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THE SENTINEL.

WILLIAM E. PELL, | SEATON GALES, EDITORS.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5, 1868

WHAT IS TO BE DONE?

It is perfectly apparent that North Carolina is poorer, now, than she was in 1865, when the war closed. Three years of toil, [illegible] and anxiety, have brought no improvement with them. Provisions are dearer in the State, and there is less money to buy them, than at any period since the war terminated, except in the immediate vicinity of Sherman's army.

[illegible] The majority of the people attribute this to the failure of the crops. The seasons had been good, the crops have been better, and those crops would not have been so needy; nevertheless, the amount of suffering in the State would have been very [illegible]

The true reason why we are poorer and money more scarce is, that there are at least one fourth more consumers, and one-fourth less producers, in the State, since the war, than before. The Radical policy in the Southern States directly leads to increased idleness and pauperism.—[illegible] of demonstration.

Since the close of the war, almost every slave in the South, male and female, even boys and girls over 12 years of age, who could do a full task, were *producers*.—Women and children, capable of labor, aided in the cultivation of the soil. All this has been changed by the policy of the Radicals. This is not owing to the abolition of slavery. We want no slaves, black or white, in the South; but we *want labor*. The Radical policy has made the negro women and children, who used to be *producers*, also *consumers*. Negro boys and girls, from 12 to 18, have quit the fields, as a general thing. White women and children in the South are following the plow and wielding the hoe. Thousands who, in former years, could live without field or manual labor, are now compelled to labor, while large numbers of black women and children share the toil which makes bread. Almost every dollar of additional wealth in the South must be dug out of the ground. It thus is demonstrated that the large withdrawal of labor, by the above named causes, is adding to the poverty of the State.

Besides this increase of consumers in the State, a good portion of those white persons, who have come into the State since the war, who are carpet baggers, have increased the number of consumers. A number of Northern men and foreigners have come into the State, and are pursuing legitimate and profitable employments. They are trying, in various ways, to add to the wealth of the State and of themselves.—There we do not class among the carpet baggers. We mean those ubiquitous, insinuating, creatures, who are ready to hug or kiss a nigger to get office, and who labor to alienate the negroes from their old friends and old owners, in order to get fat positions. Such men are a nuisance and a draw-back to any community.

Before North Carolina can increase in wealth and recover her lost condition, our people must go back to the fields. They must dig the dollar from the earth. *Then* we shall prosper and not otherwise.

NEGROES IN OFFICE.

To keep up the deception of the poor negroes, which the carpet-baggers and scalawags have carried on for three years, Governor Holden has appointed a number of negroes Justices of the Peace in several counties, and Commissioners in the several towns. The *Standard* makes no distinction, in its columns, between whites and blacks; hence we do not know in what counties and towns negroes have been appointed to office. We shall be obliged to our friends to inform us what blacks have been appointed to particular offices in their counties, and as to the characters of the men.

There is one fact, however, which ought to strike the black and colored population. In no instance, that we hear of, has the Governor appointed a single negro to an office *which pays*. A Justice of the Peace, Commissioner of a town, or of the Charitable Institutions, doesn't get any pay. They are mere offices of honor, and our blacks are anxious to wear them. A few of the blacks get police appointments, but the pay is very shallow in such positions.

WASTE AND EXTRAVAGANCE.—The representatives of negro constituencies in the Legislature are foremost in every scheme of extravagance and plunder. Several of them have declared upon the floor of either House, that *their* constituents never complained of any legislation that their representatives thought necessary, whatever the amount of taxation it might involve. This is so. The negroes have not complained, and will not complain, at any amount of extravagance and waste of the public money.—They pay little or none of it, and never intend to, and many of them are in favor of letting scalawags and carpet-baggers have free access to it, in the hope that they will get a share. But the *white people* pay the taxes, and *they* have a right to complain of waste and exorbitance by those who misrepresent, oppress and would humiliate them!

There is no third party. All the thieves of the revenue and of the whiskey ring, and the stealers of spoons, and horses, and pianos, may unite to form one, but at present they belong to the Republican party.

