

THE PEE DEE COURIER.

JOHN DUCKETT, Editor.

Devoted to the Interests of North Carolina.

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The Amendments.

The Constitutional Amendments should be ratified.

1.—Because they authorize the Legislature to pass penal statutes against carrying concealed weapons, and thereby prevent the shedding of blood in private brawls;

2.—Because secret political societies, which have wrought much harm in North Carolina, are declared without the pale of law;

3.—Because the sessions of the General Assembly are arranged to commence biannually at the beginning of the year, after the holidays;

4.—Because all extraneous matter is stricken from the Constitution;

5.—Because the terms of Senators and members of the House of Representatives are made to commence at the time of their elections;

6.—Because the electors in the State are now to occur in November uninfluenced from Washington or elsewhere, and the General Assembly is overpowered to alter the time of holding elections when it shall deem proper;

7.—Because the pay and mileage of members and officers of the Legislature are fixed and defined at some both reasonable and economical;

8.—Because the sessions of the Legislature are limited, and the probabilities for effective work increased;

9.—Because there is some restriction placed upon the large power of appointment now vested in the Governor;

10.—Because the agricultural, mining and other industrial interests of the State are to be provided for by the establishment of a Department of Agriculture, Immigration and Statistics.

11.—Because the want felt for a better sort of Court lower than the Superior is provided for;

12.—Because the present number of Supreme Court Justices is to be reduced from five to three, the number formerly on that august tribunal, thus ensuring as good work for less money;

13.—Because the Supreme Court's old jurisdiction over "issues of fact" and "questions of fact" is to be restored, and the power to issue remedial writs giving it control over inferior courts;

14.—Because the Superior Court's are to be rendered less expensive and more effective by reducing the number of judges and causing the judges to rotate on their circuits;

15.—Because the terms of officers elected under the Constitution are made certain and are not at the caprice of partisan Supreme Judges;

16.—Because proceedings held before justices of the peace, both criminal and civil contract are to be made more regular and definite, and the powers of magistrates circumscribed;

17.—Because Judges of all the Courts and Clerks of the same are removable for mental or physical incapacity;

18.—Because, and this is a most important amendment, no person convicted of an infamous crime or offence is to be allowed to vote unless his disability shall be removed;

19.—Because a residence of ninety days in the county is required for voters, instead of thirty, as now;

20.—Because full power is given to the Legislature to alter the provisions of the Constitution relating to municipal corporations, except sections forbidding headlong debts

and excessive taxation, &c.;

21.—Because provision is made for the separate education with equal facilities of the white and colored races in the public schools of the State;

22.—Because certain moneys are secured indefeasibly to the counties, for the maintenance of a system of public education;

23.—Because convict labor on our public works, railroads and other highways is authorized;

24.—Because the subject of Constitutional Conventions is removed from public discussion by a provision that no Convention of the people shall ever be called by the General Assembly unless by the concurrence of two-thirds of the members of each House and except the proposition, "Convention, or No Convention," be first submitted to the qualified voters of the whole State, at the next general election, in a manner prescribed by law;

25.—Because no alteration of the Constitution shall take place by the Assembly unless the bill to effect the same shall have been agreed to by three-fifths of each House, and the amendment or amendments ratified by the people at the next general election in a manner prescribed by law;

26.—Because all marriages between a white person and a person of negro descent to the third generation inclusive, are forever prohibited.

A NEGRO MASTER.

An Ex-Penitentiary Convict Overseer of a Poor House.

Cruel Treatment of White Female Paupers.

[Albemarle Times.]

The tale that we propose to tell is shocking to think of. London Hyman, a negro, who was convicted in this county of stealing fodder serving out part of his time in the penitentiary, is in charge of the poor house of Bertie county. We have said before in these columns, that it was an insult to the white people of the county, too grievous to be borne. We should not have had anything to say about it at this time, but recently we have heard such terrible accounts of this black monster's cruelty to the inmates.

