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THE SENTINEL

AT PRESS MORNING.

The railroad committee, he it is properly called, are expected here this week. Smoking John and Senator Scott are on the committee.

It is a horrid sight for the *legal* north to see Senator Scott traveling the country with the man whose name headed the ticket as elector for Jefferson Davis, for the state at large, in the better days of the confederacy. What will Senator Scott say when he finds out that Smoking John will swear like Lincoln emancipated thirteen. John will deny this, but if the committee will bear him, we will produce the negro himself, who will testify to Smoking John's keeping him for a long time in orange jail and selling him after he was free, and that too for considerable money.

When the committee arrive, we must republish Mr Badger's evidence on Pool; though John gets out of this by saying Mr Badger is a d—d liar. We never heard of John's cursing except on this subject. It is true, treasurer Dave and others—he did not sustain Mr Badger as they should, and as Mr Badger says they could. But there was no rebuking in Holden's swearing. He swore the thing strong enough and he makes John Pool more odious than a pirate. We think John should be called John K. the Kandling for Kid. How the carpet-baggers and Catows, derrises will swarm

[illegible] will swear their lives an [illegible]

What a beat for scoundrels! Congress appropriated first $40,000 for this rascally gang, then $20,000. Jim Boyd, Bob Lee, and Clerk Bill Albright, do Hold up? Tom Lee, Detective Bisher, Kirk and Brown—son pouched that. Then $100,000 is appropriated to take the murderers over again and pay John a Pool seven dollars doing so, he swindling 10 cents a mile for traveling expenses.

While John comes down to investigate the character and standing of his constituents whom he has slandered and maligned, it is well they should have the eye of the committee thrown upon his own conduct, character and standing.

John, you are a creature so base, that it were a crime to call you man.

A CURIOUS BOOK.

If each tax payer had a copy of the Auditor's Report that he might inform himself how the money, wrung from him by sheriffs and tax collectors, was actually paid out, it would kindle indignation throughout the land.

We find the following entries in this book:

Rev. J. W. Hood, agent for board of education, salary for the month of Sept. 1869,	$100.00
Ditto Oct. 1869,	100.00
Ditto Nov. 1869,	100.00
Rev. J. W. Hood, for services rendered said board for the month ending Nov. 30, 1869,	145.00
Salary for Dec., 1869,	125.00
Ditto Jan., 1870,	125.00
Rev. J. W. Hood, expenses incurred in Feb., for travelling on business for said board,	182.85
Salary for Feb., 1870,	125.00
Ditto March, 1870,	125.00
Ditto April, 1870,	125.00
Ditto May and June, $125 each,	250.00
Ditto July,	125.00
Ditto August,	125.00
Ditto September,	125.00
In all,	$1,877.85

Rev. Mr. Hood is a respectable free negro from the north, he had no special claims upon our people, white or black. Why could not this large amount have been paid to Rev. Job Waddell, col., of Orange? He is an educated man as well as Hood. Squire Dick Mayo is an educated colored man—one of Holden's magistrates who administered justice in Gov. Graham's township. At that day it was fashionable to have a carpet bagger, and Rev. Job Waddell and Squire Mayo had the misfortune to be natives.

While this large sum was paid to Rev. Hood, old "Praise-God" Ashley, of Buzzard's bay, was pocketing $200 per month, as superintendent of public instruction. The Pilgrim is called white, but his complexion looks much like the cheese made at the Buncombe factory and sold by W. H. Jones & Co.

In the better days of the republic Rev. Calvin H. Willey did all the work of Hood and Ashley for a salary of $1500—did it better and had more schools and scholars to superintend.

We expect to give reading from this curious book for the next thirty days.

REVOLUTIONARY LAW OF PENNSYLVANIA.—We have heretofore shown that the States of Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky, Missouri, New York, Nebraska and Oregon all call their state conventions in the "revolutionary and unconstitutional" manner proposed in this state, and they live! The following is the manner in which it is done in Pennsylvania:

"Amendments may be prepared by a majority of the members elected to each house and submitted to the people, and a majority of the votes of the people shall determine whether the amendment shall become a part of the constitution."—*Constitution of 1838, art. 10.*

NEW OFFICE.—We learn that a post-office has been established at Pedlar's Hill, Chatham county, taking effect from the first day of July. We have no doubt but this was accomplished through the influence of our late representative, Hon. Jno. Manning.

TIMOTHY LEE'S EVIDENCE BEFORE THE OUTRAGE COMMITTEE, FEB. 7, 1871.

