame a constitution and civil government, according to the provisions of the acts of Congress. Adopted.

Mr. Sweet, of Craven, offered a resolution, which was adopted, authorizing the President to appoint a Select Committee of five, to frame rules for the guidance of the body.

The following resolution was introduced by Mr. Pool, of Pasquotank:

Resolved, That this Convention, being called to frame a Constitution, republican in form, no proposition of a purely legislative character shall be entertained until such Constitution shall have been adopted.

This elicited quite a spicy little debate, which was participated in by Messrs. Watts, Tourgee and E. W. Jones. The latter concluded his remarks by moving to lay the resolution on the table.

The yeas and nays were called, and resulted in the rejection of the motion to table—yeas 44; nays 53.

Mr. Forkner, of Alleghany, moved to refer the matter to a Committee of three.

Mr. King, of Lenoir, insisted that it should be adopted, without further action.

When, a motion to adjourn until to-morrow, 10 o'clock, A. M., was made and adopted.

THURSDAY, Jan. 16th, 1868.

The Convention was called to order at 10 o'clock.

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Welker, of Guilford, at the request of the President.

Roll called and record of the last two days read, and, after a few alterations, approved.

In accordance with Mr. Heaton's resolution of yesterday, to appoint a Committee of two, from each judicial district, to report upon the best mode of proceeding to frame a Constitution, the President designated the following delegates, viz: Messrs. Nicholson, Jones, of Washington, Heaton, Rodman, Dowd, Harris, of Wake, (negro,) Tourgee, Cox, Abbott, Hood, (negro,) Forkner, Hobbs, Jones, of Caldwell, Bradley, Gahagan and Garrett.

The Chair also designated the following Committee on rules of order, viz: Messrs. Sweet, Galloway, (negro,) Pool, Graham, of Orange, and Fullings.

Mr. Abbott called up his motion to submit Mr. Pool's resolution of yesterday (on the subject of legislation by the Convention,) to a Committee of three.

Mr. Pool opposed the reference, saying that he supposed that the somewhat bitter opposition it had met with, proceeded from its being misunderstood. At some length, he gave the motives that led to its introduction, and he combated the various objections urged against it,—concluding his remarks by a faithfully drawn picture of the idleness of the other constitutional Conventions, in consuming time in dealing with everything but the objects that called them together.

(At this moment, Messrs. Baker, of Alleghanie, Williams, of Sampson, and Garland, of Mitchell, by direction of the President, came to the desk, took the oath and assumed their seats.)

Mr. Jones, of Washington, claimed the floor. Prefacing his remarks by a quotation from Shakespeare, he said that he was not prepared to enter into an important constitutional argument, but would endeavor to refute the principal arguments of the gentleman from Pasquotank (Mr. Pool,) in favor of the resolution. In regard to the power of the Convention, he alluded to Judge Gaston's opinions in regard to the sovereignty of Conventions. He claimed supreme authority; the military, he said, had performed its office, and left them untrammelled.

Mr. Tourgee opposed the resolution and its commitment, unless it was committed with definite instructions.

Harris, of Wake, (negro) was in favor of referring, as he wished time for consideration.

Mr. French, of Chowan, offered, as an amendment, to refer it to the Committee of sixteen already appointed. Agreed to.

By Mr. Jones, of Washington: A resolution inviting the clergymen of the city to open the services of this Convention with prayer. Adopted.

Mr. Abbott presented the following resolution:

Resolved, That no Reporter for any newspaper be allowed upon this floor, who treats the Convention, or any of its members, with any disrespect, but that they shall, in case of offence in this respect, be excluded from the floor of the Hall and from the galleries.

He went on to say (alluding to the Reporter of this paper,) that in one of the morning papers, a distinction had been made between the *white and colored delegates*. He read an extract from the *Sentinel*, in which the expression "Galloway, (negro)" occurred.

Mr. Durham, of Cleaveland, expressed his sorrow at seeing the resolution introduced. He knew he was in the minority, yet he had hoped that the other gentlemen would act fairly. He could'nt sit calmly by and see the liberty of the press assailed without entering his solemn protest against such a proceeding. The negro *was* a negro, and why not *tell the truth* and call him so?

