

The Semi-Weekly Sentinel.

VOL. 4.

RALEIGH, N. C., SATURDAY, MAY 7, 1870.

NO. 78.

THE SENTINEL.

PUBLIC TAX AND BURDEN.

There was a time when nothing could so vex the public mind more than light, much less burdensome taxes, such as are now imposed upon a broken down and impoverished people.

The annual expenditures of the State government up to the year 1840, did not exceed \$30,000. The tax this year of Wake county alone, exceeds that amount by several thousand dollars.

In former years when a canal was to be cut, a river to be cleared or a Railroad built, it was a subject of public discussion before the Legislature would venture to pass bills and levy taxes for the purpose.

The late Legislature, composed mainly of negroes, carpet baggers and scoundrels, was made up of no-accounts, voted \$20,000,000 for Railroads. Appropriated the amount with the full knowledge that only \$15,000,000 worth of work could be paid for this sum, as State bonds were selling for only 50 cents in the dollar.

No solvent, sensible man will attempt to improve his own estate by giving his note for a dollar when only 50 cents worth of work is done upon it, nor will he commit the public to such a policy.

Many of the members of the Legislature of 1868, who voted \$20,000,000 for the North Carolina Railroad, were men who were notorious because of the debt and burden which they had imposed upon the State.

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THE RICHMOND TRAGEDY.

In response to the resolutions passed at the recent meeting of citizens of this place in reference to the late Richmond calamity, yesterday was observed as a day of humiliation and prayer. At 10 o'clock, A. M., all places of business were closed, and the tolling of the various church bells, announced that religious services were about to take place.

Soon the streets were a deserted look, and the bustle of noise and bustle gave evidence of the deep feeling of solemnity which pervaded the entire community.

At the Methodist Church, Rev. Mr. Daily preached to a large congregation, an appropriate and most impressive sermon, taking his text from the 24th chapter and 44th verse of Matthew, "Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh." We regret that we were not able to give a synopsis of it to our readers.

According to previous announcement, Rev. Wm. E. Pelt, conducted the services at the Baptist Church. He delivered an excellent discourse, taking for his text the 4th verse of the 3d chapter of Amos, "Shall there be evil in a city, and the Lord hath not done it?"

He showed that there was no such thing as accident, or chance, or fortune, but that all events have an adequate cause, and that evil exists, both moral and natural.

The evil referred to was natural evil—God's instrument to warn, to discipline or to destroy.

The Richmond calamity, the speaker said, was one of those natural evils—like war, pestilence, famine, the earthquake, tornado, &c. All these were in the order of God and under his control. They were his instruments of wrath, but nevertheless, were mingled with mercy. Happy for our race that God held them in his hands and had not transferred them either to man or to Satan. The speaker dwelt upon the particulars of the Richmond tragedy.

The subject taught, that all events occur within the order and control of divine providence. That private or public calamity should humiliate us. That all earthly hopes and calculations are uncertain and unreliable. That our only security is in God's favor and approbation, and that being death or other calamity must be our lot, we should be ready—always ready.

At the Presbyterian Church, solemn and impressive services were held, conducted by the Pastor, Rev. J. M. Applegate.

After beautiful and appropriate prayers and hymns, an earnest and forcible sermon was delivered by the Pastor, from 1st Corinthians, Ch. 9th, 31st verse. "For the fashion of the world passeth away."

We have heard the sermon spoken of by those that heard it, as being replete, with fervent eloquence and Christian zeal.

The exercises in St. John's Church (Episcopal) were of a very solemn and impressive character. The services were read by the Rev. Bennett Smiles, and the sermon preached by the Rev. Aldert Smiles, D. D.

The reverend speaker, with great fervor and eloquence, expounded the text, and the recent catastrophe, and impressed the duty of repentance with much power.

The sermon was replete with illustration and practical teaching and was listened to with great attention. The services were closed by the singing of that beautiful hymn, "The Spirit of God is now descending, and the prayer of the saints is ascending."

There was mass at St. John's Church at 7 o'clock A. M., and the church through out the day, according to the announcement of Rev. J. V. McNamara, Pastor, on Sunday last.

The following is the response of Gov. Walker, of Virginia, to the resolutions passed by the recent meeting of State officials, upon the reception of the news of the Richmond catastrophe:

RICHMOND, Va., May 5, 1870.
W. R. Richardson, Esq., Secretary, &c., Executive Department, Raleigh, N. C.

Sir:—His Excellency, Governor Walker, has directed me to acknowledge the receipt of your favor of the 29th ult., enclosing a copy of the proceedings of a meeting held the same day in the Executive offices at Raleigh.

His Excellency instructs me to say that the people of Virginia are profoundly grateful for the many evidences of kind sympathy which their affliction has called forth from their fellow citizens of the other States of the Union, and will heartily appreciate the action taken by the representatives of the Executive Department of the State of North Carolina. It will afford him a melancholy pleasure to give the resolutions adopted the proper disposition.

I have the honor to be, Very Respectfully,
Your Obedt. Servant,
F. H. OWENS,
Gov. and A. D. C.

The following is the reply of Mayor Elyson, to the resolutions adopted by the citizens of Raleigh:

RICHMOND, Va., May 2nd.
Dear Sir:—The injuries received on Wednesday last, preventing my attention to business until to day, I could not sooner acknowledge the receipt of the resolutions adopted by the citizens of Raleigh, at the public meeting, on which you presided.

In behalf of our afflicted people, I thank the citizens of Raleigh for their sympathies in our sore trial. Up to this afternoon, sixty six victims of the terrible calamity which befell the city of Richmond, and others are known to have been rescued. A few of the latter, are yet in a critical condition.