"A man differing in political sentiment from the old inhabitants was, to a great extent, ostracised in his business, and almost excluded from society.

Question. What do you mean by old inhabitants?

Answer. I mean what is called the best society in the county, who were old whigs and democrats. With the exception of a few of them who came inside of the republican party, a man who was a republican had no associations whatever; he and his family were cut off from all society. At the present time, in my humble opinion, there is very little security for any man, white or colored, who is a republican, to obtain justice in any capacity where he is brought before the courts. I have myself seen a great many instances where I felt positive of that."

It is impossible, says Tim, in another portion of his evidence, to convict

"They bring forward on every occasion, a great many of what are called good citizens to prove an alibi."

Says Tim again:

"Just before I left Raleigh, I saw a colored man from Chatham county who had been whipped. He could not get a warrant from the magistrates there, for they would not issue one."

He came to me and I sent him to the United States commissioner, Mr. Shaffer, to get a warrant."

CERTAINTY OF CONVENTION.

Elections are very uncertain, yet we are seldom mistaken in our calculations as to their result. When many of our friends were sanguine and confident of beating Holden in 1868, we did not hesitate to say his majority would be twenty thousand. In the election of last year, when our friends doubted and despaired of success, we did not hesitate to say we would carry the senate and house by overwhelming majorities.

The overwhelming defeat of the radicals last August, while it astonished, our friends, it utterly dumbfounded the radical rogues. But for that victory, Littlefield, Andrew Jones, Dr. Sloan, Laiflin, Estes and Holden would be here in full force and plumage to-day.

Five thousand negroes have left the state since August last. They continue to leave up to this present writing. About the middle of June, we saw thirty nine on the train in South Carolina, from Edgecombe county, all bound for the sugar plantations of Louisiana. The person having them in charge, only three weeks before we saw him, carried fifty from the same county. His calculation was, that five thousand had been carried out of the state since august last. In five years he had carried five thousand himself.

In February last, we saw eighty on the train, many of them idlers of this city, whose votes had helped to bring about the corruption now being daily developed.

Every man is now required to vote in his own proper person. This gives the carpet-bagger managers no chance to run the negroes from one township to another, voting them as many times as may be necessary to carry the election.

The victory of last August was unprecedented; it was a victory of the people not counted on by one in a hundred of the political leaders. This victory gave its unity and confidence. Hitherto, we had been divided, doubting, despondent, crushed out, crest fallen. It was a proud day for the patriot. The tax payer and every friend of pure government rejoiced with him.

The white men of the Anglo Saxon blood of the state are to-day united. One hope animates their bosom. The white men of the east and of the west, after separation are once again united—one hope, one heart, one hand, one purpose; they must, they will triumph. The argument and the decision was made last summer. Then it was that the people declared the destruction of the party and the principles which had well nigh proved the destruction of themselves and their country.

We must not, however, be over confident. In political warfare the great blunders arise from too much confidence or too much despondency. Heretofore, we have been too despondent. We must not now be too confident. We must not relax for a moment. God and the people willing, we will call a convention, despite of Holden, Caldwell, Phillips, the carpet baggers, and the negroes. That being done, we will go back to something of the old courts, old judges, old laws, old codes, old taxes, old economy, old integrity, and old glory of our forefathers. The general and widespread ruin which appears upon the face of the whole country will disappear with the party that wrought the ruin.

OPENING THE CAMPAIGN.

The campaign opened in Orange on Saturday last with telling speeches from Gov. Graham and Dr. Pride Jones. The people assembled in the court house about 1 o'clock. Gov. Graham opened in a speech of two hours, discussing at length the power of the people to call a convention when the legislature or existing government provides the ways and means for ascertaining the will of the people. He demonstrated conclusively that it was not only the constitutional but the usual and safe mode in North Carolina of changing the organic law of the state.

Dr Jones followed in a short but telling speech. He was not disposed to travel over the ground just occupied by Gov. Graham—he could add nothing to what had been so well said. The necessity of convention was so imperative that some thought the cost was not to be considered. But as our people always look to the cost as well as to the necessity of a measure, he would show them how Orange county would save money every year by calling a convention. He then showed the county expenses under the old system of county courts and the expenses under the new system of county commissioners. The amount saved by a return to the old system would more than pay the cost of convention to the people of Orange.

Dr. Jones and Gov. Graham have made appointments for a thorough canvass of the whole county. We are glad to know that their example will be followed in every county of the state. A full vote for convention may be looked for from Orange.