He was interrupted by Mr. Abbott, who called his attention to the *Sentinel's* heading of "So called Convention."

Mr. Durham resumed that the people wanted to know how every body voted and who *were* negroes. He would enter his protest upon the record.

Hood, (negro,) wanted to know if there was a negro on the floor. *He* did not believe that there was.

Mr. Abbott, again on his feet, substantially reiterated what he had before said.

Mr. Hodnett, of Caswell, read the extract in question and claimed that it was a fair and impartial one. In the midst of his remarks, he was interrupted by Mr. Sweet, of Craven, who arose to a point of order, viz: that Mr. H. was not confining himself to the question under debate. (The Chair sustained the *point*?)

Mr. H. resumed his remarks, protesting against such a high-handed outrage upon the freedom of the Press.

Mr. Ashley (himself the conductor of a Press) understood that the Reporters were here by the courtesy of the Convention, and they had a right to demand the same respect from them that would be due them under their own roofs. He wanted the Conservatives to understand that the Convention would protect itself from insult.

Harris, of Wake, (negro,) did not care what the Press called him, but since so much party spirit was manifested, and certain editors were endeavoring to cast odium and insult upon the Convention, and would, if it were in their power, enslave the negro race again, he would vote for the resolution.

Tourgee, (white,) Galloway, (negro,) and various other Radicals, of both complexions, were rampant, successively.

Mr. Durham, in a few well chosen and eloquent remarks, warned the Radical element of the ruinious policy of entering into such a proscriptive course. The history of all Republican Governments dated their downfall from the commencement of such legislation. He, Mr. Durham, in giving utterance to these patriotic expressions, only echoed the sentiments of all the Conservative gentlemen on the floor. In closing his remarks he made known his intention again of entering his protest upon the record.

Mr. Abbott said a good deal about not wishing to proscribe any one or muzzle the Press,—he only wanted proper respect paid to them.

Mr. Moore, of Granville, moved to lay the resolution on the table, and, when attempting to make a few remarks, was decided to be out of order, upon a point brought by Harris, of Wake, (negro,) and sustained by the chair.

The yeas and nays, on the motion, were however called and resulted as follows:

AYES—Andrews, Aydlott, Baker, Benbow, Blume, Bradley, Chillson, Daniel, Dowd, Durham, Ellis, Franklin, Graham, of Orange, Grant, of Northampton, Gully, Hare, Harris, of Franklin, Hobbs, Hodnett, King, of Lincoln, Lennon, McCubbins, Moore, Nicholson, Parker, Rich, Sanderlin and Williams, of Sampson.

NAYS:—Abbott, Ashley, Barnes, Bryan, Carey, Carter, Candler, Cherry, Colgrove, Congleton, Cox, Duckworth, Etheridge, Fisher, Forkner, French, of Bladen, French, of Rockingham, French, of Chowan, Fullings, Gahagan, Galloway, Garrett, George, Graham, of Montgomery, Gunter, Harris, of Wake, Hayes, of Robeson, Hayes, of Halifax, Heaton, Highsmith, Hoffler, Hood, Hyman, Ing, Jones of Caldwell, Jones, of Washington, King, of Lenoir, Kinney, Lee, Logan, Long, Mann, Mayo, McDonald, of Chatham, McDonald, of Moore, Morton, Mullican, Murphy, Nance, Newsom, Patrick, Parks, Peters, Peterson, Pierson, Pool, Ragland, Ray, Read, Renfrow, Rhodes, Robbins, Rodman, Rose, Smith, Stilwell, Sweet, Taylor, Teague, Tourgee, Trogden, Tucker, Turner, Watts, Welker and Williams.

NAYS.—Messrs. Bradley, Daniel, Durham, Ellis, Graham, of Orange, Grant, of Northampton, Hare, Harris, of Franklin, Hobbs, Hodnett, Lennon, McCubbins, Moore, Nicholson, Parker, Sanderlin, and Williams, of Sampson.

