

THE ERA.

Official Organ of the United States.

W. M. BROWN, Manager.

RALEIGH, N. C.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1876.

Naughty.

Parson Brownlow says that Jeff Davis is the man who "wanted to be let alone," whether running a rebellion or resting in a sleeping car. We see the "pin" in the first "insinuation," but what about the other? Echo answers, what!

State Convention.

In reply to many enquiries as to the time of holding the Republican State nominating Convention, we state that the question is one to be decided by the Republican State Executive Committee. We have heard of no action being taken as yet, but hear a rumor that the chairman of the committee will call a meeting at an early date to look into it.

Zeb Vance stated in a public speech delivered at Tucker Hall a few years since, that if the Democrats ever got into power in this country they would make it as bad for niggers, scalawags and carpet-baggers as it was for the inhabitants of Sodom and Gomorrah in olden times. We believe Vance told the truth. The action of the present House of Representatives at Washington shows that if the Democracy had entire control of the government Vance's programme would be carried out to the letter. To be forewarned, is to be forearmed.

Re-Enforcement.

We notice a statement in the Daily News of the 30th ult., to the effect that a new Republican paper is to be started in Raleigh.

We are rejoiced to hear this, and we pledge our earnest and hearty co-operation in all that tends to promote the harmony, unity and complete success of the great Republican party. If, however, the announcement as made in the News be correct, we hope we may be pardoned for saying, that the course of the new paper would be, to say the least of it, very impolitic.

We must think there is some mistake in the stated line of policy proposed. The News says: "The proprietors say they shall vigorously oppose the interference of federal office-holders in State politics." Now we must protest in the outset against endorsing any course which tends to exclude from active participation in politics any class of Republicans. It can hardly be true, that any Republican paper would wish the pad-lock put upon the mouths of any of the following gentlemen, and we would be much surprised if they should tamely submit to it. Who are our federal office-holders? Here are some of them: Col. Thos. B. Keogh, who conducted our last campaign with such great success, Col. R. M. Douglas, W. S. Ball, Esq., Hon. W. W. Holden, Col. I. J. Young, Esq., C. Badger, Esq., Virgil S. Lusk, Esq., Col. C. L. Harris, Col. A. W. Shaffer, John S. Manly, Gen. J. C. Abbott, Hon. A. W. Tourgee, Thos. Powers, Dr. J. J. Mott, and many others. These gentlemen are all sound Republicans and good citizens and have as much right to their views and choice of men as any others.

So far as the new paper proposes to oppose corruption we will heartily join hands. We are vain enough to believe we are the father of the anti-corruption doctrine in the Republican ranks of North Carolina; at least our columns prove it. Let us work together but don't for a moment think of discrediting such men as we have named. We cannot possibly spare them. We hope the News will be authorized to modify its statement.

The Georgia Braggart.

Every indication points to the fact that the ex-Confederates of the South sided by their natural allies, the Copperheads of the North, will make desperate efforts next fall to seize upon the reins of government and accomplish by insidious means what they failed to do by open rebellion. In order to carry out their nefarious plans they are bringing to the front some of the most obnoxious traitors of ante bellum days. Ben. Hill, of Georgia, has lately made a speech in the House of Representatives which, had it not been for the masterly manner with which he was met by ex-Speaker Blaine might have created some sensation among the "sentimental gushers" of the North.

The bombast of the fire-eater was however much taken down by the reproduction of the following resolution offered by him while a member of the Confederate Senate. Hill twisted and turned, but finally had to acknowledge in substance that he was in favor of the wholesale murder of Union soldiers. Read the following:

Mr. Blaine.—I believe the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Hill) was a member of the Confederate Senate. I find in a historical book of

some authenticity of character that in the Confederate Congress, Senator Hill, of Georgia, introduced the following resolution, relating to prisoners.

Mr. Hill.—You are putting me on trial now, are you? Go ahead.

Mr. Blaine.—This is the resolution.

That every person pretending to be a soldier or officer of the United States who shall be captured on the soil of the Confederate States after the 1st day of January, 1863, shall be presumed to have entered the territory of the Confederate States with the intent to incite insurrection and abet murder; and, unless satisfactory proof be adduced to the contrary before the military court before which the trial shall be had, shall continue in force until the proclamation issued by Abraham Lincoln, dated at Washington on the 23d day of September, 1862, shall be rescinded, and the policy therein announced shall be abandoned, and no longer.