CORRUPTION OF PUBLIC MEN.

A careful inquiry into the conduct and characters of the public men, who control the legislative bodies of the Republic, both State and National, forces the conclusion that never, in the history of the country, has there been so much corruption, personal baseness and venality among them as at present. Within the last thirty years, it has been believed that, here and there among our public men, they had their price, but only since the beginning of the late civil war have the legislative bodies been very corrupt!

Charges of corruption for years have been made against Northern Legislatures and the Congress. Now and then, particular instances of venality and corruption have been made public, but neither the press nor the pulpit have ever as specifically and faithfully denounced them as they should have done.

The great sin of the country is, and has been, the *love of money*. Formerly, before the demoralization of the people had become so general, most men, who sought public position, were impelled by a desire for fame and popular honor. The sources of society, the family circle and family discipline, had not then become so much neglected as at present. In late years, political office has been sought as a vocation, as a means of making money, and we are informed that, in Congress and the Northern States, this has become general, because of the corrupting influence exerted upon the legislation of the country.

Henry Ward Beecher, in one of his late slashing sermons on the text "Thou shalt not steal," says that the buying and selling of votes, especially in the large cities, has become alarmingly prevalent. It is done, he says, without shame; and sometimes men sell their votes a hundred times over. He says the municipal bodies of large cities are proverbially dishonest.

The Legislatures of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and Kansas, have the reputation of being regularly bought and sold, and it is said that the Legislatures of Massachusetts and Connecticut, Ohio and Iowa, have been intensely corrupted.

Congress, which is, no doubt, the theatre of corruption and venality, on a grander scale than any of the Legislatures, Beecher allows to pass with a slightly depreciatory notice. If the facts connected with these corruptions could be brought out and published to the world, good would be accomplished. Here is a good field for the operations of an intelligent detective. If the publishers of the North, who are filling the country now with *cheap* publications, would get out a reliable and full disclosure of the corruptions of the times in this regard, they would do a good thing for themselves and the public. What is wanted are facts, well-supported, in order to effect such an exposure as will drive the guilty from public life.

The field for corruption in Congress, we are told, is very large. It is said that a seat in Congress to a pliant man is worth from $80,000 to $150,000 per annum. The Pacific Railroad, the Whiskey Ring, the Indian treaties and public lands, have been great sources of corruption.

In North Carolina, we have been strangers to this state of things. In former years, we have heard of men's votes being bought in the ordinary elections, but this has been confined to the most ignorant and abandoned of society. We know no instance in a North Carolina Legislature, in which any particular individual has been charged, upon good ground, with having been bribed.

The advent of the carpet baggers into this State was the harbinger of this species of corruption among us. It is believed, and was charged, during the late so-called "Constitutional Convenshun," that corrupt influences prevailed in successfully carrying several projects through that body, in which Northern bondholders were interested. The investigations made resulted in no discoveries, but we nevertheless find that many believe that "black mail" was employed effectually. The very same influences are at work in the present Legislature. The manœuverings and manipulations of certain carpet-baggers, supposed to control a pretty large amount of funds, indicate this. Keen operators do not require much money in order to success here. The parties to be reached are not much used to a plethoric purse, and, therefore, can be more easily persuaded as to the utility, propriety and safety of any measure proposed!

We shall not hesitate to expose the actors in any scheme into which the Legislature may be led by designing men, against the present or future interests of the people of the State, when we can reach the facts in a proper way.

A CAPITAL EXAMPLE.

At a Mass Meeting in Anson, recently, among large numbers of white Conservatives and Democrats, there were a number of blacks and colored persons. After Col. Bennett and others had addressed the meeting, some anxiety was manifested to hear from Mike Edwards, a colored man present. The *Argus* says:

"Mike responded, and addressed himself mainly to the colored folks, in a few well timed and sensible remarks. He pointed out to them the wrong they were doing themselves in operating with and voting with people who were doing all they could to degrade their old masters, and how much their course was bound to injure those upon whom they were dependent for their bread. If those who employ them suffer, so must they."

