

A meeting of this Committee was held in this City on Wednesday evening, 7th inst., Hon. Samuel F. Phillips, Chairman, presiding. After a full interchange of views, the resolution adopted by an informal meeting of Republicans, which was held in this City during the session of the Legislature last winter, resolving that the Republican party would go into the field and fight the unconstitutional call for a Convention, in the usual way; and the following resolution afterwards adopted by the Republican members of the Legislature, were re-affirmed:

Resolved, That the Republican party of the General Assembly, hereby protesting that the pending call for a Convention is unconstitutional, recognize that it will be most for the peace of the State that the people shall so decide at the ballot-box, and therefore recommend that an appeal be made to them for that purpose, and that such appeal be prosecuted in the usual way by a campaign and candidates.

A Committee was appointed to prepare and publish an Address to the people, upon the Convention question. Mr. J. C. L. Harris was re-elected Secretary, and Mr. J. J. Sawyer Assistant Secretary.

A Committee of five, to be known as the Sub-Committee, was appointed to conduct the campaign.

It was determined that every honorable effort that possibly can be made, shall be exhausted in endeavoring to defeat the call for a Convention.

The State Committee having decided to go into the campaign, it is to be hoped that the District and County Committees will open the campaign at once. Candidates should be nominated as early as possible, and meetings should be called in every Township in each County. Canvassers should be appointed to attend the Township meetings and address the people.

The Address will be published and distributed in a few days.

TIMES CHANGE.

The changes effected by time in the minds of men was strikingly exemplified in the trial last week of the case of the United States vs. A. S. C. Powell. Mr. Powell was indicted for holding office contrary to the provisions of the third section of Article fourteen of the amendments to the Constitution. Gov. Bragg and Hon. George V. Strong, both Democratic lawyers, conducted the prosecution on behalf of the government, and the indictment was found at the instance of one Robinson, of Sampson county, also a Democrat. Thus we have the first prosecution for a violation of the Howard Amendment in North Carolina, conducted under Democratic auspices. The well-known ability of Gov. Bragg did not forsake him upon this occasion, notwithstanding he was in feeble health; and Mr. Strong in his final remarks to the jury delivered an able, earnest and powerful appeal for the vindication of the law.

During the course of Mr. Strong's speech, he took occasion, in commenting upon the decision of the Supreme Court of this State in the case of Worthy vs. Barrett, to highly compliment the Chief Justice, Hon. R. M. Pearson. His eulogium was thrillingly eloquent and did honor alike to the speaker and to the great Judge. This is surprising when it is considered that Mr. Strong was formerly Confederate States Attorney for the District of North Carolina. But although known as a very warm and decided partisan, when the question of the merits of our learned and pure minded Chief Justice is under discussion, he shows that he can rise above the prejudices of the hour and give honor to whom honor is due. This course on the part of Mr. Strong strikingly differs from that pursued by the Sentinel, in abusing and vilifying the Chief Justice for partisan purposes.

PLAYED OUT.

Nothing is so plain to the people as the vain attempt of the Legislature to deceive them by attempting to restrict the Convention on the Homestead question. In the first place there is not a cross road lawyer in the State that does not know that the Legislature cannot restrict a Convention; and in the second place even if the Convention were to keep faith, and not touch the question, they would effectually provide for an overruling of the opinion sustaining it by displacing the present Supreme Court and appointing in their stead Messrs. W. H. Battle, Judge Merrimon and others whom they know are committed, to the unconstitutionality of the act. But gentlemen the people are not to be deceived so easily.

The "sharks" who under the advice of leading Conservative Democratic lawyers are now quietly and meanly buying in some portions of the State the reversionary interests of those claiming Homesteads will learn that such vain attempts of politicians and lawyers to deceive the people and to make money by pretending to guarantee what they know they do not intend to prevent, will find themselves deceived, to the entire gratification of every right thinking man in the State. It is too mean gentlemen to try to get their votes, knowing that nothing but a homeless family will be their reward.

A WARNING.

Straws show which way the wind is blowing. Utterances of public men indicate what may be reasonably looked for in the political world. It behooves all good men of every shade of politics to observe the signs of the times, and upon the first appearance of danger to sound the alarm, and to wake up the people, and arouse them to the importance of a preservation of the rights and privileges they enjoy.