Mr. Hill.—I will say to the gentleman from Maine very frankly that I have not the slightest recollection of ever hearing that resolution before.

Mr. Blaine.—The gentleman does not deny, however, that he was the author of it?

Mr. Hill.—I do not know. My own impression is that I was not the author; but I do not pretend to recollect the circumstances. If the gentleman can give me the circumstances under which the resolution was introduced, they might recall the matter to my mind.

Mr. Blaine.—Allow me to read further:—October 1, 1862.—The Judiciary committee of the Confederate Congress made a report and offered a set of resolutions upon the subject of President Lincoln's proclamation, from which the following are extracts:

2. Every white person who shall act as a commissioned or non-commissioned officer commanding negroes or mulattoes against the Confederate States, or who shall arm, organize, train, or prepare negroes or mulattoes for military service, or aid them in any military enterprise against the Confederate States, shall, if captured, suffer death.

3. Every commissioned or non-commissioned officer of the enemy who shall incite slaves to rebellion or pretend to give them freedom under the aforementioned act of Congress and proclamation, by abducting or causing them to be abducted or inducing them to abscond, shall, if captured, suffer death.

Thereupon Senator Hill, of Georgia, is recorded as having offered the resolution I have read.

Mr. Hill.—I was Chairman of the Judiciary Committee of the Senate.

Mr. Blaine.—And this resolution came directly from that committee?

Mr. Hill.—It is very probable that, like the Chairman of the committee on the rules of the last session, I may have consented to that report.

Mr. Blaine.—The gentleman then admits that he did make that report?

Mr. Hill.—I really do not remember it. I think it very likely.

A member to Mr. Blaine.—What is the book?

Mr. Blaine.—The book from which I have read is entitled "Republicanism in America," by R. Guy McClellan. It appears to be a book of good credit and authenticity. I merely want to settled whether the gentleman from Georgia was or was not the author of that resolution.

Mr. Hill.—I say to the gentleman frankly that I really do not remember.

Mr. Blaine.—The gentleman does not say he was not the author.

Mr. Hill.—I do not.

Let all Union-loving and civilized men ponder over these things and say if such fellows as Ben Hill are fit to represent any portion of the American people.

Our Best Men for the Convention.

The Republican Convention that is to meet for the selection of our standard bearers in the Presidential campaign should be a model one in every respect. The people should send to it none but first-class men, men whose character is above reproach, and whose patriotism is beyond question. The Convention will be one of the most, if not the most, important ever held in this country. On its deliberations will depend, in a great degree, the future weal or woe of the Republic. Therefore the most sagacious and reliable men in the Republican ranks must be selected to represent the loyal masses in whose name they are to act. To secure such men the delegates who appoint them must be chosen by the people with special reference to their high character as citizens and their fitness for the duty which devolves upon them. Republicans everywhere should see to it that no personal ambition nor groundless prejudice should be allowed to trammel the freedom of those who are to meet in National Convention to make choice of the best man for the highest office in the gift of the people. On the choice made the success or failure of the Union cause and the party pledged to its maintenance largely depends. No human sagacity can foretell the direful consequences which would follow in the track of Democratic ascendancy. Our national credit would be imperiled, our rights of citizenship destroyed, our public treasury plundered in the name of law, and those forces of social and political anarchy which were defeated on the battle-field would triumphantly assert their sway over a people that could no longer resist their encroachments.

The safety of the Republic lies in the wisdom of the Convention that is to name the man who is to bear the banner of Republicanism in the approaching struggle. Therefore we plead with the people to send to the Convention the best men of the nation whose patriotism and judgment can be relied upon, and whose decision will command, not only the respect, but the confidence of the American people.—Washington Republican.

Circular to the Ladies of North Carolina.

Ladies.—Eighty years ago, when the State University was founded, and when all the friends of education in the State were looking with fond and glad anticipation upon the new enterprise, a few of the ladies of that day most conspicuous for social position, refinement and culture came forward and presented the infant Institution with a pair of globes and a quadrant as an expression of their sympathy and cordial good wishes for its success. It was done by them without solicitation and was well and kindly done, and their names are preserved to-day with affectionate respect and gratitude at Chapel Hill.

