

The Semi-Weekly Sentinel.

VOL. 2.

THE SENTINEL.

W. E. PELL, Proprietor.

OUR STATE OFFICERS.

The Executive officer at the State Capital are taking put in complete order for the incoming Radical administration. The books are all being brought up to date and the papers so arranged that their successors, with military duty, can take hold at once. Simple duty requires that we should give a passing tribute at all of them.

The Executive ability of Gov. Worth has been fully equal to the extraordinary circumstances under which he has discharged his office. Nothing has escaped his notice and he has two full unattended to the amount of work he has performed with his own head and hands, is almost incredible. The intricate and difficult questions he has examined and settled, required not only good sense but a knowledge of the law and of executive duty, of a superior character. If his letter book were published, it would constitute a most able, interesting and important history of the times. The public interest he has carefully guarded and as far as he could do so in these disputed times, he has fearlessly and ably defended civil liberty and constitutional government on all occasions. A few of Gov. Worth's appointments have been complained of and apparently with good reason, but those who know of the facts, which have influenced him, exculpate him from all blame, believing that reasons of sound public policy have guided him in his executive action.

Gov. Worth has been greatly assisted in his arduous labors by the efficient and unerring efforts of his private Secretary, Maj. Wm. H. Bagley, who has shown himself an able officer. His office has been kept in fine condition and will be cheerfully surrendered to his successor. Other young men whose services have been needed have rendered excellent service in this department, of whom Mr. George H. Snow deserves honorable mention.

The Public Treasurer's office is fully up to time. The State has never had a superior officer in this department, to Komp P. Battle, Esq. He has devoted unremittingly his time and talents to the difficult and responsible duties of his office. The subjects of revenue and finance he has investigated as fully as was possible during the period he has been in office, and he has illustrated the philosophy as well as the practice of these difficult matters in the administration of his office. We regard it as a great error in our system that the Public Treasurer of a State should be liable to removal for any other cause than for malfeasance in office. The principles of revenue and finance require a long course of study and practice to arrive at an approach to perfection. Should he at any time propose a system which does not work well, the General Assembly has the correction in its own hands at once, but the difficulty of filling that office by thoroughly qualified men is very great. Mr. Battle has however reduced the burdens of his office to such system, that an intelligent and competent successor may take hold where he leaves it. In the clerical duties of his office, he has been greatly assisted by his Chief Clerk, Mr. Donald W. Bain, whom no better officer can be found in the country. He is perfectly familiar with all the details of the office as well as the Comptroller's Department, and his integrity and industry are not the least of his qualifications. Mr. Bain also, though a very young man, has exhibited very high qualities as a Clerk.

The office of Secretary of State cannot be better filled than it has been by H. W. Boat, Esq. His careful attention to the minutiae of the office has forced in keeping up his supplies and in attending promptly to all his duties, cannot be excelled. If his successor should make half as good an officer, there will be but little room for complaint. He has had excellent assistance from his Clerk, Mr. Syme, who shows himself to be very competent.

The duties of Comptroller have been ably performed by Mr. Burge. He found the office in bad condition as we learn, but his constant application has enabled him to reduce the office to system and it will be ready for his successor. He has made a most obliging and competent officer.

We are not sensible that any personal or partisan feelings have prompted us to say a word in the foregoing remarks. Our personal observation and acquaintance with the conduct of the various offices have enabled us to speak advisedly, and what we have said is no empty compliment, but comes from our own convictions of what is due to the several officers.

Congress.—This body is making itself the butt of the ridicule and contempt of the whole country. The scenes which have been permitted, both in the Senate and House, of late, would disgrace the most ordinary legislative body in any country.—The contrast between the former and present character of Congress is so great that it hardly seems possible that we are the same people. The disgraceful conduct of the guano impeachers, and especially of Butler in his conduct of the impeachment trial, and the more recent conduct of Donnelly, Washburn, Brooks and others in the House, are enough to make one ashamed of his American citizenship. Our space has been insufficient to publish such scenes, and we are glad of it.

Mr. DAVIS.—There is a rumor mentioned in a Washington letter to the Baltimore *Advertiser*, that Mr. Davis will be discharged by Mr. Chase as soon as within the terms of the general amnesty proclamation.

Mr. Wells, now acting, has been nominated by the Radical Convention as the candidate for Governor of Virginia.

RALEIGH, N. C. SATURDAY, MAY 9, 1868.

NO. 97.

ELECTION TRIFLES.

Prior to and immediately after the late election, we found existing a general apprehension that the Conservatives would be beaten by extensive frauds. While we saw that the showing of men of all classes to voting off last and that the continuance of some of the Registrars to allow men to register privately after the days designated by Gov. Canby's order for registration, left open a wide door for fraud in the voting of improper persons, yet we were so confident of defeating the odious Constitution, that we, on more than one occasion, expressed no apprehension of defeat from extensive fraud. Since the election we have felt that there was but one real cause for our defeat, and that was because there were too few *white men* in the State to vote with the National Legislature, by way of an evasion on Constitutional prerogatives of the Federal Executive.

As such, it shocked the moral and political sense of "the white people," without regard to party divisions, and without regard to diversity of opinion in respect to the merits of Mr. Seward & Seward. And though in view of such an overwhelming demand, Mr. Seward thought it proper at that time to tender his resignation to the President, Mr. Lincoln did not have the slightest hesitation in refusing to accept it, in order that he might contemporaneously repel this meditated invasion of the just rights and dignities pertaining to the Presidential dignity. In this decision he was upheld by the counter voice of the nation, which had looked with indignation on such an unexampled attempt to coerce the President in the choice of his executive measures and constitutional advisers. What was judgment of the people then was most evident in the reflections of the voting day press. We need quote but a single instance, and we select for the purpose of observation that indicant Republican journal, the *Boston Daily Advertiser*, which on November 24, 1867, actually voted in favor of the impeachment of Mr. Seward, to wit:

"We justified in publishing the statement as it came from a respectable gentleman, but it had been ascertained unjustly our columns were open to him. When we demanded the name of the author, when we told him we could not give the use of his name without his writing to our correspondents, he excused him from all blame, believing that reasons of sound public policy have guided him in his executive action.

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From the National Intelligencer.

THE JUDGMENT TO COME.

It will be remembered by every reader that in the latter part of the year 1862 a large number of Republican Senators had become so much dissatisfied with Mr. Seward's administration of the State Department, that they took incisive, the extreme step of addressing to President Lincoln a communication, in which they informed him that Secretary Seward no longer commanded the confidence of the Senate. This set of an irresponsible engine did not assume the gravity of a formal demand for Mr. Seward's expulsion from the Cabinet; but was meant to place before Mr. Lincoln the alternative of either removing the obnoxious secretary, or of forbidding the continued support of the Radical majority in the Senate. It was the first rudest stroke in the National Legislature, by way of an evasion on Constitutional prerogatives of the Federal Executive.

As such, it shocked the moral and political sense of "the white people," without regard to party divisions, and without regard to diversity of opinion in respect to the merits of Mr. Seward & Seward.

What was the result?

Mr. Seward's resignation.

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