The public has been recently favored with speeches made at Augusta and Atlanta, Ga., by Jefferson Davis, in President of the late Confederacy, in which he had the boldness and independence to throw off the mask, and declare that the "lost cause" is not yet lost; that it still lives in his heart and in the hearts of his followers; that the day will yet come when the principles for which the South battled for four long years will be recognized and firmly established throughout the United States. These utterances of Mr. Davis were listened to and applauded by thousands of admiring hearers; the welkin was made to ring with the plaudits of his enthusiastic audiences. He was waited upon and feted by the men and women of the secession school, and the matrons of Georgia even brought their little children to do homage at the shrine of the great rebel chief.

What does all this forebode? We may the lovers of our country cry out, "Watchman, what of the night?" The skillful mariner closely observes the horizon, and when in the distance he perceives a black cloud not larger than a hand, he puts all hands to work to right up his ship and prepare for the coming tempest. So it should be with the wise statesman, when he discovers the political heavens dotted here and there with ominous clouds, he should begin to put his house in order; he should organize his forces and prepare himself to resist the storm while it is yet in the distance. It will be hazardous in the extreme to put off the necessary preparations until the lightning's flash and the thunder's roar admonish him that the storm has already burst upon him. It may then be too late to make successful resistance. In our own State, as well as in Georgia, portentous clouds are gathering in the horizon. Bold and reckless men, who once controlled the State and ruined it, are again beginning to agitate the political elements. The old secession element, like turtles in hot weather, are beginning to raise their heads above water. They are popping up all over the State, and crying out, as they did in 1861, "Convention! Convention!" "We must and will have a Convention." "If we can't get it, by fair means, we will have it by foul." Do not the people understand this? Will they not profit by the sad experience of the four terrible years of the rebellion? Are they willing for the bloody scenes of those eventful years to be reenacted? Is not our land full enough of newly made graves? Are there so many fond ones now at home around the family altars that we desire to see some of their places made vacant? Have we too few widows and orphans in the land? Is our population becoming so dense that another thinning out process must be inaugurated? These are serious questions, and should be seriously and calmly considered by reflecting men of all parties, as the peace and permanent prosperity of the State in a great measure depend upon them. We do not expect to influence the minds of politicians and office-seekers in the crisis which is near upon us. We know too well the considerations which move them, and the motives which prompt them to action. Nor do we expect to meet with favor at the hands of the old aristocracy and slave owners of the land who have judgments for thousands against their poor neighbors, and have executions now in the hands of sheriffs waiting for the propitious day to come when the little homesteads of their debtors may be levied upon to satisfy their demands to the utmost farthing. No, we are not so silly as to make any appeal to them, but we do appeal to the poor hard working man, who, by the sweat of his brow, earns the daily bread for his wife and little ones on the homestead which is now secured to him by the Constitution and by the decision of the present Judges of the Supreme Court, whom the revolutionists and conventionists so ardently desire to turn out of office that they themselves may get in, and then eject every debtor in the State from his little homestead. Before it is everlastingly too late, the people are warned to beware, and thwart the designs of interested office-seekers and relentless money-kings.

For the purpose of more thorough organization and united effort, an address has been issued to the colored citizens of the States of Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Tennessee, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, South Carolina, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia, and the Territory of Columbia, inviting them to send delegates—one from each Congressional district—to meet in convention at Columbia, South Carolina, on 18th of next October.

THE reports from the Southern States regarding the cotton crop are not very favorable. Cold and wet weather have greatly retarded planting in many localities, and especially in Mississippi and Alabama. A letter from Tuscaloosa says the crop, under the most favorable circumstances, will be one month too late, and it is thought very little over three-fourths of a crop will be planted.

THE SENTINEL ON THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY.