Will the ladies of North Carolina in 1876 do as much for the next college which has educated so many of their grandfathers, fathers, brothers, husbands and sons for more than two generations, which in educating and elevating them has also equally though indirectly elevated and benefited the women of the State; and which after a period of neglect, is again revived to renew its good work for the land we love? Have the ladies of 1876 as much patriotism, as much intelligence, as much liberality, as much public spirit as the ladies of 1795? We believe they have more.

Will they now step forward, with grace and dignity all their own, and lend their aid and countenance to the gentlemen of the State in their attempt to re-organize their University, so as to put the advantages it offers our young men on an equal footing with those of any of the first class colleges in the Union? This appeal is made to you, ladies, in the confident hope that you will.

The University scientific apparatus is in ruins. The gentlemen of the Faculty are managing out of the wreck to make shift for the present, but every week in its course brings them nearer the time when a new outfit for all the Departments of Natural Science will be imperatively and unavoidably necessary.

What arrangements the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees may be able to make to meet this call is uncertain. They talk of employing an agent to canvass the State. Meanwhile, the way is clear for the ladies of the State, by personal effort in soliciting subscriptions, and by giving liberally themselves, to secure to themselves the honor of supplying the pressing need, and present the college with an apparatus second to none in this country. Our boys need it, and they must have it.

The ladies can do this, if they will. There is no doubt of that. Their influence and their example have worked miracles before now, and can do it again. If the matrons will sanction, and if the young ladies will take it up, organize systematically in every city and town; select committees, and give their time seriously for a few weeks to the work of raising money, they can easily make the University present of ten thousand dollars.

We suggest that the ladies of each town should select some instrument or apparatus to present; their names to be engraved on it for their grand-children to read. For instance, the ladies of _____ might choose to give a fine telescope; the ladies of _____, say a Holtz electric machine; the ladies of _____, a pair of \$200 globes; the ladies of _____, an Atwood's mechanical chimes; the ladies of _____, Rohmloff's coils; the ladies of _____, a galvanic battery; the ladies of _____, a set of wall maps; the ladies of _____, a set of instruments for illustrating sound, light, electricity, &c.; the ladies of _____, a magic lantern for scientific illustration; the ladies of _____ might undertake to furnish the Department of Analytical Chemistry (Prof. Kimberly's), and the ladies of _____, that of Elementary Chemistry (Prof. Redd's). The articles suggested cost, each, from \$50 to \$200 or \$400. The chemicals and small pieces needed in the Laboratories, too numerous to mention, would cost from \$150 to \$500. Each of the Departments of Natural Science needs from \$2,500 to \$3,000 expended on it.

This is the work we set before our ladies. It appeals to the best feelings and best principles of our common nature, and calls into exercise every generous and tender emotion. Done, and well done, promptly and nobly, it will make the heart of every honest man and boy in North Carolina throbb higher with pride in our women, and resolve to be worthy of them.

No act of generosity or tenderness by woman for man ever went unappreciated or unrewarded, and whatever exalts and refines and adorns man, must also inevitably secure her culture. Neither is it a work only for ourselves, but it is a permanent benefit to our posterity in many ways and for generations to come. Nor do we urge it as a good investment. Is it not an offering prompted by gratitude, and peculiarly graceful and beautiful to those who were so lately in arms

and counted not their lives dear in defence of their country?

The women of the South owe much to the men of the South, and no women have ever been able to boast of truer or more gallant defenders than the women of North Carolina. They repair annually in crowds to lay fresh wreaths on the graves where their young heroes sleep. Will they not consider this work, also, a pious duty, and make this offering to the youth who remain, and who are now at great disadvantage, to repair the loss and waste of war and endeavor to place the State abreast with the culture of the age? We believe that they will.

Communications may be addressed to Mrs. C. P. Spencer, Chapel Hill, N. C., agent for the Executive Committee, who will cheerfully cooperate with the ladies in any way they may suggest. X.

The Old Walnut Tree.

The following lines were written by an old citizen of Raleigh after his return from a visit to the home of his childhood.

To the old Walnut Tree that marks my birth-place and the scenes of my childhood, in King William county, Va.

Before I was, thou wert there stretching thy boughs amid the air, thy roots were firmly in the ground, supporting myself; all around

And beneath thee my father toiled, with tar and pitch his garments soiled. Here it was he doffed his coat and olden wrought and built his boat, here the blue bird built his nest—

And here my father took his rest— Here 'twas my mother, around thy root, gathered the choicest of thy fruit, then, I was a little boy, playing around thee with my toy.