DEBATES IN CONVENTION.—We are glad to know that our candidates are inquiring for the debates in the convention of 1835. It is a useful book in the present campaign, and from it a candidate can learn that the present legislature has but followed the legislature of 1834-'35, in submitting the question of convention or no convention to the people. The books can be found at the book store of J. A. Jones, on Fayetteville street.

A little girl, delighted at the singing of the bobolink, naively asked her mother: "What makes he sing so sweet?—*do he eat flowers?*"

[illegible] Protest of J. H. Haughton, as Stat. Proxy, against the action of a Meeting of the Stockholders of the Atlantic & North Carolina Railroad, at Morehead City.

The undersigned having been appointed proxy by the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives to represent the State of North Carolina in the meeting of the stockholders of the Atlantic & North Carolina Railroad Company, protests against the action of said meeting as being illegal and void.

To a proper understanding of the grounds of this protest a brief recital of the proceedings of the meeting is necessary. As soon as it was announced that the meeting was ready for business Col. J. L. Morehead, of Charlotte, offered the following preamble and resolutions, to wit:

WHEREAS, A. C. Davis has presented an appointment of proxy from the [illegible] of the state, and J. H. Haughton has also presented one from the speaker of the house and president of the senate of North Carolina, each claiming the right to represent the state in the meeting of the A. & N. C. R. R. Co., heretofore appointed to assemble at this place on this day, and whereas, this conflict of authority is embarrassing to the stockholders of the company, and if not speedily settled may lead to serious consequences and may be productive of much mischief and as this meeting is not competent to determine which is strictly a judicial question, therefore,

Resolved, That each of the proxies be received wholly with a view to the proper organization of this meeting with a distinct understanding, however, on their part, as a condition of their admission to this meeting, that this action of the stockholders does not compromise their in any way as to the legal rights of either proxy, but leaves all questions touching their rights to be decided by the courts; the stockholders hereby pledging their capital support to the proxy and directors who are declared by the court to be the legal representatives of the state.

Resolved, That a committee of three, consisting of John H. Haughton, C. E. Thomas and W. P. Faircloth be appointed with power and authority to take all necessary steps with a view of obtaining a speedy termination of the legal questions involved in the present difficulty.

Resolved, That in the meantime and until the decision of the court, the present officials continue to act.

Resolved, That the directors elected at this meeting are hereby instructed to co-operate with those in possession of the road until such decision of the courts is finally obtained.

Major John Hughes, of Newbern, offered the following as a substitute:

Resolved, That John H. Haughton, the appointee of Hon. E. J. Warren, president of the senate, and Hon. T. J. Jarvis, speaker of the house of representatives, of North Carolina, is legally entitled and authorized to represent the state as its proxy in this meeting of stockholders.

Which resolution of Major Hughes was rejected.

The resolutions and preamble of Mr Morehead came up again for consideration. A motion was made to strike out my name from the resolutions, to force the meeting to a direct vote upon the claim of Mr. Davis to act as proxy for the state, and before the vote on this motion was taken, I requested my name to be stricken from the resolution appointing me one of the committee to prepare a case for the supreme court, stating positively that I would not act in such capacity, both of which resolutions were rejected and the resolutions and preamble of Mr. Morehead were adopted without amendment.

Against all which proceedings the undersigned protests.

1. Because he insists that according to law he had the right to represent the state in said meeting, and consequently the resolution declaring him not authorized was itself without authority.

2. Said meeting having decided his appointment illegal, the meeting could not declare that he should be received as proxy, as it was under the circumstances asserting the right on the part of the individual corporators to continue the undersigned proxy for the state at the very moment of denying his right to do so under the appointment he held and thereby of their own will to constitute or at least receive him as proxy.

3. Because such proceeding is in express violation of the charter, absurd and impracticable.

4. Because manifestly unjust to the stockholders on the one hand or to the state on the other as the practical effect would be either to silence the voice of the state which is unjust to her or it would give the state large as many votes as the charter she is allowed to cast and which would be equally unjust to the individual stockholders.

Again, the course of proceeding here set forth to wit: the decision in the one case and their report to decide on the other clearly indicated an expression of opinion or a doubt at least whether *either* proxy was lawfully appointed. They most illogically decided to receive *both*. Not the least remarkable feature in these strange proceedings is, immediately after deciding that my appointment was not lawful they declare their inability to determine the question at all, and purpose to refer it to the courts.