With very great respect,
Your obedient servant,
(Signed) H. K. ELLYSON, Mayor.

IMPOLITIC.

We notice in the Standard of Tuesday last, the announcement, that it has been determined by the city authorities to levy a tax of ten cents on each horse cart or wagon, twenty cents on each two-horse cart or wagon and twenty five cents on each four-horse wagon, bringing produce of any kind to our market.

We suppose the Standard is fully posted in regard to the matter. This is impolitic and besides, very unjust to the farmers and others in the country, who furnish us with the necessities of life, and we enter our protest against the proceeding, in the name of the farmers of the country and of the consumers of the city.

The tendency of this movement will be to induce those bringing produce to market, to wait until after market hours, and then sell from house to house, thus defeating the very idea of a market, and probably, in many instances, preventing produce, which has but very small quantities of produce from bringing it to market at all.

EASTERN WARD IMPROVEMENTS.—We understand that certain citizens of Eastern Ward, contemplate asking permission of the next General Assembly to erect on the old Baptist Square, a market house to be erected on pillars of brick, one hundred yards in length, and wide enough to accommodate all our country coaches with shelter, including carts and teams, and that they estimate for the building hereabout \$100,000.

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THE KU-KLUX QUESTION IN THE SENATE—RADICAL AND DEMOCRATIC RULE COMPARED.

In the United States Senate, Monday April 26th, when the matter of Ku Klux in Georgia, was being discussed, the following colloquy took place between that carpet bag villain, Abbott, who pretends to represent this State, and Mr. Thurman, of Ohio:

Mr. Abbott.—The honorable Senator from Ohio denies that there are any Ku Klux.

Mr. Thurman.—No, sir, I do not deny any such thing. I never denied any such thing. Your reconstruction acts were calculated to make Ku Klux. I do not wonder that they did make Ku Klux. After putting eight million people under the heel of military law, with power to try them by court martial and military commission, and hang them, in violation of the constitution, and then putting a set of ignorant field negroes above all the intelligence of the white race, and giving them instruments of destruction to set upon the States of the United States and to the House of Representatives of the United States; and put in the place of Governors and Judges, men whose feet were hardly warm on the soil, I do not wonder if they made Ku Klux. I am not justifying the Ku Klux.

Mr. Abbott.—I think the Senator makes a very good defense of the Ku Klux.

Mr. Thurman.—The Senator may say so. I say that it is quite natural there should have been Ku Klux. I am making no defense for them. But human nature, and you cannot trample out the impulses of the human heart by any laws you may make.

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THE AMNESTY PROCLAMATION.

The Herald's Washington correspondent has interpreted the President's promise of amnesty, and asks him whether he intended to issue it. The President smiled and replied:

No, sir; I don't intend to issue an amnesty proclamation at all. My predecessor, President Johnson, exhausted that pretty thoroughly, (smiling); but it is quite true that I did one time ago contemplate sending to Congress a special message recommending the removal of all disabilities. I thought that a fitting occasion for a message of the kind would be the restoration of Texas and the other States to the Union, believing that it would have the effect to promote general good feeling and harmony throughout the South; but since then there have been so many complaints about outrages in the South and requests for military intervention in a way of the States—like Tennessee and North Carolina, that I have reconsidered my resolution. I have not reached the conclusion that long as the State of society in those districts is such as to call for military aid to preserve order it would be unwise to recommend to Congress the removal of disabilities. For the present, therefore, I cannot send that message to Congress.

"I asked the President if it was true that he had had a message of the kind proposed ready to send to Congress. He replied, 'Yes, sir,' and went on to state that the document had been all ready, but its presentation was abandoned for the reasons already stated.

March the 13th 1870.
North Carolina.

I am a friend of law and order, and I will not permit any man to be responsible for the mischief done by the Ku Klux. Now this is to notify you, A. H. HILL, JAMES WITKOFF, DR. PHILIP CARSON, WM. GIBSON and SAMUEL BHOUGHTOFF will be held strictly responsible for any and all outrages committed in your section of country by said Ku Klux, or organizers as you have been pleased to call them. He did this or you will be made to repeat.

This above is a verbatim transcript of a communication received by AMOS HANCOCK, two or three weeks since, from the Post Office at Oak Springs in this County. It is post-marked Rutherfordton, March 30th, 1870. The original can be seen at any time by application at our office.

The writer evidently tried to disguise his hand-writing, but as to his address, more is known than he intended to disclose. He is a resident of the town of Rutherfordton, and is a member of the Ku Klux, or organizers as you have been pleased to call them. He did this or you will be made to repeat.

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THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON AND GENERAL LEE.

As the campaign of these two great Captains will be always a subject of profound interest and study, I have thought that the following paragraph would not prove uninteresting to that portion of your readers who take more pleasure in historic investigation than in the skirmishing of political parties. The passage occurs in a singularly calm and original article upon Napoleon and Wellington at Waterloo, to be found in the Southern Review for January, 1869. What are some writers who profess to discover as much genius in the Duke of Wellington as they do in Napoleon, the foremost soldier of all the world; as there are some Southern critics who have penetrated so deep down into the surface of strategic movements that they have found higher evidences of Generalship in Gen. Stonewall Jackson and Gen. Johnston than in the great leader of the immortal army of Northern Virginia. This is not, perhaps, to be wondered at. Napoleon and Wellington at Waterloo, to be found in the Southern Review for January, 1869. What are some writers who profess to discover as much genius in the Duke of Wellington as they do in Napoleon, the foremost soldier