It has long been known, and by none better than by the old Democrats who are in association with the Conservative-democratic party, that the feelings of bitterness which used to be cherished by their present Whig associates towards them because of differences of opinion as to men and measures in past times, have by no means been buried under the ruins of their common fortunes. We, for our part, wish to revive no old animosities. We desire to see the people of North Carolina forget the past, and with united hearts and hands take a new departure upon the line of common freedom and future prosperity. It seems that the Sentinel, like the old Bourbons, can forget nothing of its enmities, and can learn nothing from misfortune. In the leading article of its issue of the 8th of June, it makes a deliberate attack upon the old Democratic party and its chiefs, and upon the old Whigs who agreed with them, because in old times they opposed the calling of a Convention in the unconstitutional and revolutionary way, at present proposed by the Conservative majority of the Legislature. It says:

"Those who say the proposed method is unconstitutional, go on the ground mainly that the Democratic party, and some old Whigs used to say, that a plan like the present one for calling a Convention, did not have the sanction of the Constitution." It charges that the Democratic party was not honest in this, "It invited the Democratic party interests to keep up and prolong discussion about the Constitution; it invited the Whigs to strengthen that party, at that time, and the Whigs so charged upon them. Each party used all the arguments they could invent, and among other things, the Democratic party took the ground that the method, substantially that which is now proposed, was unconstitutional. But the arguments were political and had little or no legal significance."

This can have but one meaning. The chiefs of the Democratic party, Rufin, Biggs, Dortch, Hill, and others, with such Whigs as agreed with them upon this question of constitutional law, (Winston, Mitchell, &c.), did not express their convictions, but only pretended to do so, from partisan motives, and to secure a party triumph. We are not the defenders of the Democratic party, either of the past or the present. In our opinion it was guilty of many errors. But we have never assailed the names of its chiefs, living or dead—many of which are "household words, that North Carolina will not willingly let die"—with the imputation of mean motives and false pretences. Such defence ought to be safely trusted to our contemporaries of the *Telegram* and the *Wilmington Journal*. We wait to see if there is yet fire in their flint; if they will permit the history of the past to be written now in the spirit of this article of the *Sentinel*; or if they have the independence to vindicate the honesty of their living and dead friends. We believe that the honorable men whose names we have mentioned had the strength of the argument on their side then. We see no reason to suspect that for party purposes they degraded themselves to the expression of opinions which were false and insincere. But the *Sentinel*, in a supreme conceit of its own infallible wisdom, concludes that because the reasons for their opinion are, in its opinion, weak, the men must have been false, and their convictions only pretended for the purposes of a party victory. Nothing is easier than for men of different opinions to assail each other's motives. The old Democrats and their friends might regulate by imputing to the *Sentinel* and its friends now similar motives. The Democrats were then in power, says the *Sentinel*, and were willing to keep it, not only by illogical reasoning, but by fraud and insincerity. The Democrats might say, the friends of the *Sentinel* are now out of power, and are willing to acquire it by any means. We say no such thing; by doing so, we should expose ourselves to the charge we are making against the *Sentinel* of being bigotted and illiberal. But if the arguments against calling a Convention by a bare majority were convincing to the able and honest men who used them at that time, how much more convincing must the same arguments now be, when, in addition to their inherent weight, they are enforced by the weight due to an established principle, and to venerated names.

The fact that fools are as dangerous to good government as knaves has become axiomatic, and has been too frequently illustrated in our recent experience to allow us to forget it. However, folly is not confined to territorial limits. We see that the *New York Sun* is much disturbed, after reading the *Mobile Register*, and thus discourses of the present and future of its party:— "The Democratic party as it has been constituted and managed for the last eight or ten years, and as it seems to be constituted and managed now, is a subject of curious interest to the impartial mind. If its leaders were confessed lunatics, bent on working the possible mischief to their cause, they could not outdo what they have done throughout this memorable decade. Have they learned anything by the results of this long course of folly and disaster? Or are the sensible men among them but helpless victims in the grasp of the fools and blather-skites?"

It has been heretofore published that the public debt has decreased only \$3,000,000 during the past month. The official statement shows a decrease of \$4,489,358.33. Thus, while the Democracy are uttering unceasing howls against the Administration, it is quietly proceeding in its career of honest economy, under a constant reduction of taxation.

We learn that N. W. Woodfin, Esq., of Buncombe, one of the leading men of Western North Carolina, and a prominent Conservative is open in his opposition to the Convention measure.

