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The Sentinel is published every day, except Sunday, on the following terms:
For two months \$1.00
For three months 1.50
For six months 2.50
For one year 4.00

THE SENTINEL
W.M. PELL, SEATON GALES, EDITORS

THURSDAY, JULY 25, 1867.

REASONS FOR REGISTERING AND VOTING.

We remarked, the other day, that we regarded reconstruction on the Congressional plan as a settled point, unless Congress interfered to prevent—a result by no means impossible, if doubtful. We are confident that if reconstruction is defeated, or obstructed, it will not be chargeable to South-seekers, unless those who entirely sympathize with Congress in the South obstruct it.
In a few days, Gen. Sickles' order, announcing when the registration will begin, with the necessary instructions to all concerned, will be issued. We sincerely trust that the commander will allow full time for a full registration, and that his instructions will be so specific to all parties as to leave no just ground for difficulty.

ourate, takes the following sober and sensible view of the subject:
The outraged friends of the Constitution, both at the South and the North, must consent to look the situation manfully in the face. They must fling such obstacles as there is no possibility of removing. It would be political suicide for the South to stand out and refuse to register; and it would be a sacrifice of sense to barren indignation for their friends in the North to refuse it. This Congress surely will not permit to stand in the way of the Reconstruction acts. The first regular session of its successor will be in December, 1869—more than two years hence. Even then, these odious acts could not be repealed, not even if their opponents should meanwhile carry every election in every State. The reason is, that the Senators hold for six years; and although one-third of them go out at the end of every two, four years is the shortest period in which a majority of that body can be changed. If we were certain of carrying all the elections, four years would elapse before we could repeal these laws; but if, as is more probable, we shall carry some elections and lose some, it may be six years before we gain a majority of both Houses of Congress. To insist on 'Repeal' on our banners and make it our battle-cry, is therefore what no sound politician will advise in existing circumstances. Before six years, before four years, probably before two years, in all likelihood before one, the excluded States will be back in the Union—if not on a white basis, then on a black one. The moment that takes place, these laws fall of themselves, and there is no reason why we should fight a four or six years' series of campaigns for the sake of gliding their dead bones.
By refusing to accept a situation which cannot be changed while change would be of any advantage, the Southern whites would surrender their States to negro rule, and strengthen their enemies in the North, who would be incensed by this unavailing and apparently almost obstinate. The present state of things being not merely bad, but abominable, it is absurd to prolong it as if it were a blessing. Repeal of the Reconstruction acts is not the way out of it; refusal to register and vote is not the way out; impotent cursing and scolding will not make it more tolerable. But it may be considerably mitigated by a judicious use of the middle of political influence left to the Southern whites. In most localities there are numerous enough to out-vote the negroes, and they lay voluntarily down in the mire to be trampled under foot by them if they do not use this advantage.

THE REGISTRATION.
We announced, on yesterday, the list of Registrars appointed by Gen. Sickles, to conduct the registration in North Carolina. The appointments in Wake, perhaps, might have been bettered in some cases, yet, upon the whole, we will not complain, and we presume they will be generally satisfactory. In some counties, we observe names that will excite surprise, both on account of the inexperience of the man, in more respects than one, perhaps; and because of the readiness manifested by some to take the test oath, without the public regarded as legitimate. Public opinion in these matters is not always sound, because not fully cognizant of all the facts, and frequently too rigid and uncharitable. It seems to us that the only charitable and proper course for the public to pursue in the premises is, if the officer behaves well and discharges his duty faithfully to the government and the people, to take it for granted that he was honest in taking the oath, and leave him with God and his own conscience, without going behind the oath to enquire too particularly into his antecedents. For, after all, to his own Master he standeth or falleth. Of course, where the infidelity of the officer is palpable, the public will have its opinion.

MONTGOMERY BLAIR, in his recent speech at the White Sulphur Springs, said:
'The Confederates did not undertake to change the Constitution; but adopted it as their own, because it was the EXPRESS IMAGE OF THE AMERICAN MIND; and it must be perpetual. To oppose it is like fighting against God and Nature; and it would be well to undertake to reverse the laws of gravitation. The Radicals know this, and are aware of their doom. It is a mistake to suppose that they are repeating in ease and confidence upon their places and patronage in the Federal capital. The consciousness of their guilt and the knowledge of their fate speaks in their faces and through their eyes.

It is true in one respect, and we hope it is true in all. It is certainly true that the Southern people had no objection to the Constitution of the United States. They committed the error of fighting for the maintenance of its principles, under the flag of attempted separation, instead of fighting for them in the Union, or trusting to such a reaction of popular sentiment as might possibly have restored those violated principles in their integrity.
ATA recent serenade to certain Radical Congressmen in Washington, Senator Yates said:
'That the South having accepted the situation, the Republican party now had to accept the situation, which he said was that to rebel shall occupy a place in the administration of our national affairs.
Every man is a "rebel" at the South who does not belong to the Radical party, for the speaker proceeded virtually to say as much, in the course of his remarks.
The logic of the whole matter is, that the South, having "accepted the situation," having complied, or being about to comply, with conditions which the supposed prescribed in good faith, it becomes necessary for the Republican party to go farther and exclude its people forever from all voice in the administration of the government.
Suppose the tables should be turned one of these days, and the "Republican party" should find itself in a minority. What then?
It is a significant fact that the anarchists in Mexico call themselves the "Republican party."

John L. Sullivan is by all odds the best tried man in America. He was first tried by the military Commission which convicted his mother, and then by a committee of Congress; on Wednesday he was tried and convicted by Mr. Cowley in the House of Representatives; and for several weeks past he has been on trial before Judge Fisher, Mr. Bingham, of Ohio, and the newspaper reporters. These last named gentlemen, we think, might very properly keep their hands off, and content themselves with sending us plain accounts of the evidence and incidents in the case without discussing the bearings of the testimony or the credibility of the witnesses. The counsel are fully competent to take care of all such matters, and the prisoner has trouble enough on his hands without having to face a prosecutor in every correspondent of the press.—N. Y. Tribune.

CAROLINA'S ENRANTY.—The insanity of the Empress Charlotte has become so confirmed and so violent that she cannot be left alone for a moment. She is constantly endeavoring to destroy her children. Her latest assault was on Prince Albert. He has been taken to a hospital, and his death is not considered far off.
HONORABLE GREENE.—We learn reliably, that upon the receipt in the Senate of the nomination of Horace Greeley as Minister to Austria, objection was made to its consideration by a Radical Senator, and, therefore, under the rule, the thing goes over to the next session. It would not probably have been difficult to induce said Senator to have withdrawn his objection, but there were some other Radicals who would have doubtless renewed it. Could a vote have been had on Mr. Greeley, would we be assured, have received a large majority of the votes of Radical Senators.—National Intelligencer.

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