

# The Semi-Weekly Sentinel.

VOL. 2.

RALEIGH, N. C. SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 1868.

NO. 80.

## THE SENTINEL.

WM. E. PEPPER, Proprietor.

### THE CHIEF FEATURES OF THE NEW CONSTITUTION.

We have already given the chief and most distinctive features of the new Radical Constitution, as developed by the Convention called to order for the purpose of amending the old one. The various articles presented have been amended, so that the right of SECESSION, as an ORGANIC PREEXISTING RESERVE, SOVEREIGN RIGHT, — *Held, Jan. 15, 1861.*

"The day the death warrant of the FUGITIVE SLAVE law is signed, will also seal the fate of the Union. Millions of us have not been able to get such perfect copies of them as would do to lay before our readers. We hope, in a few days, to be able to give them. The following features may be relied upon:

1. The Bill of Rights, in some particulars, materially differs from our old Bill of Rights, under which we have enjoyed civil liberty for nearly a century. It asserts the equality of all men, without regard to color or moral distinctions, and it claims for all equal rights.

2. The article on the Executive Department provides for the election of a Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Auditor, Public Treasurer, Superintendent of Public Works, Superintendent of Education and Attorney General by the people, for a term of four years, thus putting it out of the power of the people to change the character of the State administration but once in four years, by a popular vote, however offensive it might become.

3. After the war:

"We demand in the war, IN ORDER TO SAVE SLAVERY." — *Held, 1863.*

"CONFEDERATE UNION LANGUAGE UNQUALIFIED DEDICATION TO NEGRO SUFFRAGE." — *Held, June 1862.*

### BEFORE THE WAR.

"If this Confederation of States must perish, let it be the Ruler of Nations, who judges justly, and all posterity on this continent, will hold the SLAVE HOLDING STATES GUILTLESS OF THE TREACHERY CRIME." — *Held, Dec. 16, 1860.*

"It is sufficient for us to say that we hold to the right of SECESSION, as an ORGANIC PREEXISTING RESERVE, SOVEREIGN RIGHT." — *Held, Jan. 15, 1861.*

"The day the death warrant of the FUGITIVE SLAVE law is signed, will also seal the fate of the Union. Millions of us have not been able to get such perfect copies of them as would do to lay before our readers. We hope, in a few days, to be able to give them. The following features may be relied upon:

1. The Bill of Rights, in some particulars,

### The "Constitutional Convention," (so-called.)

#### NIGHT SESSION.

TUESDAY, March 10, 1868.

Convention called to order at 7 o'clock.

The report of the Committee on Suffrage and Eligibility to Office, being the special order for this hour, was taken up and considered.

Section 1 was read, when

Mr. French, of Bladen, moved to amend by adding, after the word "election" in 6th line, the words "except as hereinbefore provided"; and, if that was adopted, he would propose an additional section, which he read.

Hoof (negro) favored it, saying that it was almost an instant improvement; but he thought a man, who was at all prudent, when he intended to embark in an enlarged enterprise, would first find out that his plan was prudent in an individual as prominent in a State. He was opposed to pledging the credit of the State, so large an amount, until our affairs should assume a brighter aspect.

Mr. Heaton moved to insert, in the 20th line, between the letter "e" and the word "mortgage," the word "trust."

The Chairman, Mr. Hines, accepted the amendment. This makes the ordinance read "a first mortgage," in every instance.

The year and nays were ordered on Mr. Marshall's amendment and it was voted.

The section, as amended, was then finally adopted.

The question recurred upon the final passage of the article. According to the old and new, the year and nays were called and resulted in a tie.

Mr. Heaton moved to read the report of the Convention.

Mr. King, of Lenoir, said that the reason he had voted against the amendment was that he did not like the proposed substitute which he thought was not so good.

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