MOTHER CAREY'S CHICKENS.

There are sea gulls which are known among sailors as Mother Carey's Chickens. They are the sure precursors of a storm, and the heart of the sailor is filled with anxiety and fear when he sees them skimming and screaming over the surface of the ocean, for he knows that there is danger ahead. When the storm comes on these birds fly off to the shore, or if that is too distant, they take refuge in the rigging of ships.

The habits of these sea birds remind us of certain Democratic politicians. In 1860 they were upon the agitated surface of the political ocean. They were screaming "Convention, Convention." "The safety of the State requires a Convention." "The people can call a Convention in spite of the Constitution." "The people are above all Constitutions." "Slave property will be destroyed unless we have a Convention." "There is no danger of war, as the Northern Democrats will help us." "We can whip the Yankees before breakfast, and wipe up all the blood of the war with a pocket handkerchief," &c., &c.

The storm comes on, and these political "Mother Carey's Chickens" took refuge in the bomb-proof offices which they provided for themselves; the Northern Democrats were our fiercest foes; conscripts were forced to fight until there was complete subjugation; slave property was lost; the fortunes of our people were swept away, and the whole country was filled with blood, sorrow and misfortune.

For five years there has been a lull in the storm, and Mother Carey's Chickens have been comparatively quiet. The old Whig Union men who lost slaves and offices have been fostering and leading the spirit of opposition and resistance to the United States government. The political writers have again become fearfully agitated, and there is evidently a storm ahead, and Mother Carey's Chickens are again appearing upon the surface. Again they utter the old and ominous cries: "Convention," "Convention." "The safety of the State requires a Convention." "The people can call a Convention in spite of the Constitution." "There is no danger of a revolution, as the Northern Democrats are our friends and will resurrect the 'Lost Cause.'" The old secession leaders are in high hopes, and are again marshalling their clans. If the people do not take warning from the terrible experiences of the past, a new revolution will involve us in new misfortunes; our homesteads will be swept away, and we will be penniless and homeless. Look at the men who are nominated in the various County meetings, and you will recognize many of the men who favored the celebrated Goldsboro' Convention movement.— These Mother Carey's Chickens are the sure heralds of a storm, and another revolution may bring utter ruin.

MR. PHILLIPS' SPEECH.

We present to our readers on the outside of to-day's paper, copied from the *Telegram*, the speech of Mr. Phillips, Representative from Wake, on the first Bill passed by the Legislature calling a Convention, and which was rendered inoperative by the refusal of the Governor to violate his oath taken to support the Constitution. We beg special attention to this speech, particularly to those parts of it, in relation to the power of the General Assembly to impose restrictions on a Convention, and the remarks in regard to Homesteads. If there is a man in North Carolina attached to the home or his wife and little ones, now secured to him beyond doubt or cavil, by the Constitution of the State, let him think many, many times before he gives up a certainty and relies upon the promise of those men, who deceived their constituents by their votes for a Convention, as many members of the present Assembly confess that they did. If they are in earnest, when they tell the people, that on account of the clause contained in the act restraining the Convention from interfering with the Homestead, and directing it to incorporate into the proposed constitution the principles laid down in the case *Hill vs. Kessler*, their intelligence is entitled to very little respect, and their recommendations to no regard whatever.

There is a mystery at present about the passage of this last Act calling a Convention, which, if cleared up, would enable the people to vote far more intelligently on the matter. The proposition was killed in the Conservative caucus, a day or two before the passage of the bill; but owing to some outside influence brought to bear with the usual Ku Klux secrecy, it was pressed through against the honest convictions of many Conservatives themselves. The Act really is not so much an act of the Legislature as it is of a certain clique, whose aspirations and intentions it will afford us much pleasure, as soon as warm weather really sets in, to ventilate.

We beg to assure our correspondent "Conservative," whose communication in another column will repay an attentive and careful perusal, that he misunderstands our position, if he thinks that we join the Conservative onslaught on our present Constitution. On the contrary, we are prepared to show from our legislative history, and shall do so at the proper time, that there are but few provisions introduced into the Constitution of 1868, which had not been before our General Assembly and advocated by many of the best men in the State.