THE FUNDING BILL DEAD.—It is authoritatively announced that the President will not sign the funding bill.

MILITARY DESPOTISM.

We publish, on our first page, a card from nine of the Columbus (Ga.) prisoners, whose account of the treatment which they have experienced fully accords with that of hundreds under the military rule the Southern people have been subjected to, especially in the command of Gen. Meade. Many cases have occurred, which have not yet been brought to light. Hundreds, perhaps, are yet incarcerated in the various forts and penitentiaries, by the verdict of Military Commissions. These things ought to subject the District Commanders to the most rigid investigations of a Court Martial. If Gen Grant is a friend of peace or of the simplest justice he would have these investigations at once. He is responsible to the country for the despotic acts of his subordinates.

A "Lion" Church. We learn that a meeting of Radicals was held at the Capitol, on Sunday afternoon last, to take into consideration the propriety and necessity of establishing, in this City, "a bold Church and Congregation," where they can worship "under their own vine and fig-tree." The venerable "Pilgrim" Ashley, was rallied to the Chair. The movement seems to have been shaped under the auspices of Rev. William H. Mebane, now of Charlotte, formerly a very zealous Secessionist and war man, who doffed his clerical robes, at the outset of the war, to become a Captain of a Company in the Confederate service.—Messrs Ashley, Brown, Minor and Whitson, of the ministry, and such pious laymen as "Gov." Holden and Thomas Ruffin, Attorney General Boreman, Speaker Joseph W. Holden, and others, very solemnly approved of the movement, and about $300 were raised to carry the project. We learn that the Speaker of the House presided, at the request, for the occasion, as Chairman. The meeting was opened by singing an old hymn, beginning "Come Thou Almighty King," to which there is a tolerably good music, inside.

It is said that a [illegible] were compelled to take this step, in self-protection, for the reason that they and their children were shunned at all the other churches. Men, whose hands are not unlikely raised against others, and who are so very uncharitable and uncompromising as these men are, very naturally conclude that other people follow and shun them. They see the mote in other people's eye, but never the beam in their own. Abolitionism and fanaticism drove many from the churches, No 8, but we undertake to say that there is no foundation for the charge that Radicals are treated unkindly and unchristianly at any of our churches.

It is also untrue that they have political sermons at our churches. We have heard of no such sermons at any of the *white* churches in the city. That ministers of the Gospel, who are Radicals, are not invited to officiate in the churches, for the reason that a good portion of the congregations will not hear them, is true, to some extent; but that any man who goes, as a hearer, to any of our churches, is treated improperly, because of his political opinions, is false.

The movement we consider a very proper one in itself. These people really need Church privileges, and if they *cannot enjoy* them with others, it is proper they should get up a "bull" Church of their own. We learn that the name of the "Church of the *Strangers*" was suggested, as a proper name, but the suggestion was not acceptable!

MORE PROSCRIPTION.—We learn that the Yankee negro-scallawag Board of Directors of the Institution for the Deaf, the Dumb and Blind met on Saturday afternoon, and removed the energetic and faithful Steward, Mr. J. A. Leach, and elected one Ellis, in his place, who hails from somewhere in this County. Mr. Leach's only offence is that he is not a Radical, for the Board took occasion to express a high commendation of the manner in which he had discharged his laborious duties. This is a most shameful outrage, but it is in entire keeping with Holden's declaration that no office or employment in the State shall be filled by any one who does not sustain him and his party.

At the same time, Mr. Mansfield, the efficient and vigilant watchman of the Institution, was displaced to make room for J. R. Caswell, a mulatto of this City. While it is a burning shame that Mr. H. should have been ostracized for his political opinions, we will do John the credit to say that he is a very well behaved and industrious colored man.

This mongrel Board did not stop here. Radicalism has no regard for sex, age or condition. That estimable and accomplished lady, Mrs. Nellie Young, whose services in the Musical Department of the Institution have been so valuable, was also turned out of the position which she has so long graced. Her place was filled by Mrs. Slater, (formerly Miss Carscross,) who has been in this City, only a few months, engaged in giving dancing lessons.

