# THE SENTINEL.

JOSIAH TURNER, Jr., Editor,
T. B. KINGSBURY, Associate Editor.

SATURDAY MORNING, JUNE 7, 1873.


### A SUICIDAL COURSE.

The writer is no farmer, and he would not for a moment presume to tell the planters what they should do upon their own farms. The fact is, he cannot tell "what he knows about farming," for the simple reason that, like the needy knife-grinder's story, he has none to tell. But he would submit a thought or two for the consideration of our readers.

Is not the present policy pursued by all of our cotton planters suicidal in the extreme? What are the facts? Briefly these: There are many hundred thousands more bags of cotton now on hand than there were last year at this time. The supply is in an advance of the demand. Should not this fact arrest attention? The acreage in cotton is far greater in the South than it was last year, and, we believe, is larger than it has been since 1860. If there is a good season, with the very excessive use of fertilizers that distinguishes operations this year, will there not be a very large crop made? Some say it will reach 4,000,000 bags. What, then, will it bring? With the large supply of the last year's crop on hand, what will the new crop bring if a large yield should take place? Can cotton possibly bring more than fifteen cents? Is not that price too high a calculation? It would seem so, if we rely upon the well known law of political economy—that demand and supply regulate the price. If the world only requires 4,000,000 bales, and the supply is 5,000,000 or more, will not the price of the staple rule low?

It really seems to us, when we know how vast the amount of indebtedness incurred by the planters in the purchase of fertilizers, and the immense area devoted to cotton culture, that our planters are playing a desperate game, not unlike that of the gambler who risks all upon one card. Suppose the crop should be very short; or suppose the price rules very low, what then? Will not the disaster of 1867 be repeated, only on an enlarged scale? It would really seem so.

And then consider the policy of raising cotton to the neglect of the cereals. A farmer plants cotton and buys his corn, flour, bacon, rough-food and fertilizers. If he make a good crop and obtain a high price for his cotton, he makes a little money. But, if he perchance, make a poor crop and get but a small price, what then? He has to make his *next* crop in order to get even, and to do that, he must do as hundreds have done before, mortgage his estate and his growing crop. In point of fact, a farmer thus failing cannot get even by one crop additional. It took five years for the planters to recover from the tremendous blow they received by the failure of 1867. And now, whey they have once more got firmly on their feet, they are repeating the experiment of that disastrous year, and who knows that the result may not even be more calamitous than that of 1867? We hope not, but we can see no wisdom in the experiment.

Suppose all the planters were to resolve as one man, that they would not plant for the next five years but sixty per cent. of the cotton now planted, and would plant forty per cent., or even more, in the cereals than they now plant, would not the result be altogether better for them? The cotton, after one or two years, just as soon as the excessive supply on hand was consumed, would bring as much or more than it now does, for it would bring 30 or 35 cents a pound instead of 16 or 17—or much less as the prospect is—thus aggregating a larger sum than is now realized from the total crop. We must consider, too, other points. It *costs* much less to make 60 bags than 100, and if for the former you can obtain as much money as you can for the latter, is it not the part of wisdom to raise only sixty bags? The farmer saves the teams, hands, fertilizers and trouble necessary to make the additional forty bags, whilst he receives as much or more money. Then suppose he makes forty per cent. more of corn, fodder, hay, &c., will he not save vastly? He must now, out of his 100 bags at 17 cents, pay for much of his food. If he make but 60 bags, and devote the remainder of the acreage to the cereals, &c., he will save nearly or all of that expenditure.

And then bear in mind that the great is growing Northwest is producing less and less of the cereals. As high authority as the Chicago *Tribune* says, that the corn crop will be only half what it was last year. If this should turn out to be correct, then corn will be twice as high as it was last year, and the States South of us who rely upon the Northwest for their bacon and corn, will have to pay double, thus still more reducing their profits. Some of the Southern papers say that cotton will not bring more than twelve cents. If this should turn out to be true, then when the planters pay $1 a bushel for corn and 20 or 40 cents for bacon, they will be poor indeed.

