

The Sentinel.

ISSUED WEEKLY, EDITORIAL AND LOCAL EDITOR.

CONVENTION.

Election First Thursday in August.

MONDAY, APRIL 3, 1871.

APPOINTMENT.—The Legislature by joint resolution have agreed to adjourn on Thursday morning next.

CONVENTION.

That the people of North Carolina desired above all things a convention in fact that any man at all conversant with public sentiment must admit. One of the most odious and corrupting features of the carp-bag constitution under which we live is the system of townships. Mr. Lansing Paehall, of Granville, in a most excellent paper on the county system of that county under townships and the old system of county courts, showed that the chairman of the county commissioners and the attorney they employed, received more money from the county treasury than was expended under the old system for all county expenses.

The people of Wake, in 1869, paid more tax than the people of the whole State paid into the public treasury in 1869, or any year previous thereto, since our existence as a State.

The people are ready and ripe for a Convention. They are long way ahead of their representatives on this question. There is no member of this Legislature who will vote a tax sufficient to pay the interest on our old State debt, notwithstanding his oath and the Constitution requiring that he should do so. There is no member who, if he should do so, could be again returned to the Legislature by a vote of his constituents. This alone should make every honest, considerate and reflecting man vote for a Convention.

It is a long time till August. There is ample time for discussion and reflection on this question. Gov. Caldwell wants the convention question to turn upon session and the firing on Fort Sumter, revolution and bloodshed. These questions have had their day—they have been passed upon and settled. We are now to pass upon a constitution and will do so regardless of Caldwell, Holden, Best Butler, or Congress. Let the discussion in each county begin upon the arrival home of the members of the Legislature since we have been a State, there never was a day when a convention was so much needed.

MAKE HIM ANSWER.

We learn that Mr. Richard C. Badger refuses to answer certain questions before the committee to inquire into the conduct of Senator Pool in suggesting to Holden the arrest of certain citizens who were to be "let," by placing them in the hands of a bad man.

Mr. Badger puts himself on his constitutional rights. He thinks the act unconstitutional. Why don't he think that way about the congressional committee who are inquiring and asking questions of the same character? If John Pool proposed to have men murdered for their political opinions let it be known.

Gov. Clingman refused to answer questions before the Walker committee and no coercion was used.

We believe Mr. Badger's evidence will not amount to much when it comes. It is not on that but on another point that he may feel disposed to hold back—for the sake of preserving his party friends.

RICHEST MAN.

The New York Tribune says, notwithstanding Gov. Holden lost heavily by the war, he is one of the richest men in North Carolina.

This may be said to recommend Holden to President Grant, who is said to have had little use for a poor man, or rather a decided preference for the rich. A banker told us two years ago that Gov. Holden was a rich man. If Holden is rich, would he get his money? He has had no honor for some time save his salary.

We never believed that an honest man would have been quiet, as Holden was, under the late wholesale robbery in North Carolina, nor a politician, either, unless he was partaking of the profits with the robbers. We said so when the robbery was going on, and we say so now.

How did the Governor get rich?

THE FRAUD COMMISSION.

The commission provided by the General Assembly to enquire into the railroad and other frauds and robberies perpetrated in this State during the past few years, have organized and are prepared for work. The commission now consists as follows:

Attorney-General Shipp, Chairman.
Gen. J. G. Barth, of Buncombe.
Jos. B. Richelieu, of Wake.

On Saturday the Commissioners adjourned to meet again on the 9th inst, when they will proceed with the testimony. All persons possessed of information likely to aid in this investigation are requested to communicate with the Chairman of the Commission or with any other of the board.

There are seventy-seven hundred children in Edgecombe who are subjects for school instruction. Miriam Ashley, since his administration of affairs, has given them twenty-five cents each with which to educate themselves. This is the public management.

The Conservative Legislature has ordered the treasurer to refund to Edgecombe the \$1000 taken from that county by Miriam Ashley, which belonged exclusively to Edgecombe and to her educational fund. Besides this Edgecombe is to receive all the school property of her pool tax. With this she can educate her poor children better than she can afford to do this. We call upon the people to vote this.

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