In view of such developments as these, repeated day after day, it behooves Conservatives and Democrats, more and more, to stand by each other, to give the preference in employment to each other, and in every way closely to maintain and promote each other's interests. Will they not resolve, in every primary meeting, to do this, and then carry their resolves, *practically*, into effect?

The negro and scallawag members of the Texas Convention have voted themselves fifteen dollars a day for their valuable services in making a Constitution.

It is said that the Editor's Drawer in *Harper's Magazine* is made up by a woman. So are a great many editors' drawers.

WHAT WE MUST DO IN SELF-DEFENCE!

At a meeting of the Seymour and Blair Club, held at Wadesboro', on the 25th ult., the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, It is the avowed policy of the leaders of the Radical party in this State to exclude from every employment under the State all persons who are opposed to the principles of that party, and whereas, we, as a portion of the Conservative party of North Carolina, are opposed to Radicalism in all its forms, principles and policy; Therefore,

Resolved, That, in self defence, we will, on all occasions and under all circumstances, give preference to laborers and others of the Conservative and Democratic party in all employments under our control.

Conservatives and Democrats, everywhere, are *forced* to adopt this policy. Our opponents are determined, AND TO MUST WE BE. Stand up to your friends! Help those who help you! Yet remove the starving of all creeds, who are working and drawing.

THE NEW YORK *Tribune* advises "Southern men, who are not Democrats, not to emigrate Southward, until it shall have been settled that they may there enjoy the protection of the laws." What contemptible malignity and impudent unconsciousness! Every one of the Southern States is either under Radical rule or military sway, and all of them have been governed by the sword and the bayonet since the surrender. If any one, therefore, has been, or is, deprived of the "protection of the laws," whose fault is it? The only people who are likely to be deprived of the protection of the laws in North Carolina, are the white men of the State, whom it is proposed to oppress, intimidate and keep from the polls by an armed negro Militia or Police force! We would like advice, and, if to emigrate is treason, for we shall have neither peace, nor, we may not "protection of laws."

The *Tribune* knows, we well that the prime instigators of all this mischief are the Northern carpet baggers, who wish to fill their hungry maws by schemes of distraction, plunder and terror. Their lawless, vindictive and mercenary designs are abetted by only a few deprived and abominated scallawags and turbulent negroes.

THERE is not a day that passes that we do not hear the plaintive lamentation from scallawags, that they are tabooed and ignored by the respectable portion of the community, that they are the objects of avoidance and scorn. Yes, that is so. Do they not merit it? The scorn of the worth and intelligence of the South *does* follow them. Our children are growing up to despise them. And why? Have they any claim upon the confidence of society? Does not their legislation tend to degrade and injure their fellow citizens? Are they not marplots in the State, to disturb the peace and welfare of the community? Have they not abandoned their old friends, their old associations, their old principles? Have they not abandoned their race, ignored the distinctions which God, and society, and history, have always made between the black and white races, from a selfish, petty motive—for the sake of office and position, which they have obtained by unlawful votes of negroes? Have they not joined in with the political crusaders up in Southern rights and Southern home, putting down the white men and elevating the negro? Are they surprised that they rise or fall with the negro?—that public sentiment puts them with the negro? Yes, they deserve what they get, until they repent of their course, purge themselves of their hypocrisy and filth, and go back whence they started?

WAYNE.—A large number of the citizens of Goldsboro' met in that place, last week, to form a Seymour and Blair Club. Dr. A. G. Davis was called to the Chair and Messrs. T. W. Slocumb and E. B. Grantham were appointed Secretaries. The meeting was able and eloquently addressed by Col. J. W. Morris, Hon. W. F. Dortch, Col. L. W. Humphrey and Wm. R. Cox, Esq. Great enthusiasm prevailed. The following permanent officers of the club were chosen, viz: President, Col. L. W. Humphrey; Vice President, W. G. Morsey, Esq.; Corresponding Secretary, Dr. Daniel Coughlt; Recording Secretary, Thos. W. Slocumb, Esq.; Treasurer, Jno. H. Powell. The subjoined resolutions, among others, were adopted, viz:

Resolved, That we invite the colored people of this county, and Wayne, county of our kindly and friendly feelings towards them, and hereby invite them to unite with us in this organization to secure constitutional government and to support the reckless acts of the radical party.