Every one of the inmates are afflicted in some way. Still, this miserable scoundrel makes them wait upon his lazy wife as if she were a queen.

An old colored woman who had been staying there a few days, nursing her sick daughter, told the tale. She says that the poor inmates are made to do anything this tropic may please. She sits down and makes them build her fires, bring water, and do anything else she chooses. The report comes to us that since the good old colored woman told the tale, this black devil has not allowed her to go in to see her sick daughter.

The inmates are prevented from telling how they are treated by this negro, by threats from him of keeping them locked up inside of the walls.

There is a poor unfortunate old lady in there, who has entirely lost her mind. We have heard on good authority that this convict whips her when he pleases. If these things are not believed by the county commissioners, let them get the proper witnesses, assure them that they shall not be harmed for telling the truth, and every word we have written will be verified.

We appeal to white men everywhere to help us by voting the party out of power that has brought such shame upon us.

If you are a white man, and the blood of a freeman runs through your veins, then vote this party out of power. Who put London Hyman there to oversee the poor white people of the country? Radicals. Who

could remove him, but does not? The Radicals. Who does this scoundrel lord it over? It is the poor of the county. Then, fellow-citizens, come up like men and vote them out of power.

Will our white brethren of the west longer sustain this party? Great God forbid!

Tell it to them, ye men who are speaking up there. Tell them the poor whites here beg them for help. Can they refuse? We trust not.

Judge Settle on the Special Tax Bonds.

Everybody knows that the Special Tax Bonds were "conceived in iniquity and born in sin." If one would know what venal and corrupt means were employed to get the hills creating these bonds passed through the Convention of 1868, and the General Assembly of 1868-'69, let him read the Fraud Commission Report, supplemented by the revelations of John T. Deweese. To make these bonds still more infamous, a large proportion of them were sold and the proceeds stolen; so that the people, the tax payers, derived no benefit from them.

In spite of all this, Judge Settle would have the people taxed to pay these bonds. He is on record in favor of them. In the case of Galloway against Jenkins, where the court decided that the General Assembly had no power to contract a debt, without a vote of the people, to aid in the construction of a new railroad,—thus knocking in the head millions of fraudulent bonds—Judge Settle dissented from the opinion of the court—set his judgment against that of Chief Justice Pearson, Judge Rodman, and Judge Dick—and declared with Judge Reade, "I am also of the opinion that the act in question is valid." In the University Railroad case, he again put himself on record in favor of the special tax bonds.

In the matter of these bonds, Judge Settle proved false to the people of North Carolina. He had an opportunity of resisting the plunderers of the State; of saving the people from an enormous load of fraudulent debt. But he had not patriotism enough to stand by the law as Chief Justice Pearson did in that instance, and say that the bonds were unconstitutional.

If the people elect him Governor, it means the complete triumph of the Republican Party. The authors and the advocates of the special tax bonds will come back into power. The Republican party is pledged to the payment of the new debt which they laid upon the people; and the millions of fraudulent bonds will have to be paid.

—Raleigh News.

Questions for Colored Men.

We commend the following questions from the *Charleston News and Courier* to the consideration of our colored people. Let every man who has colored men in his employment ask each one of them these questions and get at an answer for each question:

Whom do you work for?
Is he a Republican or a Democrat?
If a Democrat, why do you work with one who is opposed to you in politics?
Why do you not engage in business only with those of your own political faith? Would it not be better?
Can you not find employment among them? If you cannot, have you asked yourself why this is so?
If you work for a man—we appeal to you as men—do you think it lawful to injure his interests?
If you do not injure them directly ought you to give others the power to do? If you were sent to tend cattle would you lend the gun given you to protect them to some thief to kill any that he pleased?
How is it, then, that you so readily combine with others to put in office men who rob your employers? Are you aware that when your employer is robbed you are robbed to a certain extent also? If your employer thrives you thrive with him. If he is pinched, how can he pay you good wages.