Again, the second day of the meeting upon a test vote when the state of N. C. was called I, as her proxy, voted aye. Mr. Davis voted no. Thus it appeared that by such unheard of proceedings, the state had no vote. And to test the matter still further, a resolution was offered that I alone was entitled to cast the entire vote of the state. This also was voted down; the logical inference from which is that some one else could cast part of the vote of the state, in other words that the vote should be divided between two.

It is asserted that the attendance of two representatives of the state, made the entire proceedings of the meeting void upon the principle that it is not the meeting authorized by the law of its creation. By the constitution the senate of N. C. is to consist of 50 members, 70 persons present themselves, 20 of whom claim the seats of an equal number. To avoid difficulty, following the precedent of this meeting it is resolved to receive the 70 and leave the decision of the "judicial question" to the courts. Will it be pretended that any act done by the general assembly with such a so-called senate as a constituent part would be valid? But again, these resolutions, among other things, declare that the "present officials shall continue to act" until a decision of the court—these present officials are the old board of directors—thus ignoring the appointment of any directors by the state whatever, and of the stockholders too.

Now the same authority that appointed the new directors for the state appointed the proxies and if the directors were illegally appointed so were the proxies. Then there would be no meeting at all, yet this resolution instructs the new directors to be appointed by the stockholders to co-operate with those in possession of the road thus assuming one of two things, that the terms of the directors elected before by the individual corporators had expired while that of the state directors had not, although the original both stand or precisely the same. Thus in the spirit of the 3rd of this resolution is observed there will be 14 additional directors added to the present official corps, just 14 in all. Upon the chair allowing such the "present officials" cannot hold over a day, as vacancies have been created either in the one way or the other officials dead, and to instruct the proxies over directors of the stockholders to cooperate with them is about as much a legal force as if the general assembly should add to the late Governor Holden in the affairs of the state.

Now this resolution is in direct antagonism with a recent act of the last general assembly which makes it a misdemeanor, under the penalty of imprisonment in the penitentiary for not less than one nor more than five years.

In my decision, regarding the act of the general assembly of 1870-'71, which took from the superintendent of public works, vested the control of the property of the state in a board of directors to be elected by the general assembly, and conferring the power upon the president of the senate and speaker of the house of representatives, I cannot and I will not cooperate with those who expect from me the performance of such mandates of law and set at defiance its requirements.

J. H. HAUGHTON.

June 30, 1871.

NEWBERN, July 3d, 1871.

Mr. Editor:—At the last meeting of the stockholders of the A. & N. C. Railroad Company, I consented at the instance of Gen. Ransom, the Proxy retired to become a director, but I did not do so with the designs of having upon the board some conservative besides himself. I did this without reflection as to its political bearing or knowledge of any legal difficulties as to the directors elected by the private stockholders, being and having always been a conservative in politics, I deem it unnecessary to say anything upon that point. I claim that my political record is above suspicion.

I regret that any of my personal or political friends should be chagrined at the action I took, it being with me simply a matter of business, about which I cannot and will not yield the right to have an opinion.

Nevertheless, believing as I do, in the constitutionality and propriety of the law giving the appointment of directors on the different railroads in the state to the president of the senate and speaker of the house of representatives, and condemning in common with the other members of my party, all opposition of whatever kind to the law of the land, and being unwilling to have even the appearance of aiding, comforting, or abetting those who may oppose them, I have upon reflection resigned the position of director upon the A. & N. C. railroad. I enclose you a copy of my letter of resignation, which with the above please do me the favor to insert in your next issue. Very Resp'y, &c.,

R. H. Battle, Esq., President of the A. & N. C. R. R. Co.

SIR:—At the last meeting of the stockholders of the road over which you preside, I at the instance of Col. Morehead consented to become a director of said road. Since my return home I have, upon examination of the statute passed at the last session of the general assembly to reorganize the matter of railroad appointment, forbidding under heavy penalties the "holding over" by directors and others, I become satisfied that it is applicable also to those elected by the individual stockholders. I, therefore, not desiring to have even the appearance of violating the laws of the land, and having no political sympathy whatever with the gentlemen appointed by Gov. Caldwell, do hereby resign the position of director of the A. & N. C. railroad company.

Very respectfully,

JAMES A. BRYAN.

Newbern, July 3, 1871.

A TRIBUTE OF RESPECT.