GOING BACK ON THEIR RECORDS.

It is an interesting, though a mournful spectacle to behold the present status of the leaders of the glorious old Democracy of the past—to see the men who fought under the banner—"men change, principles never," surrendering their old time-faith and convictions under the lash of their old enemies, the Whigs. It is indeed a time for rejoicing to the old Whig leaders, but none the less of humiliation to their ancient enemies. In all that was involved in the contest before the war, the Whigs have triumphed and the Democrats have been forced to admit themselves in error.

We are led to these reflections by the present attitude of the old Democratic leaders on the question of Convention. They fought the Whigs through all the *Free Suffrage* contest, and the *Ad Valorem* campaign in opposition to the very theory of calling a Convention, which the Whigs have forced them to accept, and what is worse, they are dragged out in the newspapers, in addresses and communications, which give the lie to all their past utterances on this subject. One by one they are being led forth to denounce themselves out of their own mouth and in bitterness to eat their own dirt.

No man will deny that in 1854 and up to 1860, the Democratic party occupied the same position as to the method of calling a Convention, and amending the Constitution, that is now advocated by the Republicans—while Graham was uttering *communism* in the Senate of North Carolina, the Democratic leaders were denouncing him as a revolutionist and his pet measure—the calling of a Convention by the present plan—as the worst of political heresies and a plain violation of the Constitution.

Again, in 1860, when the Whigs were once more agitating the calling of a Convention on the Graham plan, the Democratic party considered it of such importance, to prevent this radical movement, that it was made the subject of an extended examination in the famous address of that year issued by their Executive party to the freemen of North Carolina, and of which we will make the following brief extract, all that our space will permit,

"But the late Convention of the opposition party has found a new and in their opinion, a better method for altering our fundamental laws—contrary to the traditional policy of our fathers, in the face of the method heretofore advocated by the Democratic party and we may safely oppose to the spirit of the late Convention of the present Constitution. (Let the reader here note, that the provision in the Constitution of 1868 and 1869, for amending the Constitution and for the Convention of the people are identical.) It is true that clause 1st of art. v, sec. 1, of the amended Constitution does prescribe the manner in which a Convention of the people may be called by the General Assembly, but the second clause of the same Article and section prescribes that no part of the Constitution of this State shall be altered, unless a bill to alter the same shall have been agreed to by three-fifths of the whole number of the members of each branch of the General Assembly, unless such bill shall have been published six months previous to a new election of members to the General Assembly, unless at the next session of the General Assembly thereafter, two-thirds of the whole number of members of each branch of the Legislature shall agree to the alteration proposed, and finally, unless the amendment or amendments suggested to them shall be ratified by a majority of the qualified voters of the House of Commons throughout the State. Any one who will read these two clauses in their connection, will be struck with the framers of our fundamental law never intended that a Convention of the people should be called for the purpose of merely amending our organic law, certainly not for the purpose of making a single amendment and one alteration is alleged to be needed by the oppositionists. If doubt can exist on this subject, we can refer to the debates in Convention in 1855, when upon an examination by any unprejudiced man, the construction of this clause of our Constitution heretofore adopted by the Democratic party, and now urged by them, must be the true one. The last clause which prescribes that the majority of the General Assembly which is necessary to legalize a Convention of the people, was inserted from abundant caution, for fear it might be necessary at some time to tear down the whole of our political fabric or make great alterations in its foundations; or lest for some other cause not connected with the mere slight alteration of its structure it might become necessary for the sovereign people to meet in Convention.

We will not pause here to argue the right of the Convention to impose limitations upon the action of a majority of the people, merely expressing the opinion, from which few, save the most radical—can dissent, that whatever the power of the Convention may have been, yet the people themselves may prescribe to themselves a rule of action and put limits upon their own power, which they have done by conforming to the action of the Convention of 1855."