If you put up men who tax your employer and yourself only to enable them to steal and live finely, are you honest? And have you not allowed your vote to do this again and again?

You call yourself a republican. If men are named whom the people can trust, your hands are clean; but if the old story is repeated, and swindlers, cheats, or incompetent persons are put forward by your party and you cling to them, do you think your employer can trust you with his interests? Ought he?

Relief for Negroes Robbed by the Republican Party.

The negroes have been badly robbed by the Republicans. Stealing the money of the depositors of the Freedmen's Bank, was perhaps the meanest thing the Radicals ever did—except stealing the money appropriated by Congress to erect grave-stones over the Union dead.

Several years have passed since the freedmen were robbed. The party that they blindly follow has done nothing towards indemnifying them for their losses.

It is probable that the Democrats will, when they get in power, indemnify the sufferers. A movement in that direction has been begun in the North. The recent Democratic State Convention of Massachusetts adopted the following resolution:

That among the misdeeds of the Republican party not the least conspicuous, is the management of the Freedmen's Saving and Trust Company, chartered by a Republican Congress without sufficient safeguards to protect the interests of its depositors, which has resulted in the robbing of many thousands of confiding freedmen, and that it is therefore the duty of Congress to take legal measures to secure to the sufferers full indemnity for their losses.

Vance's Majority.

The Raleigh *Sentinel* which is pretty good at figures makes the following estimate of the result of the election for Governor in this State. That paper thinks there will be great gains for Vance over the Merrimon vote:

First District,	1000
Second District,	1000
Third District,	900
Fourth District,	1400
Fifth District,	300
Sixth District,	1500
Seventh District,	400
Eighth District,	1300
Total gain,	7800
Caldwell's majority,	1825
	5975

These figures represent an increased vote for Vance. Seventy-five per cent of this gain will come from the republican party which must be deducted from the republican vote of 1872, bringing it down to 92,635, the highest possible vote for Judge Settle; for whatever whites may have joined the republicans since 1872, and the young negroes who have come to age since, will not all more than compensate for the negroes who have left the State since 1872.

The sum will stand then:

Merrimon's vote in 1872,	96,660
Vance's gain on that vote,	7,800
Total Vance vote,	104,460
Settle's vote,	92,598
Vance's majority,	11,872

The Hillsboro Recorder makes this point: Judge Russell, rad., says before the war, he owned 250 slaves, and he did not want them liberated, and the negroes need not thank him for their liberation. Judge Russell is now stumping the state for the republican party, and claims all the negro votes as the right of that party.

Radical Government in New Hanover.

The following are a few items taken from the annual statement of the Treasurer of New Hanover County for the fiscal year ending 31st August, 1876, (the county government is in the negroes and radicals).

Ye men of Mecklenburg, Iredell, Lincoln, Gaston, Cleveland, Union and Cabarrus, look at this picture and think what might be your fate, if you fail to do your duty in November:

For advertising and printing,	\$1,059.84
For making, computing and copying Tax and delinquent list,	1,000.00
For altering tax books,	355.00
For equalizing valuation on real estate in Wilmington,	900.00
For making two lists of delinquent polls,	250.00
For Clerk Auditing Committee,	750.06
For Attorney's fees,	2,500.00
For fees for County Commissioners,	1,159.35
For stationary and books,	1,275.63
For incidental purposes, such as ice, wood, horse hire and office rent,	1,405.00
Total,	\$10,674.84
—Observer.	

The Law of Horse Hire.