And yet with me, my faithful little My little feet thy leaves did trample, when I left thee 'twas more a lad, when I returned, my heart grew sad. My checkered life need not be told, but, like yourself, I'm growing old. Thy limbs are going to decay; like myself, passing fast away; when thou wert young thy limbs spread round,

But now are leaning to the ground. So it is with all earthly things, and yet to them our heart still clings. Until the time the soul must soar, and to earthly things return no more. Shall we live again? I think we must. If but in God we only trust. Fare you well, my lonely tree, while on earth I'll think of thee.

General News.

Tea culture is gaining ground in Georgia.

Theodore Tilton will lecture in Richmond, Va., shortly.

2,500,000 dozen pairs of shoes are annually manufactured in France.

Zeb Vance is lecturing in Virginia.

The new tariff proposes four cents per pound on coffee; ten cents on tea and an increase on tobacco.

Oregon produced 250,000 cases of canned Salmon last year, 140,318 of which were indirectly sent to England.

Booth gets \$600 per night for his 39 nights' Southern season, and does not travel in the night, and yet Mr. Ford expects to make \$3,000 or \$4,000 by the trip. The great actor never plays in Washington City, where his brother killed President Lincoln, or on Friday evening, the fatal day.

The New York bank statement for the week ending Jan. 29th, is as follows:

Specie decrease one quarter million. Deposits increase two and five eighths million. Legal tenders increase one and five eighths million. Reserve decreases five eighths of a million.

Failures in Boston of Robert & G. B. Berner, tailors, liabilities \$34,000; Jack Jack, clothing, liabilities \$19,000; Chas. E. Meyer & Co., picture frames, liabilities \$24,000; Amos Foster, furnishing goods, liabilities \$25,000; Patrick Donahoe, bookseller and publisher of Boston Post, liabilities about \$308,000 including \$50,000 or \$60,000 of mutual endorsements with A. W. Loving. The assets are rated by a committee to aggregate \$216,000.

Total estimated domestic production of the precious metals for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1875:

Arizona	\$1,000,000
California	17,000,000
Colorado	5,472,000
Idaho	2,500,000
Montana	4,119,852
Nevada	31,795,193
New Mexico	1,000,000
Oregon	1,665,000
Utah	6,844,570
Wyoming Territory	250,000
Washington Territory	300,000
Total	\$71,946,615

Of the above amount about \$40,000,000 was gold.

On the 1st inst., the House of Representatives took up as a special order the proposed amendment to the Constitution, reported from the Judiciary Committee which is that "no person who has held or may hereafter hold the office of President shall ever again be eligible to said office." To this proposition Frye, from Maine, a member of the Judiciary Committee offered the following as a substitute: From the year 1855, the term of office of President and Vice President of the United States shall be six years, and any person having been elected to and held the office of President, or who for two years has held such office, shall be ineligible to a reelection.

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Amendments.

Synopsis of the Work of the Convention.

The total number of amendments adopted is 31. The Judicial Department received more attention than any other in the Constitution. That Article was so amended as to give the General Assembly power to establish other Courts inferior to the Supreme Court, with power to prescribe the manner of appointing the presiding officers of such Courts, who shall hold for a term not exceeding 8 years.

The number of Supreme Court Judges was reduced from five to three; of Superior Court Judges from twelve to nine—all to be elected by the people. At the first election the Superior Court Judges are to be chosen by general ticket, but the General Assembly may provide that at succeeding elections they be chosen by Districts, as at present. Both Supreme and Superior Court Judges to be elected for eight years.

The General Assembly are authorized to require the Supreme Court to meet at points other than the State capital.

The principle of rotation of Judges was adopted; and no Judge can hold the Courts of any District twice in succession except at intervals of four years.

Sections 15, 16 and 17 of Art. 4 of the Constitution, which prescribe the original jurisdiction of the Superior Courts, and regulate the matter of probates, administrations, &c., are stricken out, and in lieu thereof the General Assembly are empowered to allot and distribute the judicial power, regulate the jurisdiction of the Supreme Courts, all matters of appeal, practice, &c. Section 31 of the same Article is so amended as to limit the duration of the term of the Governor's appointees to vacancies in this Article to the next regular election for members of the General Assembly. Section 33, same Article, is so amended as to leave the original jurisdiction of Justices of the Peace in civil actions to the General Assembly. The criminal jurisdiction of these officers is retained.