Resolved, That we invite the people of the county to meet us here en masse on Saturday, the 1st prox., to consult together and to nominate delegates to the State Democratic Convention to be held in Raleigh on the 13th day of August next.

AT A LATE meeting of the Conservative Army and Navy Union, in Washington, that gallant soldier and patriotic statesman, Gen. Ewing, said:

"Comrades, it is for us to shake off this horrid incubus that hangs above our Southern brethren, and we will do it at the ballot-box in November. (Prolonged applause.) It is impossible that any sensible Radical can for a moment believe that these governments can stand—despotisms planted on the necks of men as brave as we are, men who love liberty as much as we do, men of a race who during the past 200 years have never bowed to a despot."

In Kentucky, ex-Governors Bramlette and Jacob, Governor Stevenson, and Colonel Wolford, are all on the stump, and the enthusiasm is great in spite of the fact that the Radicals oppose no ticket to make a fight.

STATE NEWS.

Zara Rex Jeames (better known as Poor Taylor) made a so called speech to the negroes of Warren, on Monday of last week. He was accompanied by Jim Jones, another darkey. The *Courier* was more favorably impressed with Jim Jones than with Zara Ben.

Eaton Robinson, negro, of Warren, scornfully declines the appointment of Squire affectionately tendered him by the man who "writes himself Governor." Eaton says he knows more about shoe-making than administering the law.

Mr. John H. Hyman, of Scotland Neck, died at his home on Wednesday, the 22nd. ult., of consumption.

The individual, "who writes himself Governor," has made the following appointments, in part, of magistrates for Granville, viz: Capt. I. J. Young, R. E. Young, W. H. Hughes and S. G. Wilson. The Henderson *Index* suggests that, under *existing circumstances*, one of them would do well not to accept. If he does, it will ventilate him.

The Democrats and Conservatives of Newbern have entered upon the campaign with true spirit. Meetings are frequent and enthusiastic. At the last meeting of the City Club, a Committee of six from each Captain's District in the county was appointed, to attend to the organization of Seymour and Blair Clubs throughout the county.

The *Journal* intimates that Galloway, the so called "Senator" from New Hanover, slapped the face of one of the white Radical officials recently in that county, during a recent visit to Wilmington.

The Concord *Press* states that a highly respectable Conservative gentleman, Col. Kennedy, living within four miles of Big Lick, Stanly County, was rocked a short time ago by the "trooly loil" of that section. Since that time, Col. K. has received several notes, ordering him to settle up his business and leave, on penalty of being hung for failure. Such outrages, the *Press* is informed, are of frequent occurrence in that neighborhood. If Holden's black and white standing army is formed, they will never be sent to "Big Lick."

Messrs. Sherwood C. Liles and Sanford Liles, of Anson, appointed magistrates by Holden, decline the "honor." The former says, with true spirit, that "he covets no honors from the source whence this appointment comes"; and the latter says, with equal manliness: "I do not want any office; and, if I did, would, most certainly, not ask it at the hands of Gov. Holden. Besides, there are men appointed as magistrates in Anson with whom I could not associate, officially or otherwise."

The Superior Court of Halifax, special term, has been in session,—Judge Mitchell presiding. A negro man, named McCray, was convicted of manslaughter for killing his daughter some time last Fall, and a negro boy similarly convicted for killing another negro near Enfield, a short while since. The Court is at present engaged in the trial of the Wade Ditcher murderers,—Gen. W. R. Cox, Solicitor, and Gen. M. W. Ransom appearing for the State, and Messrs. Conningland, W. B. Pope, W. H. Day and W. P. Solomon appearing for the prisoners.

P. S. We learn that the argument in this last mentioned case was concluded on Friday night, and his Honor having charged the Jury, they returned in a short while with a verdict of guilty. On Saturday, they were brought into Court, and, judgment being prayed, they were sentenced to be hanged on the 14th inst., from which sentence an appeal was taken to the Supreme Court. The case was very ably managed on both sides.