It is a policy without any show of reason that lead the South to cultivate so much cotton to the neglect to the cereals, and they will sooner or later find it out, but it may be when the morning of the lesson will be too late—when bankruptcy and poverty become their inevitable portion.

We would like for some experienced planter to make a calculation, including profit and outlay, of the difference in the result between making 60 bags of cotton and raising what is consumed, and making 100 bags and buying what is consumed—this calculation to embrace five years. The cotton to be calculated at say 16 cents for the 100 bags, and 20 cents for the 60 bags, after the second year. We would make it ourself but have not the proper data for such a calculation. No one can doubt that cotton would bring 30 cents a pound, if it was known in all the cotton marts, that from 1874 to 1878 inclusive, not over 2,500,000 bales would be grown in the South, or 60 per cent of the number of bales it is thought, will be grown this year.

One planter unfortunately can not reform matters. If all plant heavily he thinks he must too. All the planters ought to resolve upon pursuing a different policy. There should be a meeting of the cotton planters in every township, parish, district in the South where cotton is grown, and a solemn "league and covenant" entered into not to raise over 60 per cent as much cotton as they are now attempting to do. Whenever this is done, and not until then, will cotton be indeed King.

### SENTENCE COMMUTED.

The sentence of death pronounced by the court upon Simpson Mordecai and Thomas Griffice, colored, was yesterday commuted to imprisonment for life in the penitentiary by Gov. Caldwell. Their crime was burglary and attempt to murder William Hicks. They burglariously entered Hicks store in the night time, assaulted and left him for dead upon the floor and robbed the house of such goods as they wanted.

We are opposed to the North Carolina spirit of hanging men and whipping children which was so common in our younger days. We once knew a man by the name of Adcock hanged in Orange for entering a log cabin and stealing therefrom three dollars, a razor and a hymn book. We were but a boy at the time and we looked upon it as no other than a brutal act.

We are obliged to favor a little judicious hanging for murder, rape and robbery accompanied with attempts to murder, as was the case with Mordecai and Griffice. There were four negroes who entered Mr. Hicks' house with the intent to murder and robb. When they left the house they thought they had done both. The hanging of Adcock was cruel and hard, but it gave protection to every house in Orange. The hanging of these poor creatures would excite the commiseration of every good man, but their crime was worse than murder. It was murder without anger and with a view to rob. They had neglected their work, and failed to provide the staff of life, in their zeal to look after the political welfare of the State and the party. After the gallows was prepared, and the negroes had confessed their crime and readiness to atone for it, the Governor disappointed them by sending his Secretary to the sheriff forbidding him to execute the sentence of the court. Judge Watts who pronounced the death sentence upon the prisoners, asked for their pardon. Gen. Cox, the solicitor who prosecuted, refused to ask for the commutation of the death sentence. The negroes, as we writ, pass our door in a carriage under the charge of officers for the Penitentiary, instead of the gallows. The community hereabouts is much divided as to the action of the Governor. Some rejoice over it as a merciful act, others think it will embolden and invite the uneducated negro to the commission of like offences. If such crimes had not been so common in North Catolina for six years, the Governor's action would not have been so violently condemned by those who did not approve it. The horrid murder of Mrs. Jones and Mrs Dozier by the negro Jim Brown, published in the SENTINEL on yesterday, will go to confirm many against the clemency of the Governor shown to Mordecai and Griffice.

### WHICH COURT.

We beg to call the attention of Judge Brooks and the country, to Fat Carrow, late United States Marshal. Some two years ago he was indicted in Wake Superior Court for assault and battery upon John Underwood and seven others he had summoned to court as witnesses and lodged in jail, when they refused to turn State's evidence against the Ku Klux. In fact these boy witnesses had nothing to tell. At the first court Carrow failed to attend, and forfeited his bail. Court after court passed, and no trial. At Fall Term of Wake Court, 1872, a negro and scalawag jury was empanelled to try Carrow. Underwood, the prosecutor, declared the State could not have a fair trial in Wake county, and a motion was made to move the case. Upon this, Mr. Phillips, attorney for Carrow, moved to transfer the case to the Federal Court. Let the reader remember that that is the court where Carrow does not draw but picks the jury. At the last term of the Federal Court, the case was called. Mr Phillips, having departed for the Federal Capital, there to rest in Ulysses' bosom, was not in court to answer for his client. A motion was made to remand the case to the State Court, and that Mr. Phillips had brought the case to the Federal court against the remonstrance of his client Carrow. The case was remanded to the State court, and the witnesses against Carrow were notified by one of his deputies that they could not prove their attendance, so they departed without pay. This case awakened in the minds of the bar and the bystanders, the enormity of allowing a Marshal to pick the jury.