A great deal of trouble has always resulted in the livery business on account of a lack of knowledge as to the law governing disputed points, when a simple knowledge of such things would tend greatly to reduce the number of law suits and consequent ill feeling resulting therefrom. It has been decided when a horse or carriage is let out for hire for the purpose of performing a particular journey the party letting, warrants the horse or carriage fit and competent for such a journey. If the hirer treats the horse or carriage as any prudent man would do, he is not answerable for any damage that either may receive. But he must use the horse for the purpose for which he hired him. For instance a horse hired for a saddle must not be used in harness. If the hirer violates this express condition of the contract he is liable for any damage that may occur. If the horse is stolen through the hirer's negligence, such as leaving the stable door open all night, he must answer for it. But if he is robbed of it by highway men, when traveling the usual road at usual hours, he cannot be held for damages. As these questions are frequently in dispute, these decisions may be interesting.

Mr. James G. Thompson, editor of the Union-Herald at Columbia, the acknowledged organ of the Radical party in South Carolina, has severed his connection with that paper, because the name of Elliott was placed at its mast-head. He could swallow many things, but a ticket with the rascal Elliott upon it was an insult too heavy to be borne.—Ex.

The business of the country is prostrated. Capable business men are involved in ruin, by reason of the stringency of the times. Tens of thousands of laborers in the North are idle and suffering. What is the cause of all this? It may be found in the unparalleled official corruption and extravagance of the Republican party, and the accompanying unbearable taxation by the Federal Government of more than Four Billions of Dollars (\$4,000,000,000) during the past eleven years.—News.

Oliver will not run for Congress. Settle's and the general beat will be enough for Dockery. He is something of a philosopher in this, is O. H. Dockery, "my son Oliver."—Wilmington Star.

The financial policy of the Republican party makes the rich richer, and the poor poorer. In proof of it, we point to the million idle workmen in the North, side by side with the lordly bondholders who are rolling in wealth.

Billy Smith in his speech at Kernersville on last Monday said that he was no party man—that the Republican party had been extravagant and that the Republican Legislature of North Carolina was corrupt, and that he would not attempt to defend it. Billy is working for Billy at the expense of his party.—Winston Sentinel.

The New York Herald is losing its confidence in the election of Hayes. It now warns the republican party that the "bloody shirt" question will lose Hayes thousands of votes, that the thoughtful and intelligent voters don't believe in it, and that the great and important measures of sound money and reform of the civil service, to the disappointment of the people, are completely ignored. To sum up, the policy now pursued by the republican leaders, and the aspect of the canvass, the Herald believes, mean inevitable defeat.—Sentinel.

We publish elsewhere this morning the marriage of Lieut. Mellen—Second U. S. Artillery,—to Miss Pringleau daughter of P. Pringleau, of Smithville. Just beneath the marriage notice will be found the notice of his death. He was married in the morning, and in the afternoon he was a corpse. The church bell which in the morning had rung out merrily, calling his friends to accompany him to the marriage altar, in the afternoon sent forth its funeral notes. In the morning—the marriage feast: in the evening,— "The knell, the shroud, the mattock, and the grave."—Journal.

The organization of a colored Tilden and Vance Club in this city, is one of the most significant political events of the day. The negroes of this State have hitherto stood in solid mass behind the carpet-baggers. Since the right of suffrage was first conferred upon them have presented to us an unbroken front. Now, they are of their own free will and accord breaking up the color line. It is a good sign for the future. The colored element will hereafter divide between the parties, just as the white people; all the dark forebodings of race-conflicts will disappear; and the negro will become, as the constitution of the United States intends him to become—a FREE CITIZEN, instead of a blind, blundering tool of carpet-baggers and other wicked, designing men.—Raleigh News.

The Republicans Responsible.

No one can deny that there is widespread distress in the country, North, South, East and West. Financial ruin has overtaken thousands of good business men. Tens of thousands of industrious men are out of employment. The commercial interests are flat; the manufacturing interests are terribly depressed; the farming interests are not prosperous; the people are not contented nor happy.

Whose fault is it? Who is responsible for this condition of things? Is it not the party now in power? Are we not suffering from the results of their extravagance, bad financial policy, unbearable taxation, and general mismanagement of the affairs of the Government.—Raleigh News.