Mr. Durham then submitted the following protest:

"As the resolution is a step in restricting the liberty of the Press, and keeping information from the people, we protest against its passage. (Signed)

P. DURHAM,
J. W. GRAHAM,
P. HODNETT,
JAS. K. ELLIS,
J. B. HARE,
ALEXANDER WILLIAMS,
THOS. SANDERLIN,
J. S. MCCUBBINS,
HAYNES LENNON.

Mr. King, of Lenoir, offered an objection to entering the protest without the consent of the body.

Messrs. Durham and Ellis both urged their right to word their protest in any language they pleased, and appealed to intelligent and fair minded men upon the floor to accord them an undeniable matter of justice.

The President announced his determination to reserve his decision until some future time, and so the matter dropped!!

Mr. French moved to go into the election of Sergeant-at arms.

Mr. Graham, of Orange, moved to adjourn; but withdrew it.

By Mr. King, of Lenoir:

A resolution fixing the hour of convening at 11 A. M.

Motion to adjourn being renewed, it was lost.

Mr. Abbott moved that the election of Sergeant at arms be gone into. The Radicals were agreed, but the Conservatives objecting to such a useless piece of extravagance,

After some further proceeding, a motion, by Mr. Morton, to adjourn was decided out of order by the President, but it being intimated to the President that a motion to adjourn is always in order, the question was put, and the Convention decided to adjourn.

SUPREME COURT. The following gentlemen have been admitted by the Judges of the Supreme Court to practice in the several Superior Courts of the State, viz:

W. Foster French, Robeson County.
Alfred Rowland, Robeson.
Thomas H. Sutton, Bladen.
Augustus M. Moore, Chowan.
Walter A. Montgomery, Warren.
Walter Clark, Halifax.
Daniel L. Russell, Brunswick.
Henry F. Grainger, Lenoir.
John M. Moring, Chatham.
James S. Lucas, Beaufort.
Andrew J. Loftin, Lenoir.
Samuel T. Williams, Granville.
Samuel A. Ashe, New Hanover.
William B. Duckworth, Transylvania.
Fleming J. Whitemire, Transylvania.
Michal H. Justice, Rutherford.
Maurice A. Moore, Gaston.
George W. Johnston, Pitt.
William A. Holland, Lenoir.
William W. Jones, Granville.
Edward Tyler Branch, Halifax.
Charles M. Cooke, Franklin.
William R. Empie, New Hanover.
Peter H. Adams, Guilford.
Augustine W. Rieger, Carteret.
Marshall H. Pinnix, Davidson.
George M. Whiting, Wake.
Richard W. Singletary, Wilson.
Joseph W. Todd, Ashe.
John Gatling, Gates.
James G. Odom, Northampton.
Duncan C. Winston, Bertie.
Thomas P. Devereux, Jr., Halifax.
W. Wood Flemming, McDowell.
Charles M. Busbee, Wake.
George P. Erwin, Burke.
Dorsey Battle, Edgecombe.
Wm. H. H. Cowles, Yadkin.
William L. Love, Jackson.
John Gray Bynum, Yadkin.
Nicholas W. Lillington, Yadkin.
Clinton A. Cilley—Caldwell County.
James T. Tate—Mecklenburg Co.
Willis Bagley—Perquimans Co.

The following gentlemen, in addition to those heretofore mentioned, have been licensed to practice in the County Courts, viz:

Erasmus F. Page, Wake.
William R. Cox, Wake.

Theo. H. Hill, Esq., of this City, has been elected State Librarian for the ensuing year.

THE NEW RECONSTRUCTION PROGRAMME.—The last radical Reconstruction law would make Gen. Grant absolutely supreme in ten States of the Union—give into his hands an empire richer than the whole Roman world was under Cæsar. It would practically establish Cæsarism as the result of a political strife waged nominally in the interest of popular rights. Radicalism has kept the game of reconstruction open since the end of the war, has prevented settlement, thrown away all chance for peace to secure, as it has constantly declared, the equal rights of all the people—to secure "governments republican in form" throughout the South; and now it comes at last to propose absolute despotism and a one man power. Here are republicanism and popular rights of the real Down East stamp. But what is the meaning of this? It is the effort of that party to shift its terrible burden of responsibility to other shoulders. It would throw on Grant the load it can no longer bear.—Then, if all comes out well, the radicals expect to claim the honor, while, if all goes wrong, they will point to Grant as the cause of ruin. But this game should be cut short in its very inception, and the President should take steps, if this bill becomes a law, to do what should long since have been done with regard to the other Reconstruction laws. He should have a case made to obtain the decision of the Supreme Court. Laws made by the proper law making power must be accepted and acted upon until the Supreme Court has declared that their unconstitutional character renders them null; but when the unconstitutionality of a law is so broad, so defiantly distinct as to be obvious to all, there can be no excuse for delay in obtaining that formal declaration of the court that will justify the President in refusing to execute the law.—*New York Herald.*