The man "who writes himself Governor" has appointed two negro *Squires* for the fourth district of Halifax county. One of them, Sandy Long, with commendable sense, refuses to accept the position, giving as his reason that he is wholly incapable of filling any position.

The Democratic Club of Wilmington has adopted a series of resolutions looking to suitable provision for the aching Police force of that city. Contributions for these worthy men will be collected from the merchants of Wilmington, and measures will be at once adopted to give them suitable employment.

We have received an advance copy of a little pamphlet by Sergeant Bates, giving an interesting account of his march through the South, from Vicksburg to Washington. The work will be used for campaign purposes. Orders can be sent to Sergeant Bates, care of Conservative Army and Navy Union. Price $8 per hundred.—*Wash. Express.*

Stokes, the Tennessee "loyalist," who does not know as much about the English language as Theodoric did about Choctaw, enlisted as robel soldier May 10, 1861, and "commended Isham G. Harris, Governor of Tennessee, for arming the State and resisting Lincoln at the point of the bayonet."

GOVERNOR OF TENNESSEE.—The election for Governor in this State will not take place until August, 1869, and is a contest of Andrew Johnson against some one for the Gubernatorial office the best they can give under the circumstances.

A dispatch from Chicago says: "Mr. Pendleton has been invited by the Democratic State Committee to stump Illinois.—It is reported that he will accept the invitation, and will make his first speech about the middle of August at Springfield."

Grant is as dead as the hundred and seventeen thousand poor fellows that he sacrificed between the Rapidan and City Point.

THE COLUMBUS PRISONERS.

Their Cruel and Inhuman Treatment.

THE SOUTH UNDER RADICAL MILITARY RULE.

A CARD FROM THE PRISONERS.

JULY 25, 1868.

Upon resuming our personal liberty, we, the undersigned, known as the Columbus prisoners, deem it proper to publish the following brief account of our arrest and confinement by the military authorities:

During the night of the 30th of March Geo. W. Ashburn was assaulted in a low negro brothel in Columbus, Georgia. On the 5th of April thirteen citizens were arrested by Captain Mills, of the United States army. On the 10th they were released under bond; four of this number have never been re-arrested. The man Mills stated that he did not know the charge against the party arrested, but no one believed him, and the fact is only mentioned to show the character of the proceedings. On the 14th day of May four arrests were made, on the 24th four, on the 2d of June four more, on the 16th seven, followed the next day by two others; on the 24th another and the last arrest occurred. These arrests were made by the order of General Meade. Several of the undersigned have in their possession written orders which show this fact. The arrests were made without warrant, affidavit, or charge. No preliminary examination was held. We were kept in total ignorance of the *ex parte* evidence against us, and the names of our accusers were concealed from us. No one who has followed the trial will be surprised at this apparent neglect.

While we were clamoring for the charges against us, Joe Brown, Whitley, Major Smyth, and others, were suborning Betz, Marshall, Bennett, and Amanda Patterson. The evidence for the prosecution acknowledges that disclosures were made under threats of imprisonment. This is bad enough, but a worse feature is that the date of these disclosures is placed by the witnesses themselves *subsequent* to the arrest of a majority of the prisoners. The question naturally arises upon what foundation were the arrests based? Of the twenty two persons arrested on and since the 14th of May, four were *suborned by torture, bribery, and threats*. Nine, after confinement in *felon's cells*, and much suffering, were released without any explanation whatever. The remaining nine are the signers of this card.—The prisoners arrested in May were at Fort Pulaski before they were removed to Atlanta. Their cells were as dark, as dungeons, without ventilation, and but four feet by seven. No bed or blankets were furnished. The rations consisted of a *slice of fat* pork three times each week, and beef too unsound to eat the remaining days. A piece of bread for each meal, soup for dinner, and coffee for breakfast, finished the bill of fare. An old *oyster can* was given each prisoner, and in this vessel both coffee and soup were served. It may be said that the soldiers received nothing better, but these citizens were not soldiers, and their friends were able, willing, and anxious to give them every comfort; they were denied the privilege. Refused all communication with their friends, relatives, or counsel, they were forced to live in these horrid cells night and day, prostrated by heat, and maddened by myriads of mosquitoes. The calls of nature were attended to in a bucket, which was removed but once in twenty-four hours.