At a meeting of the students, *en masse* of Davidson college, on the 28th of June, 1871, the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted, relative to the death of their late president, the Rev. G. Wilson McPhail, D. D.:

WHEREAS, It has pleased the All Wise Governor of the universe, in His inscrutable providence, under most peculiar and trying circumstances, to remove from us our honored president and beloved pastor, it seems proper that we, as students, should express how deeply we feel the loss of him to whose labors we are so much indebted, whose virtues we so greatly admire and whose memory we will ever fondly cherish; therefore be it,

Resolved, 1st. That our country, our church, and especially our college, has sustained in the death of Rev. G. Wilson McPhail, D. D., an irreparable loss; that the cause of science and literature has lost one of its ablest advocates, and that in his eminent career we recognize such a blessing of those christian virtues which make man great and good, as is seldom found in the character of any one man.

Resolved 2. That while we sadly mourn the loss of the man and christian, yet we meekly bow to the rod that has smitten us, and recognize in this terrible dispensation, the hand of a living Father, "who chasteneth those whom He loveth."

Resolved 3. That since scenes of festivity and pleasure ill befit these solemn circumstances—that the merry laugh of gaiety should be melted into tears of sorrow, therefore, we cheerfully concur with the trustees and faculty in dispensing with commencement exercises.

Resolved 4. That we tender our expressions of deepest sympathy to the afflicted friends and family in this their sad bereavement.

Resolved 5. That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family of the deceased, and that they be published in the *North Carolina Presbyterian, Southern Presbyterian, Central Presbyterian, Christian Observer, Southern Home*, Raleigh SENTINEL, *Southern Magazine and Davidson Monthly.*

P. H. Pitts, Jr.,
W. H. Sproull,
F. J. Osborne,
J. H. Hood,
J. A. McMurray,
} Committee.

The owners of the ground at Gettysburg, where a number of Georgians are buried, having given notice that, unless the bodies were removed by the fall, they "intend plowing up the land and grinding the bones for fertilizing purposes," the "Savannah (Ga.) Memorial Association" asks each of her sister association in that State to come forward at once and assist in removing these remains to a resting place on her own soil.

For the Sentinel.

ALAMANCE COUNTY CONVENTION.

According to previous appointment, the friends of convention and the rights of the people of Alamance county, met in convention in the court house, in Graham, on Saturday, the 1st day of July, for the purpose of nominating a delegate to the proposed state convention. On motion, R. F. Morrow was called to the chair, and Dr A. Wilson and Capt. Jacob G. Dickey requested to act as secretaries. The chairman upon taking his seat, in a neat and appropriate speech explained the duties of the convention and the importance of the question now before the people. Upon a call by the secretaries, it was found every township in the county was represented by its delegates. On motion, the chairman appointed a committee of three, consisting of Capt. J. T. Hunter, W. J. Murray, Esq., and Harrison Harbour, Esq., of the meeting. In the absence of the committee, Capt. Jas. A. Graham was loudly called for, and responded in a speech of an hours length, showing clearly that both by precedent and the express provision of the constitution, no less than by the principles of republican government, the people of South Carolina, in point of law, had the right to call a convention to amend their constitution.

The committee then reported the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted.

The friends of convention and the rights of the people of Alamance county, in convention assembled, do resolve,

1. That the will of the majority lawfully expressed is the supreme law of the land.

2. That we cordially endorse the action of the general assembly in submitting to the people themselves, a question fraught with the importance, that is now involved in the call of a convention, as the organic law of the state.

3. That we do not consider ourselves committed in the law, submitting the question of convention or no convention to the people, as legally and morally binding upon the members of any convention that may be called in pursuance thereof.

4. That we do call the immediate call of a convention as the only salvation for our tax oppressed people.

5. That we deprecate all lawlessness, and in advocating the call of a convention by the people will, we are but exercising the rights guaranteed to us by the genius of republican government and the express provisions of our constitution.

On motion, the convention then proceeded to nominate by ballot a candidate for the proposed state convention.

W. J. Murray receiving a majority of all the votes upon the first ballot, was declared the choice of the convention. Whereupon, on motion of George Patterson, Esq., the nomination was made unanimous. Mr. Murray being present came forward and accepted the nomination in a few well timed remarks. Capt. E. S. Parker then being called for addressed the convention at considerable length upon the necessity for a state convention, and the weakness of the arguments of those opposing it. Dr. Danl. A. Montgomery was then called for, and after a short consideration of the importance of the question now before the people, he proceeded to "shell the woods" and cooked up the anonymous correspondent of the *Era* from this place, to whom he paid his respects in his own inimitable style. The people really thought from the allusion to ex klux, outrage committees, &c., that they knew whom the doctor had in his "mind's eye."