TELEGRAPHIC.

CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15, P. M.

House.—The Committee on Public lands reported adversely to giving the public lands to negroes under the Homestead law.

A bill amending the Homestead law, so as to allow settlers to make affidavits before Clerks of County Courts, passed.

The Reconstruction bill was resumed. Mr. Wood, having the floor, characterized the bill as a monstrosity and the most infamous act of all the infamous acts of this infamous Congress.

Mr. Bingham called Mr. Wood to order.

Mr. Ross suggested to Mr. Wood to modify by saying *so-called* infamous Congress.

The Speaker decided the word out of order.

Mr. Wood refused to modify them, and the House, by a party vote, refused to hear him any farther.

Mr. Dawes offered a resolution of censure, which passed by a party vote, and Mr. Wood approached the bar of the House and was censured.

The discussion took a wide range. Mr. Butler gave notice of an amendment, declaring all the State offices vacant, authorizing the Conventions to fill them, and making it the duty of the District Commanders to confirm and instal the Convention appointees.

Senate.—The Chair presented a memorial from the Mississippi Board of Registration, setting forth the general destitution. They state that it something is not done soon, the Government must provide a large burying ground.

Mr. Morton presented a petition from 4 000 negroes of the District, asking labor on the public works—stating that they were excluded from competition, and white men refused to work with them.

A joint resolution, paying Spain $20,000 for a steamer, seized at Port Royal by Sherman, passed.

The anti contraction bill was passed with a verbal amendment, by 23 to 4.

The amendment forbidding expansion failed.

FROM WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15, P. M.

The Connecticut Republican Convention have nominated Marshall for Governor.

The Cabinet had an extra session of two hours to-day.

Sherman and Grant had a long interview with the President.

It is officially denied that Stanton drew his salary during suspension.

GEN. GRANT *vs.* MEADE.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15, P. M.

This morning's *Intelligencer* says: "It is understood that, within a few hours after the reception of the dispatch, announcing the removal by Gen. Meade of Gov. Jenkins, on account of his refusal to sanction the payment of the Georgia negro Convention out of the State funds, Gen Grant expressed the opinion that Gen. Meade had acted hastily and should not have removed him; and that the Convention had no right to be paid out of the State Treasury."

VIRGINIA CONVENTION—JUDICIAL DECISION.

RICHMOND, Jan. 15, P. M.

In the Convention, charges were preferred by the Conservative members against President Underwood, that he cut off debate and refused an appeal from his decision yesterday, upon the visit of Butler. The Convention refused to receive them, 44 to 39.

The second article of the Constitution, being amended so as to prohibit Justices of the Peace being members of the Legislature, was adopted.

A resolution thanking the President for reinstating Stanton, was offered by a negro delegate, and tabled.

In the Supreme Court of Appeals, to-day, on a *habeas corpus* case of a pardoned convict, whose release was refused by the Superintendent of the State Prison, on the ground that Pierpoint had no power to pardon—his term as Governor having expired Jan 1st.—the Court decided that Pierpoint held over until a successor was qualified, and the convict was released.

SOUTH CAROLINA CONVENTION, &c.

CHARLESTON, Jan. 15, P. M.

The Convention, to-day, perfected a permanent organization, by the election of Dr. A. G. Mackey, President, Carlos Stoltbrand, Secretary,—both white. The Assistant Secretary, Engrossing Clerk, Doorkeeper, and Sergeant-at-arms, are all black.