At McPherson Barracks, we were placed in cells five feet eleven inches wide by ten feet long. These cells were afterwards divided, reducing their width to 2 (two) feet 10 (ten) inches. This is terrible, but true. Upon the arrival of the officer sent from Washington to investigate the arrests, the partitions were removed. Neither bed nor bedding was furnished for from two to five days. We were not permitted to see our friends, family or counsel until memorials to Congress had aroused the whole country to the enormity of the outrage. Even after this, our letters, breathing the affection and sympathy of a wife or mother, were subjected to inspection. The prison sink was immediately at our cell doors, and emitted a stench that was horrible.

At times when some humane soldier was willing to transcend his orders and give us a breath of fresh air to soothe our distended, bursting veins, we would ask him to close the door, preferring to risk suffocation rather than endure the intolerable smell.

During all this time we were ignorant of the charges against us. Of course, we suspected the common rumor that our arrest grew out of the murder of Ashburn; but after our counsel was permitted to visit us, no definite line of defence could be planned in the absence of all specifications. We were furnished with a copy of the charges against us on the 27th day of June, our trial having been set for the 29th. The intervening day was Sunday, and we were one hundred and forty miles from the scene of the murder, and the residence of our witnesses.

Several of the undersigned never saw the detective Winthey until weeks after their arrest. When they did meet him he never *presumed* to treat them with *disrespect*.

Recent developments, new to us, have shown him to be *infamous*, and his treatment of suborned witnesses will be proven by those who know the facts. Our friends and the press have not *exaggerated* the barbarity with which we were treated, but they should not *throw the responsibility* upon a *contemptible* detective, who would only glore in the notoriety his infamy would give him. We fly for higher game. General Meade told General R. H. Chilton, (during the war General Lee's Adjutant,) upon the eve of his departure from Atlanta, that he had left full instructions with General Sibley concerning the disposition of the Columbus prisoners. These *instructions controlled* our treatment, and leave no issue as to the question of RESPONSIBILITY. At the proper time, and in a manner that will not intrude upon your valuable space, we will make good our position, and will show conclusively that this unparalleled persecution was attempted solely and entirely for *political* purposes.

The officers and soldiers of the garrison were kind as their orders would permit, and respectful, with but few exceptions. General Dunn's courtesy during our trial, especially after Duke's *alibi*, was in strong contrast with the rudeness, roughness, and *unmanly* conduct of Joe Brown.

Of the able and untiring efforts of our counsel, we cannot speak in too high praise. To the people of Georgia, and especially to our good friends in Atlanta, we return our sincere thanks for their sympathy and assistance.

W. D. CHIPLEY, and eight others.

THE BANKRUPT BILL.

The following is the text of the bill amendatory of the act to establish a uniform system of bankruptcy throughout the United States, which passed both Houses of Congress last week. Its effect is to postpone the action of the fifty per cent. clause, which went into effect June 1, until January next:

Be it enacted, &c., That the provisions of the second clause of the thirty second section of said act shall not apply to cases of proceedings in bankruptcy commenced prior to the first day of January, 1869, and the time during which the operation of the provision of said clause is postponed shall be extended until the said first day of January, 1869; and said clause is so amended as to read as follows: "In all proceedings in bankruptcy commenced after January, 1869, no discharge shall be granted to a debtor whose assets shall not be equal to fifty per centum of the claims proved against his estate, upon which he shall be liable as the principal debtor, unless the assets in writing of a majority in number and value of his creditors, to whom he shall have become liable as principal debtor, and who shall have proved their claims, be filed in the case at or before the time of the hearing of the application for discharge."