The convention, through its chairman, appointed the following gentlemen as canvassers for the county at large, viz: Capt. E. S. Parker, Capt. Jas. A. Graham, Geo. Patterson, Esq., Mr. Jacob A. Long, Jr., Dr. Danl. A. Montgomery, Dr. B. F. Mebane, Dr. A. Wilson and Dr. J. G. Pinnix.

On motion the secretaries were directed to send the proceedings for publication to the Raleigh SENTINEL and Greensboro *Patriot*.

The convention, then well satisfied with its labors adjourned.

B. F. MEBANE, Chm'n.

A. WILSON, } Secretaries.
J. G. DICKY, }

For the Sentinel.

RAILROAD MEETING IN CHATHAM.

Pursuant to adjournment, the incorporators of the Haywood and Cane Creek Railroad Company held a meeting at Pittsboro on the 3d inst.

In the absence of the chairman, Hon. John Manning, Jr., Mr. W. C. Thomas was appointed chairman *pro tem.* The proceedings of the last meeting were read and approved. The returns from the commissioners appointed to open books of subscription were received and read by the secretary, and were referred to a committee of three to ascertain what amount had been subscribed.

The committee, after a short interval reported that more than the amount required by the charter to organize the company was subscribed; and, on motion, it was

Resolved, That the first general meeting of the stockholders of this company be held on the first Monday in September next, in the courthouse, at Pittsboro', for the purpose of organizing the same and electing the directors thereof, and that the secretary be requested to make due publication of said meeting.

On motion, the commissioners heretofore appointed to open books of subscription to the capital stock of the company, were requested to retain the same and report the amounts of subscription to the next meeting.

The meeting, on motion, adjourned until the 4th day of September next.

W. C. THOMAS,
Chairman *pro tem.*

H. A. LONDON, JR., Secretary.

The Newbern Times of Sunday says: Last night about 9 o'clock Penn Custis, a man well known in this city, while labouring under the influence of liquor, went aboard the sloop of Capt. Tosta, which was tied in the market wharf, and commenced an indiscriminate assault upon the rigging and cordage with a razor, hacking and cutting it to piece. Capt. Tosta very naturally remonstrated, when Custis turned upon and assaulted him with the razor, inflicting several serious and probably fatal wounds. The wounds were inflicted in the breast, neck, cheek, and arms, and the poor man, who has the reputation of being quiet and inoffensive, presented a ghastly appearance. Tosta was taken to the office of Dr. Duffy, who examined the wounds and pronounced them dangerous. He was taken to the Marine Hospital and placed in charge of Dr. H. G. Bates. Custis was arrested and will be tried to-morrow. Later intelligence states that Capt. Tosta is doing well.

For the Sentinel.

CHAPEL HILL, June 30, 1871.

Hon. Josiah Turner, Jr., Editor Sentinel:

Knowing you to be a gentleman of wisdom and integrity, and one who (without reference to the means by which it was acquired) has ever been ready to concede to the colored man all the rights to which he is entitled under the constitution of the United States, as it now exists, and believing my rights, as a free citizen, have been invaded, I am induced, in justice to myself and friends, to make the following statement of facts, and to ask your advice as to the proper course for me to pursue, &c. Some two months since, some colored friends and myself proposed to have a non *political* fourth of July celebration. In order that the entertainment might be properly conducted, we thought it necessary to have a meeting to chose marshals, &c.

A meeting was called for that purpose, and I was elected chief marshal by a majority of one hundred.

Preparations proceeded harmoniously until two weeks ago, when, at the suggestion of one of my competitors for the same position, I was arraigned before a called meeting at the freedmen's school house for having voted for some conservative friend at an election recently held in the village for commissioners.

At this meeting my chief prosecutors were Sam Morphus, (colored,) H. B. Guthrie and one J. B. Mason, (white.)

Mr. Guthrie made a speech of some length in which he boasted loudly of the liberties *they*, "we" had conferred upon the colored people, but "this liberty was full of threats," of ostracism to all who should dare vote for others than republican candidates. Out of charity to Mr. Mason, (white,) and the public generally, I repeat none of his talk.

The crime charged against me was—

The alternative suggested by Col. H. B. Guthrie was that I should make a public recantation of that vote, or resign my position as chief marshal on the occasion of the fourth. Believing myself to be free and entitled to think and vote as I thought proper, I very respectfully declined to accede to either of the above propositions.

Guthrie then said that he had intended to march with and take part with his colored brethren, but would not do so unless I would resign, and advised his friends to pursue a like course, and further said that I was a traitor to my race and color for voting the conservative ticket. I could not resist the thought that if that was true of me, where were Guthrie and Mason, how did they then stand with their race and color?