Gen. Scott issues a circular letter, to-morrow, announcing that the Government will again commence the distribution of food among the extremely needy people of the State.

GEORGIA CONVENTION.

ATLANTA, Jan. 15, P. M.

The preamble of the new Constitution and two sections of the Bill of Rights were adopted to-day.

A resolution was adopted, requesting General Meade to order the State Treasurer to pay to the Financial agents of the Convention a sufficient sum to defray all its expenses.

Also requesting the General to order an examination of all jails and to release all unlawfully confined.

A resolution was adopted calling on Congress to vote an appropriation for the expenses of the Convention.

The report of the Educational Committee provides separate Schools for the races, and appropriates all the net income of the State Road, a poll tax of two dollars, all militia fines, the proceeds of all State lands and the surplus funds in the Treasury at the close of each fiscal year.

A general order appeared this morning, announcing the orders from the War Department and Gen. Pope, forbidding any interference, under color of State authority and by the State Courts, with persons in the military service of the Bureau for acts done under orders.

Considerable excitement continues and all Washington intelligence is eagerly sought.

CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16, P. M.

Senate.—The Chair presented a communication from E. M. Stanton, Secretary of War, enclosing a list of volunteer officers in service.

The cotton tax came up. A motion was made that the Senate recede from its amendment, but inserts a proviso exempting imported cotton from duty after July. The matter was postponed.

A bill re-organizing the Treasury Department was introduced and referred to the Finance Committee.

The deficiency appropriation for the reconstruction Acts, &c., was taken up and passed with some amendments.

House.—The House discussed the reconstruction bill until four, when they took recess to 7½ to-night.

FROM WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, Jan 16, P. M.

Persons having affairs pending at the War Department say that no business has been done there during the past two days. It is confidently stated that should the President adopt any aggressive measures, a bill, already prepared, reorganizing the War Department and defining its duties and powers, will be rushed through.

MATTERS IN GEORGIA.

AUGUSTA, Jan. 16, P. M.

In accordance with instructions from General Meade, two officers from Headquarters have arrived here to investigate certain charges set forth in a petition presented to him of mal-administration on the part of the city authorities. The commission has no power to send for persons or papers, but requests the presence of the citizens, making the charges, to substantiate the alleged mal-administration.

The present Mayor and Council were appointed by Pope, and the object of the petition to Gen. Meade is to have them removed and the former Mayor and Council reinstated.

A private dispatch from Milledgeville states that Gen. Ruger and Capt. Rockwell have taken charge of the Executive and Treasury Departments of Georgia, in accordance with Gen Meade's order. The Treasury is empty—the funds having been removed.

Gov. Jenkins is still in Milledgeville, but is expected to arrive in Augusta, his home, in a few days.

THE SITUATION IN ALABAMA.

MONTGOMERY, Jan. 16, P. M.

A meeting of the leading citizens of Alabama has been in session here two days. After a calm and patient deliberation, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That we recommend to the people of Alabama, opposed to the Constitution proposed by the Convention, lately in session at Montgomery, to abstain from voting at all at the elections to be held on the 4th and 5th of February, either upon the question of ratifying or rejecting that Constitution, or for candidates for offices under it.

2. That we also recommend to the opponents of the said proposed Constitution, that they form and maintain effective political organizations among themselves, in every portion of the State, until they are delivered from the perils which are impending.

The 80th day of January was recommended to the people of the State as a day of fasting and prayer to Almighty God to deliver the people of Alabama from negro dominion.

An address was also adopted, setting forth to the people of Alabama, and the world, the reasons prompting the white people of Alabama to abstain from the polls.

VIRGINIA CONVENTION—INTEREST PAID.

RICHMOND, Jan. 16, P. M.

The subject of suffrage was debated all day. It being brought up by a resolution of Underwood for suffrage for all male citizens of age.

The State Treasury has paid out $400,000 interest, since January 1st.

For the Sentinel.

SHIP KNEES.

PORTSMOUTH, Va., Jan. 14, 1868.

Messrs. Editors:—At times like these, it is the duty of every one to develope all the hidden resources within his reach, and they are many. The forests of North Carolina abound in wealth, unknown to its owners. Your oak timber is a rich mine of wealth, if properly studied and worked.