SEC. 2. That said act be further amended as follows: The phrase "prosecuted or defended," in the fourteenth section of said act, shall read, "prosecuted or defended;" the phrase "non-resident debtors" in line five, section twenty two of the act, as printed in the Statutes at Large, shall read "non-resident creditors;" the word "or" in the next to the last line of the thirty-ninth section of the act shall read "and;" and that the phrase "section thirteen" in the forty second section of said act shall read "section eleven;" and the phrase "or spends any part thereof in gaming," in the forty fourth section of said act, shall read "or shall spend any part thereof in gaming;" and that the words "with the senior register or," and the phrase "to be delivered to the register," in the forty-seventh section of said act, be stricken out.

SEC. 3. That the registers in bankruptcy shall have power to administer oaths in all cases, and in relation to all matters in which oaths may be administered by commissioners or circuit courts of the United States, and such commissioners may take proof of debts in bankruptcy in all cases, subject to revision of such proofs by registers by court, according to the provisions of said act.

THE REGULARS AND THE CARPET-BAGGERS.

The Chicago *Tribune*, the leading Radical organ of the great Northwest, has no patience with the new carpet-bag Senators and Representatives. It accuses them of officiousness and impertinence. The *Tribune* says that instead of manifesting that modesty which becomes men in a new position, and leaving the direction of affairs to the old and experienced members, they were no sooner sworn in than they insolently undertook to dictate to Congress. This "handful" or "parcel of men," says the *Tribune*, made three demands. "One calling upon Congress to continue in session till winter, another demanding legislation for the relief of loyalists in Texas, Mississippi and Virginia, and a third calling for the impeachment of the President, and pledging the assembly to use its best efforts to keep Congress at Washington until he had been removed from office."

The *Tribune* calls them "hot head neophytes," who are "caballing with outsiders from their section of the country, and with political adventurers hailing from nowhere, to produce a pressure for the purpose of influencing legislation."

DEPARTMENTS OR DISTRICTS.—It is said that the Second and Third Military Districts, comprising the States of North and South Carolina, Alabama, Florida, and Georgia, have ceased to exist, but of what practical bearing is this when these States are not taken out of two military districts to be consolidated into one military department, and the bayonet yet remains? Names are nothing in a case like this; in fact, and the facts are that, while the name of district has been merged in department, Meade still wields the military power in the department just as he did in the district. "The Second and Third Military Districts," says Grant's order, "having ceased to exist, the States of North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, and Florida will constitute the Department of the South, Major-General George G. Meade to command."—Go on, command what? Why, the Department of the South? And what is the Department of the South? Why, "the States of North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, and Florida." So that the truth is that, whereas, under the name of District, Meade commanded three States, he is now, under the name of Department, to command five.—*World.*

SEYMOUR AND BLAIR IN PHILADELPHIA.—The Philadelphia *Age* has the following communication:

"We feel proud to learn that one hundred German citizens in one of the upper wards of the city, who have hitherto voted the Radical ticket, have declared their intention to support Seymour and Blair. The German citizens of the Sixth Ward are also flocking to the support of the Democratic party, being unwilling to belong any longer to such a corrupt, reckless, and revolutionary party as that now in power. The Germans, not only in the upper wards, but all over the city, are coming into the Democratic ranks. We take pleasure in stating, on the authority of Dr. Hoffnagel, of the leading German citizens of the Sixth Ward, and who is well posted as to the German sentiment throughout the city, that three-fourths of the Germans will support Seymour and Blair and the entire Democratic nominees."

General Butler said in a speech, two or three days ago, that President Johnson was more guilty than Judas Iscariot. It is very natural that Ben should have a kind feeling for Judas, for the latter took sundry pieces of silver and carried the bag.

From now until November the order is: Attack the enemy at every point. With powder, quick fire and hot shot, we will scatter them like frightened sheep.

"Let us have peace," says General Grant. The Philadelphia *Press* repeats the cry in its press columns with a tiresome iteration, while in its political column we find the following:

"Shall the past be forgiven?
No; never while a tombstone stands
Above a soldier's grave."

Let us have peace, says Grant. Grant's masters in Congress seek a new civil war at the South.