I am well assured, however, that if Messrs. Guthrie, Mason, and their friends in and around Chapel Hill, should decline to be present on the 4th, the numerical difference in our entertainment will be imperceptible, for all the most respectable portion of the colored population will follow me and my friends, in spite of Guthrie and Mason.

Now, what I want to know is this:

1. Whether or not there is any law to punish a person for attempting to control, by intimidation and threats, any person from exercising, or in exercising, the said right of suffrage?

2. Whether there is not a law to punish a person for attempting to control, by intimidation and threats, any person from exercising, or in exercising, the said right of suffrage?

I consulted a young lawyer of this place in reference to this matter, and he said he believed there was some such law contained in the enforcement act, but that he was of opinion that it *applied exclusively to conservatives.*

GEORGE TRICE.

I certify that I was present at the above meeting, and made a speech in defence of my friend, George Trice, and that the above statement is true.

JORDAN SWAIN.

For the Sentinel.

A LEGALIZED KUKLUX.

MESSRS. EDITORS: The laws of the country have undergone so many changes recently that it is very difficult for the people generally to keep up with the regulations of the collectors appointed by the government. The confusion that prevails renders it easy for a collector to take advantage of those not well posted in the ever changing rules. A collector goes around and says so much is due; his demands are paid upon the supposition that it is required by a law which the collector understands and the business man does not. Extortion is often the result.

At Morehead City, J. T. Baker, J. R. Franklin and J. L. Robinson, all listed the same day to the federal authorities—the first two to sell tobacco, the third to sell intoxicating liquors; they all paid their taxes the same day (June 16th). The tobacco license was $5, and the liquor license was $25, but $32 was demanded of Robinson, or $7 more than the tax, and $9.85 was demanded of Baker, or $4.85 more than the tax, but, on the other there was no extra demand made. They all paid the very first opportunity that was offered to them by the collector. The question naturally arises, why was this extra charge made upon part of these men and not all? If the time had passed all were subject to a penalty; but if the time had passed why was not an opportunity given by the collector to pay the tax before? If no opportunity is given to settle a tax, what right has the collector to exact an additional penalty? Or does the government permit its agents to remain concealed or out of place until the time of paying tax is past and then allow them to put on extras in the way of penalties, for not doing what the people had no opportunity of doing? These are questions that Dr. Wright, the collector, would do well to answer.

It is time for legal plundering to cease. No government can command the respect of the people that suffers its agents to plunder the people under the guise of legal authority. LAW AND ORDER.

"Law and Order" does not seem to recollect that there is the *Office Holder's Organ* to sustain in this city. A brother Internal Revenue officer of Dr. Wright's, Billy Henderson, has had to pay $600 to the thing. Does not our correspondent see?

For the Sentinel.

To-day, I stepped into a court that was presided over by a sable justice of the peace who holds his office by virtue of the Tourgee constitution. A fifteenth amendment was on trial for having taken and appropriated to his own use by marking a hog of one of his neighbors. After the evidence had been elicited, "his honor" said to the defendant, "Buster, I charge you with the cost." Then turning to the prosecutor, he said to him, you have failed to prove the charge on which the warrant was issued. The defendant paid the cost.

CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM.

For the Sentinel.

COMMENCEMENT AT DAVIDSON COLLEGE.

The festivities of commencement at Davidson College began last week with a sad and sudden interruption. On Wednesday, as the cars were delivering large crowds of happy and hopeful visitors, and as the bell was ringing for the morning exercises, the sickness of General M. W. Ransom, the orator for the day, and the death of Dr. McPhail, the president of the college, were announced simultaneously. Never were the prospects for a brilliant commencement more flattering. The Senior class was the largest ever graduated at Davidson; the Baccalaureate sermon by Dr. Miller, of Charlotte, and the sermon before the Williams' Association, by the Rev. Mr. Hill, of Fayetteville, on Sunday, had set high marks of excellence for all the orations and addresses of the week. Crowds of visitors from all parts of North Carolina and from the neighboring states. The Alumni of Davidson College had gathered in full force to greet for the first time since the war, an orator before their association, and so many friends of the graduates and strangers from a distance had come together that they formed a company of unusual numbers and of rare beauty and dignity. Some old students of Chapel Hill counted twenty-five of the former pupils of our University as collected to welcome one of their number as the orator for this remarkable anniversary. But all that could be realized of the programme of the week was to call the audience together that they might hear the address before the Alumni by the Rev. Mr. Johnston, of Lexington, N. C., and witness the distribution of diplomas among graduates, by the Rev. Prof. Anderson, as the senior member of the faculty, and then be dismissed to make arrangements for their unexpected return to their homes.

