

The Daily Sentinel.

VOL. IV.

RALEIGH, N. C., WEDNESDAY EVENING, JUNE 23, 1869.

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JOSIAH TURNER, JR., EDITOR.
THE COURT SHALL ANSWER THE COURT.

The letter of Judge Read to John D. Hyman, written before the Bench of North Carolina was contaminated by participation in politics, will be read as much to the satisfaction of the people as to the condemnation of all the Judges. If the Bar had answered, denying there was no contempt in fact or in law, and that the Court had no jurisdiction, and put in Judge Read's letter, as a part of their answer, they would have been fully vindicated and heartily sustained by the people of the State. The disgrace and dishonor brought upon the Judiciary of North Carolina, by the personal and political conduct of certain Judges, has been keenly felt by the people of the State. The humbles of our people feel that for the preservation of order and the execution of law, the highest reverence and respect should be shown to the Judiciary. This letter of Judge Read's will tend to cultivate that feeling. It will be for the people to say whether they endorse Judge Read in 1864, or Judge Read in 1869. Judge Read will find that the noble sentiments, so well expressed in his Hyman letter, have not become odious to any but himself, Holden, the party and the Court.

Judge Read's letter was written when he was in open rebellion to his government. Reconstruction seems to have made him a worse man, instead of a better one. The people will remember with lively gratitude the wisdom, temper and moderation of this reconstructed rebel.

The man must be far gone in partisanship and political madness, who could write the Hyman letter, and then write the Legislative Address, and follow it up with a political speech to five thousand negroes, in the Capitol Square, and then attempt to punish the Bar, because, in the spirit of his own letter to Hyman, they remonstrate and protest against judicial interference in political matters.

Raleigh, July 1, 1864.

My Dear Sir:—I received yours of the 23d ult., enclosing an editorial of the *Progress* of that date, in which it is said, that Governor Graham, myself and others, have not declared for Gov. Vance, and that we cannot vote for him without stultifying ourselves, and you ask whether my position is correctly given, and if not, that I will give it, and allow you to publish it. I received a letter some time ago from Col. Erie, to the same end, and, after consulting my friends, I declined his request, mainly because I thought that my position in the Judiciary made it improper that I should do so. Since receiving your letter, I have reconsidered the matter. Respect for your opinion, and a disposition to be obliging, inclined me to accede to your request, but the strongest conviction of my judgment is, that it would be a breach of propriety, for which I know no precedent in North Carolina, and for which I would be severely censured. By universal consent, if not by the imperative demand of the public sentiment, the Judges have stood aloof from active participation in party contests. Of course they think and vote with the same independence which others use, but the Press and the Rossum have not been common to them. I am the youngest Judge upon the bench, and I am sure I ought not to violate a custom which has been so well approved. I think it would be best if it could be forgotten that a Judge ever belonged to either, or to any party, but if that cannot be, then the next best thing is that he should be claimed by all. If there ever was a time when the Judiciary should be free from party prejudices, that time is the present. In war the law loses much of their strength and influence. The passions run wild. And Judges, to be influential and useful, must be more than ordinarily prudent, in order to avoid the prejudices of any man, or of any party. And, besides, I think you will agree with me, that there never was a time when the Press used so much freedom, not to say licentiousness, in denouncing any and everybody, who appears before the public; "slay," "knaves," "abolitionists," "scoundrels," "cowards," "liars," "traitors," are the delusions of his language, until the State, if respected abroad at all, must be so in spite of the press. In the article which you send me from the *Progress*, it is said that I need not declare for Gov. Vance without "softening" myself. If I were to declare for Mr. Holden I am sure you would have no kinder word than that. So that, whether I declare for one or the other, I could do nothing better than a fool at the least. In February last, your neighbor, the *Confederate*, placed me side by side with Mr. Holden—indeed, put me at the very head of the list of "agitators"; so that, in whatever Mr. Holden was, I was worse. But in its issue of yesterday it says, it is "morally impossible that I can support him." And yet I have said not a word, and am neither better nor worse in February.

So that, decide as I might, if I were to decline all, I could not hope to escape denunciation, and the consequent project of a large portion of the public, by treason of which my influence on the bench, where I really desire to be useful, would be impaired.

I consider that if a Judge's position in politics were misrepresented, professedly by a attorney, and injury to himself or to others were likely to ensue, there would be so impropriety in his making correction—But the article in the *Progress* is only speculation upon my actions, and your paper has freely indulged in the same. My antecedents are before the public. The public are not easily deceived, and upon their good sense I most rely, and shall be happy if I can prove their good opinion in my new position, and save them with regard to me.

With an earnest desire to oblige you, and any portion of my friends, I have to regret that I cannot, consistently with my sense of propriety, comply with your request.

With considerations of distinguished regard, I am very truly yours,

E. G. BRADE,
J. D. HYMAN, Esq.

You can make any use of this you think proper—consult Col. Little's office.

A DESPERATE WOMAN THROWS HERSELF IN THE WAY OF THREE RAILROAD TRAINS.

The latest most persistent attempt at self destruction was made on Saturday night last by an unfortunate woman at Memphis Junction, on the Louisville and Nashville railroad. Bleeding and wretched in appearance, she was observed wandering in the vicinity of the depot, and appeared to be awaiting the arrival of a train. When the bell and whistle announced the approach of the first train, she was seen walking down the track, and then to throw herself across the rails, directly in the path of the locomotive. Mr. Irving Sheldon, a telegraph operator, who had noticed her strange movements, ran to her and jerked her off the track before the train came up. She had, however, fully made up her mind to die, and watching for the next train, she repeated her frightful adventure, and was again dragged from the track by the operator. It was thought this second frustration of her purpose would discourage her, but it seemed to have the opposite effect. She lay prostrate, and when warning bell and whistle again sounded, she was again ready for the sacrifice, and prostrated herself a short distance in advance of a third train. Mr. Sheldon, who had kept watch over her, again ran to the track and drew her away from it, and the train passed on without having harmed her.

The earnestness of her terrible purpose being now so apparent, she was taken from the Depot. Her husband had been a brakeman on some railroad, which she did not name, and had been killed. Her infant child, she said, had been taken from her mother, and she had no desire to live any longer.—*Lancaster Chronicle*, 15th.

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