At the last spring term of the State court, when the case of Carrow was looked for, it could not be found on the docket.

On Thursday of the present term of the Federal court, the case was called and the District Attorney announced his readiness for trial. And here dear reader and Judge, the case stands. The witnesses are notified to attend the State court, while readiness for trial is announced in the Federal Court. Carrow has minded his pick. He use to pick the jury for that court, but now he is actually one of the jurors summoned by the new Marshal. If Carrow is empanelled on his own case, we think there will be a hung jury and mis-trial. We think there is as much justice in allowing him to set on his own case, as there was in allowing him to pick the jury. This double-headed court system to try assaults and battery will not do. It is no better than the double-headed governments of Louisiana, Arkansas and Alabama. Anarchy, confusion and perversion of justice alone can come of it.

We never thought to ask a favor of Judge Brooks after his threatening on the street before the people, to put us in jail. In fact, when Holden moved by the Capt. Jack spirit had us in jail, with no more authority than Capt. Jack had for striking Canby, we wrote, telegraphed, and sent word to our counsel, Messrs. Bragg, Graham, Battle and Merrimon, not to apply to Judge Brooks or Pearson for a *habeas corpus*. We had two reasons for this, which we gave to Fat Carrow, who came to see us in prison. One will be too long here to repeat. The other was, that Holden had ordered a court martial, to try us, the court composed of three venemous devils and "*repented rebels*"—Gen. Willie D. Jones, Gen. Red-Eye Billy Albright and Col. Windy Billy Henderson. When Fat spoke we told him it was against the rules of the prison for us to speak or be spoken to, except by permission of that man, pointing to Captain Franklin, of Mitchell county. Here Kirk, who accompanied Fat Carrow, spoke up and said, "I grant permission for you to talk." We replied, that our orders required permission to come from Captain Franklin. Kirk repeated we had permission to talk. We persistently refused to hold converse with Fat Carrow until Capt. Franklin spoke out and gave permission for us to talk. We told Fat Carrow that Holden and his court martial should have a fair trial at us, that we prefered it to be in that way, rather than by a judge who had refused the benefits of the writ of *habeas corpus* to wrongfully imprisoned citizens. We urged Fat Carrow to make Billy Henderson ride Darr's mule he had been indicted for stealing.

Now the reader will say this is a digression. Well, so it is, but it is putting in print facts which were never before published, and is intended to show how loth we are to ask a favor of Judge Brooks. Our neighbor Cameron, of the *Hillsboro' Recorder*, may also conclude that, after all, we have some cause for keeping up the prosecution against the deposed Governor Holden.

Humbling as it is to our pride, after refusing to ask Judge Brooks for a writ of *habeas corpus* while in jail, we do ask him to make Fat Carrow chose between the courts, and not have him running like Capt. Jack and Scar-Faced Charley, hiding from one lava cave to another.

### THE CAMPAIGN CLOSED.

We yesterday referred to the close of the Modoc war—one of the most active ever fought, if it was on a small scale. A few brave Indians set at defiance one of the greatest nations of the world, and for two years taxed its energies no little before they could be subdued. But the end has come at last, as it does to everything earthly, and the question is before the nation—"What shall be done with the captured braves." We cannot believe that the Government will deal with them in a vindictive spirit. This is the nineteenth century and our nation claims to be Christian. We believe that Europe would lift up its hands in holy horror if the handful of Modocs, now prisoners of war, should be executed. Because they are savages does not alter the case—they are human beings and should be dealt with as such.