The provision in the Constitution of 1776 by which upon a two thirds vote of each House of the General Assembly Judges of the Supreme and Superior Courts may be removed from office for physical or mental inability, is re-enacted. This power is in addition to that of removal by impeachment.

The Article on Suffrage and Eligibility is amended. Hereafter persons convicted of felony or other infamous crime are denied the right to vote until restored to citizenship by due course of law. A residence of 90 days in the County, instead of 30 days, as heretofore, is indispensable to voting.

The Article on Education is so amended as to retain all fines, penalties and forfeitures in the hands of the respective county officers, together with the poll tax and such property tax as is collected on that behalf.

The Article on Penal Institutions, Punishments, &c., is so amended as to give the Legislature power to farm out penitentiary convicts on public works, public roads, &c.

Intermarriage between whites and negroes is prohibited to the third generation.

Separate schools for the two races are to be provided.

A Bureau of Agriculture, Immigration and Statistics is established with full power to the Legislature to protect sheep husbandry.

Article 7 of the Constitution, which prescribes the system of county government, assessment of taxes, election of Magistrates, &c., including the valuation of property is amended so as to give the General Assembly full power to change the present system of county government, election of Magistrates, &c.

The General Assembly is to meet biennially on Wednesday after the first Monday in January succeeding their election.

The 13th article is so amended that no Convention of the people of this State can hereafter be called except by a two-thirds vote of each House of the General Assembly, such call to be first submitted to the qualified voters of the State for their approval or rejection.

Amendments to the Constitution may be proposed by a three-fifths vote of each House of the General Assembly, and if at the next general election a majority of the voters of the whole State approve the same they shall become a part of the Constitution.

An ordinance has passed declaring that no amendment adopted by the Convention shall have the effect of vacating any office or term of office now existing under the Constitution, and filled or held by virtue of any election or appointment.

The per diem of members of the General Assembly was fixed at \$4.00, their mileage at 10 cents, and sessions limited to 60 days.

The General Assembly are invested with power to denounce fitting penalties for carrying concealed weapons.

Prospectus.

PROSPECTUS

'THE ERA'

A Political, News & Family Journal.

THE ERA is published in

Raleigh, N. C.,

Every Thursday, and each number contains

TWENTY COLUMNS,

Or more, of original and carefully selected reading matter.

We shall strive to stimulate

Development of the Material Resources of the State;

To keep up with the

Current Topics of the Day;

To furnish

Practical Information

Valuable to each and every class of the community; and to promote

Good Morals, as well as Cheerfulness and Innocent Enjoyment;

In short, to

Entertain, Instruct & Elevate.

The ERA will be Republican, and will

at all times

EXPOSE AND OPPOSE

CORRUPTION,

INCOMPETENCE & EXTRA-AGANICE

In office, without regard to party affiliations.

The Democratic party, which had control of the Legislature of the State, and which has been guilty of such flagrant abuses of power, will be the subject of our constant and

SPECIAL SURVEILLANCE.

Whilst giving full attention to local and State matters, we shall endeavor to

give THE ERA interest and value for readers in every part of the country. The future destinies of our State depend on the watchfulness, prudence and activity of the

REPUBLICAN

masses during the interval to elapse before the next general State election in November, 1876.

TERMS.

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Advertising.

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Miscellaneous.

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NAT. L. BROWN, Fayetteville Street, Nov. 18—22—3m. RALEIGH, N. C.

Commercial Report.

WHOLESALE CASH PRICES. This Office, January 29th, 1876. General Market.

COTTON.

Dull—12½a12.

BAGGING, Domestic 2½ by 16. 12½

FLOUR, North Carolina \$7.25 @ 7.50. CORN, \$1.00.

CORN MEAL, 1.10.

BACON, N. C. hog round, 14. " sides, 12.25

BULK C. R. sides, 15. " shoulders, 12.

LARD, North Carolina, none. " Western tierces, 18.

COFFEE, Prime Rio, 25. " Fair, " 24.

SYRUP, common, 11.25.

MOLASSES, Cuba, 30.

SUGAR, A. 12½ @ 13.

CHEESE, Cream, 18. " Factory, 17.

" Dairy, none.

NAILS, on basis for 10d, 4.00.

Extra G. 12.

Yellow, 10 @ 10.25.

LEATHER, Sole 27½ @ 28.

HIDES, green, 7 @ 8.

TALLOW, 9 @ 10.

POTATOES, sweet 60. " Irish, 1.00.

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