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THE SENTINEL.

WM. E. PELL, PROPRIETOR.

HOW IT WAS DONE AND HOW IT WILL BE UNDONE

Each day but serves to *fasten* the conviction upon us that those white men in North Carolina, – exceeding in numbers half by one hundred what we could possibly have anticipated, – who voted for the mongrel Constitution, committed a most grave (we will not say an irretrievable) error. It would be a poor satisfaction to know, as we do, that hundreds are now realizing the fact, and expressing repentance for their fatuity, if we did not also see that much of the mischief, which has been done, is about to be consummated, may not be undone, when the State is admitted as a *co equal* member of the Union, as it must be, in the light of the Constitution, when admitted at all; and if we did not further believe that thousands, who thus voted, will unite with the Democratic and conservative masses in the State, in contributing to the overthrow of Radicalism in the Presidential election.

We heard an incident related, a day or two since, which illustrates, at once, the disgraceful expedients which were employed by the Radicals, in the late election, to influence the votes of the timid and unreflecting white men, as well as the reasons which really operated upon many such to vote for the Constitution and the Radical ticket, though, in this immediate case, they failed of influencing the brave and independent man upon whom they were brought to bear. What we heard may be best related in the form of a dialogue.

Radical – Is it possible that you intend voting against the Constitution?

Citizen – That, certainly, is my intention.

Radical – Why, you will not get back into the Union, if you do.

Citizen – I feel the necessity of "getting back" to the sake of peace and quiet. But these will never come by restoration on the basis of this Constitution. It will aggravate the discord and troubles of the times. I prefer military rule, bad as it is.

Radical – Don't you know that your property will be in danger of confiscation, if you do?

Citizen – Well, I do not believe it; if so, I made what I now have, and I had rather have it go, than that my family and my people should be degraded, and my State ruined, by this thing. I can make a living hereafter, as I have done heretofore.

Radical – But don't you know that the names of all those voting against the Constitution must be written on the back of their ballots, and that Gen. Canby and the military will *mark* all such as disloyal, so that you will probably be arrested?

Citizen – I believe Gen. Canby to be an honest man, and I am not only not afraid, but I am anxious, to let him and all the world know that *I* am too honest to seek the degradation of my neighbors.

Radical – But you formerly belonged to our League, and although you have announced your withdrawal, that does not absolve you from your oath to vote as you are ordered by the League. You will be at once and severely dealt with.

Citizen – I do not look at the matter in that light. I have publicly quit the infamous concern, into which I went unreflectingly, and I have shaken the polluted dust from my feet, and am no longer bound by the obligation. I defy you and your threats. Whatever you may say, there is law enough left in the land to punish *you* for even such menaces.

And thus the conversation, in effect, went on. As we have remarked, there were probably thousands of weak kneed and ignorant men, who *were* influenced by such considerations and deterred by such threats as those above presented. Already they are waking up to a sense of their grave and lamentable error, and they will turn upon their deceivers the first legitimate opportunity that presents itself.

We repeat the prediction, which we have heretofore made, that the clamor for a change in the new Constitution will commence within three months after it goes into operation. Nine-tenths of the white men in North Carolina, who voted for it, are bitterly hostile to the negro-equality spirit which pervades it; but they were either deceived into the idea that no such thing was in it, or that their property or lives would be in danger, if they voted against it. *From such men* will the demand for change first come. Mark that. And when our people shall have witnessed the practical workings of this cobbled up patch-work of Puritan spitefulness, Radical malignity and stupid ignorance, – shall have seen the spectacle of imbecile Judg s disgracing the bench, and other incompetent officers prostituting their positions, and the other evils that will grow out of it, – the clamor will be universal. We expect to see even the more sensible of the negroes disgusted with the work of their Radical masters. "Watch and Wait."

NORTH WESTERN N. C. RAILROAD. – In noticing this Road, on Saturday, we inadvertently stated that the County Court of *Stokes* had ratified the County subscription thereto, when we should have said the County Court of *Forsythe*. The necessary tax has been laid to meet the first instalment, which will fall due on the 1st of January, 1869. We are pleased to learn that there is every prospect that this important enterprise will be pushed rapidly forward.

FEDERAL COURT. – This tribunal is still in session, making good head-way, we learn, with the crowded docket. Most of the cases are for violation of the Revenue laws.

THE NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC NOMINATIONS.

The following views of the Rochester (N. Y.) *Union* as to the obligation resting upon the National Democratic Convention to present an unexceptionable ticket and platform for the support and endorsement of the people, are so just and sensible, that we heartily endorse them, and give them that leading place in our columns, which is devoted to editorial matter. It says:

Never since the organization of the Democratic party was the duty of making a judicious and straight nomination so imperative as now. Such a ticket and platform as will command the confidence of the honest, outspoken, practical action by the New York Convention. The Republican party is disgusted with its leaders and chicanery, alienated from each other, and only held together by the cohesive power of public plunder. It has no candidate worthy of President who, conceded as that is by most of his military career, is politically a total Know Nothing.

A man who has lived forty-six years, and who has never even been an office, by tongue or pen, and that comes civil engineer or clerk, to the modest approach to statesmanship. He has laid down a platform that affirms the general inequalities in the political and material rights of the people, making one section of suffrage in one section, and another rule of suffrage in another section, exempting from taxation thousands of millionaires, in the case of personal property owned in bulk by money-lenders, and putting the whole public burden upon real estate, and the producers of the products, which pays the people's gold to the bankers for bank notes not furnishing the people the currency with a depreciated rate of interest.

The Democracy can go upon the stump against this and that platform, and not be beat. But they can never take hold, positive issue upon the financial questions which underlie every party platform and demands statesmanship, such as Jefferson, Jackson, Clay, Webster, Calhoun and Corwin had, who could see, as they did, the right and wrong of the question, and fearlessly meet it as honest men. Such a ticket and such a platform as will command the confidence of the people, and secure the co-operation of all who are honest, outspoken, practical action by the New York Convention. The Republican party is disgusted with its leaders and chicanery, alienated from each other, and only held together by the cohesive power of public plunder. It has no candidate worthy of President who, conceded as that is by most of his military career, is politically a total Know Nothing.

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