In a previous letter we gave directions for making Staves. To this business we would have the Stave-getter add that of making Ship Knees. Many of your readers, doubtless, have no idea as to the demand for and high prices which they command.

You will, no doubt, be doing the people of your State good service by publishing the following information in relation to this business, which we have obtained from the Inspector of Lumber at the Gosport Navy Yard, and may be relied upon as being correct:

Siding	Lgth. of Arm.	Lgth. of Body.
6 inches	3 ft. 3 to 3 ft. 6 in.	4 ft. 8 to 5 ft. 0 in.
7 "	4 " 0 to 4 " 3 "	5 " 4 to 5 " 10 "
8 "	4 " 5 to 4 " 8 "	6 " 0 to 6 " 6 "
9 "	4 " 9 to 5 " 0 "	6 " 6 to 7 " 0 "
10 "	5 " 0 to 5 " 3 "	7 " 2 to 7 " 8 "
11 "	5 " 3 to 5 " 6 "	7 " 9 to 8 " 3 "

Price per inch for W. O. knees sq. and insquare

6 inches	$1,00 per inch,	$ 6,00
7 "	$1,65 " "	11,55
8 "	$2,05 " "	16 40
9 "	$2,85 " "	25,65
10 "	$2 38 " "	23,80
11 "	$2,42 " "	26,62

The above prices are for limb knees square and insquare and the prices for root knees will be 6 per cent less than those to be paid for limb knees. Outsquare knees, both limb and root, will be 20 per cent less in price than for square and insquare. Knees formed by the limb and body of the tree above the limb will not be received, nor knees more than 16 degrees outsquare.

The length of the arm will be measured from the centre of the body, and the moulding size of the end of the body must be equal to the nett siding of the knee.

Three-fourths of the diameter of the arm at the two-thirds of its length of the body of the knee to be considered the nett siding of the knee, and on that siding the price will be based.

No addition will be made to the prices for fractional parts of an inch.

J. B. HUNTER & CO.,
General Commission Merchants,
Portsmouth, Va.

RICHMOND COUNTY.—We are glad to see that the Conservatives of Richmond county have effected an organization by the appointment of an Executive Committee. We have received the following appointments from Mr. W. McNair, Chairman of a meeting held at Spring Hill, on the 28th of December, 1867, under a resolution adopted at that meeting, authorizing the appointment of a County Executive Committee:

Little's Mills—Capt. B. F. Little, Homer Lagrand, Wm. B. Hanback.

Mineral Spring—Wm. Townsend, Daniel B. Nicholson, Trustian Boshrick.

Rockingham—John W. Cole, Walter F. Leak, John W. Leak.

Wolf Pit—Thomas C. Leak, Col. H. Harrington, Dr. C. Carrington.

Williamson's—Noah Gibson, Dr. M. Morrison, Malcom McNeill.

Stewartsville—Col. Jas. T. Roper, Col. Murdock McKinon, A. J. McQueen.—*Wil. Journal.*

A Washington letter-writer attributes the following views to Alexander H. Stephens, and they are so entirely well founded that we have no doubt the gentleman quoted is correctly reported:

"Radical emissaries from the North have sown the seeds of evil dissension with a terrible earnestness, and the diametric opposition of the races now visible all over the South must, in the very nature of things, lead, at some time or other, to fearful collisions. The inevitable result, Mr. Stephens declares, as a dispassionate observer, forces itself irresistibly on his attention. A war of races, desired by some and indifferently heeded by others, is, to his mind, a consequence as sure to happen, under the radical method of reconstruction, as it is impossible to avoid, if the precedents of history or the impulses that control human nature be taken into account."

A NEGRO VICE PRESIDENT.—It is seriously contemplated, I can assure you, by a considerable portion of the Radical party, to strengthen the Grant ticket by placing the name of Fred. Douglass upon it as a candidate for the Vice Presidency. This is deemed absolutely necessary to appease Wendell Phillips, Garrison, Butler, Greeley, and others of like proclivities.—*Wash. Cor. Balt. Gazette.*

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India Rubber and Leather Bel