Had the day been chosen as a representative day, the following young gentlemen would have appeared as representatives of their respective societies:

"Dignity and Power of Man."—E. L. Gaither, Philanthropic Society, Mocksville, N. C.

"Old Things are Passing Away."—W. L. Spratt, Eumenean Society, Charleston, S. C.

"Be up and Doing."—John A. McMurray, Philanthropic Society, Graham, N. C.

"The Hope of the Land."—C. Mobley Douglas, Eumenean Society, S. C.

"Mecklenburg."—F. I. Osborne, Philanthropic Society, Charlotte, N. C.

"Progress of Civil Liberty."—W. B. Crawford, Eumenean Society, Arkadelphia, Ark.

On Thursday the following seniors would have represented the thirty-one graduates in the grand audience chamber at Davidson, their speeches being rendered all the more interesting by the music of the well trained Salem band:

Latin Salutatory.—*David S. McAllister, Fayetteville, N. C.

Philosophical oration.—"Electricity."—*James H. Anderson, Spartanburg, S. C.

"The Battle fields of Life."—†Thomas B. Bailey, Mocksville, N. C.

"The Nineteenth Century in America."—Joseph E. Henderson, Steele Creek, N. C., York District, S. C.

"Geology, and What it Teaches."—†W. Henry Dodge, Cuthbert, Ga.

"How Shall we Enter the Arena?"—†Wm. C. Clark, Savannah, Ga.

"Change and Its Teachings."—*James H. Hood, Chester District, S. C.

"Man's Individual Progress depends upon his Social Progress."—George B. Anderson, (excused,) Spartanburg District, S. C.

"To Thine Ownself be True."—‡Othello C. Scarborough, (excused,) Kosciusko, Miss.

"National Pride."—‡J. Julius Anderson, Summerfield, Ala.

"Are the Planets Inhabited?"—‡P. H. Pitts, Jr., (excused,) Uniontown, Ala.

"We do not live for ourselves alone."—‡Will. H. Stewart, York District, S. C.

Valedictory Address.—*Thos. H. Bree, Jr., Charlotte, N. C.

*First honor grade. †Second honor grade. ‡Third honor grade.

On Thursday, the college chapel, instead of being filled with fluttering fans, and bright faces and hopeful hearts, was clad in the sable signs of woe. Trustees, and faculty, and alumni and students bore the remains of Dr. McPhail and laid them before the communion table, where he had so often dispensed the elements which keep in remembrance Him who brought to light that immortal life, which His servant had gone to enjoy. After prayer by Dr. Miller and Dr. Phillips, and short addresses by the president of the trustees and other members of the board, the same solemn procession went to deposit all that was mortal of President McPhail in the college cemetery.

Dr. McPhail was the fourth president of Davidson College, and it is no disparagement to any of his predecessors, all of whom are still alive, to say that he was a man of rare suitability for his prominent and influential position. Having been from early childhood a diligent student, and having enjoyed the best facilities for education, both general and professional, that our country affords, he had come to be a scholar of large and diversified attainments. He was a man of resolute will, and of a strongly marked character, whose influence over the young was decided and natural. While he never forgot the dignity of his calling as a clergyman, he was, as long as his health preserved its original vigor, the life of every social circle. He was an admirable instructor, both from the preacher's pulpit and the professor's chair. Thousands all over our country will rise up and call down blessing on the memory of the faithful pastor, the learned professor, the successful president and the beloved friend.

READ THIS!—Do you want the present system? A. owes B. by account the sum of one dollar; A. disputes the account, and a suit before a magistrate is commenced. A. gets a summons for which he pays 50 cts, he gives the summons to the Sheriff, who charged before the action of the last legislature, the sum of two dollars. A. resides ten miles from town and the Sheriff charges ten cents a mile, which is one dollar. A. has three witnesses summoned and B. three, making six, the mileage in which ten miles each, would be three dollars and sixty cents. The witnesses attend court one day, one dollar and fifty cents each is given. The Justice is further entitled to the following fees: Trial of an issue fifty cents, judgement twenty-five cents. Here is the cost of sixteen dollars and eighty-five cents to collect a one dollar account. Does the above need any further comment?—*Greenville Conservative.*

The enemies of convention in Rowan county have nominated J. M. McCorkle and Dr. J. G. Ramsay as their candidates.