The Philadelphia *Age* is an able, dignified, and moderate paper, and generally hits the nail very nearly on the head. Whilst we do not agree with what it says in the following paragraph, we copy it that our readers may see what is demanded by the most conservative journals at the North as to the fate of Capt. Jack.

"We are heartily glad that the army has achieved the conquest of the Modocs. Their long and successful resistance was beginning to be a discredit to our arms. Now, what is to be done with the Modocs? Secretary Delano is said to be for exterminating the whole tribe; a higher authority, the New York *Herald*, pronounces for hanging all the men—its gallantry spares the women. The government will, in this delicate juncture, like to have the opinion of the *Age*, and we give our firm impressions without waiting to consult Vattel and Puffendorf. The wild Indians are not citizens of the United States, and, in war, are foreign enemies. They ought to be admitted to all the usual rights of prisoners of war. But the commander of a force, large or small, who commits a breach of good faith and murders an officer of the enemy while holding a conference or parley, commits an act justifiable by no code of war, civilized or savage. For that act he is amenable under the law of war when captured, and may be tried for it. Regarding with abhorrence the resort to a court martial to try a citizen not in military service, nor guilty of an offense cognizable by the laws of war, we nevertheless recognize the case of Captain Jack and those of his band actual participants in the murder of General Canby, as a proper case for a court-martial."

When an Indian village was destroyed and old men and women—helpless non-combatants—were cruelly butchered by U. S. soldiers acting under the command of a U. S. General, if we are not mistaken, the paternal Government had no words of censure, and no one was either hanged, shot or quartered for the heartless and cowardly butchery. Indians do not forget what is done to them, and whilst we condemn the treachery of the Modocs as decidedly as do the blood-shrinkers at the North, we also condemn the treachery and cruelty of the whites with as little hesitancy and in as restricted measure. We think after teaching brave men to be treacherous it is cruel to punish them with death for being apt scholars. A little magnanimity might do good, if not to the Indian, at least to the Government. We know it is unused to those ways, but it is time it was learning.

Since the above was written, the news by telegraph indicates that Grant and his advisers will have Capt. Jack and his followers tried by court-martial. The end is easily told. A speedy and ignominious death will be his fate, and the vengeance of the "best government under the sun" will be glutted fully.


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WASHINGTON, March 21st, 1873.

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ap 7-2m Chief of Ordnance U. S. A.

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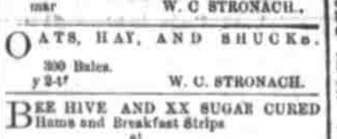


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## LEGAL NOTICES.

NORTH CAROLINA, } SUPERIOR COURT.
HATHAM CO.
Lewis Lutterloh
vs
J. M. Stedman and W. A. Dowdy in their own right and as Executors of Thomas Dowdy, deceased, James Dowdy, Thomas Dowdy, A. L. Dowdy, Allen Dowdy, Mary McIver—now Hill—wife of N. J. Hill, Sarah, wife of James Steadman and Nathan Dowdy.

It appearing to the court that Mary, wife of N. J. Hill, James Dowdy, Allen Dowdy, A. L. Dowdy, Thomas Dowdy and Nathan Dowdy are non-residents of the State, it is ordered that publication be made in the Raleigh SUNBEAM, a weekly paper published in the city of Raleigh, for six weeks, that this proceeding is instituted in the Superior Court of Chatham county for the purpose of making the real estate of Thomas Dowdy, deceased, assets for the payment of his debts; and that they must appear at the office of the clerk of the Superior Court for Chatham county within twenty-one days after the service of the summons by publication, otherwise judgment will be taken pro confesso as to them.

Witness, S. T. Petty, of said court, at office in Pittsboro', this the 4th day, 1873.

S. T. PETTY,

may 31-w6w C. S. C.


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Persons living in or this State, owning lands or interests in lands in the State of Texas, would do well to correspond with the undersigned of Raleigh, N. C., who has established a Collection Agency in the latter State, as the Statute of Limitations may short operate as a bar.

GEO. H. SNOW,

may 31 1m Attorney at Law.