This Democratic address, the most part of which is an able argument against the proposed plan of calling a Convention, and ever against amending the Constitution at all other than by the legislative plan, was signed by all the then Executive Committee of the party. Among them the Hon. D. M. Barringer, who has lately occupied a whole page of the *Sentinel* with his arguments in favor of the present plan, and the Hon. John Kerr, now a candidate on the same platform. It was the doctrine proclaimed from every stump in North Carolina by the Democratic orators and was the political Shibboleth with which they triumphed over the Whigs of that day. But the day of the Whigs has come. The old Democratic party has surrendered to the *diplomacy* of those whom they had routed in a manly fight. And now, indeed, may Governor Graham and the lesser lights of his party, feel proud that they have snatched from the brow of their ancient foe the clustering honors of the past.

We have no personal interest with these constantly recurring humiliations of a once proud and useful party. But as a friend of human right we can never forget that these old Democrats were in the vanguard in all the attacks on class and party governments, and by their gallant assaults gained at least for white men, equal political and civil rights.

A man whom we can put up with—a good hotel-keeper.

THE ABOLISHMENT OF COUNTY COURTS.

The gentlemen who framed the present Constitution of North Carolina have been denounced, as "Radicals" from Currituck to Cherokee, because they abolished the old county Court system and substituted therefor the system of Township or neighborhood Courts. If Democrats or Conservatives who denounce members of the Constitutional Convention of 1868, as "Radicals" were told that Gov. Graham is the author of this measure in North Carolina, some of them would be greatly surprised, and many would not believe it.

For the especial benefit of gentlemen who are opposed to all Radicals, we publish the following extract from the message of Gov. Will. A. Graham, to the General Assembly of North Carolina of 1846-'47:

"It is commended to your enquiry whether all jurisdiction of Pleas in the County Courts may not be with advantage abolished, and those Courts be permitted to remain only for purposes of Probate and County Police, with a session of but a single day in each month. By substituting for the present system of County and Superior Courts, six terms in the year, three terms only of the Superior Court held by Judges learned in the law, an arrangement would be introduced, far less expensive to the public, and the parties in legal controversies; while greater despatch and correctness would be attained in the administration of the law. Such a change would require some addition to the present number of Judges, to whom salaries must needs be paid, but this would be inconsiderable compared to the present cost of the Courts and Justices attending four Courts a year in the various counties to say nothing of the time spared to all concerned, and the less accumulation of costs system of County and Superior Courts, in the termination of causes. If all law suits could be ended in one, or at most, two years from their commencement, instead of being so often re-transmitted, from father to son, loaded with costs far exceeding the value of the original subject of contest, it would be a reform of the greatest importance. The small number of causes on most of the dockets makes the present a favorable period for the introduction of this system which has been adopted and highly approved after trial, in other States of the Union."

If any gentleman doubts the genuineness of this extract, he is respectfully referred to the Legislative Documents of North Carolina 1846-'47.

So Governor W. A. Graham is entitled to the credit of suggesting this radical change in the judicial system of the State.

NOT SETTLED.

Our Republican Constitution provides, "That this State shall ever remain a member of the American Union; that the people thereof are a part of the American nation; that there is no right on the part of the State to secede, and that all attempts from whatever source, or upon whatever pretext, to dissolve said Union, or to sever said nation, ought to be resisted with the whole power of the State. That every citizen of this State owes paramount allegiance to the Constitution and Government of the United States, and that no law or ordinance of the State in contravention or subversion thereof can have any binding force."

The first Convention Act framed by the present Democratic Legislature expressly prohibited the Convention from abolishing this provision. The present Convention Act was copied from the first act, and this prohibition was designedly omitted. Why this omission? The reason is given by Mr. Davis, the great Comptroller Chief—in his speech at Atlanta.

"There was a good deal of talk about accepting the situation," but as far as he was concerned, he would "accept nothing." These miserable phrases about "accepting the situation" because our rights had been submitted to the arbitrament of the sword and lost, were the excuses of dunces and cowards."

The common class had received the watch word of the Chief—and they withdrew their prohibition of the action of the Convention. This heretical Republican dogma must be stricken from the Constitution as "it will delay the day of deliverance."

Call a Convention and nothing will be settled. We will be "at sea" again, and it will be a "sea of troubles." Establish the doctrine that a bare majority of an excited people can overturn a government and this will be the end of all republican government. We will soon follow in the path of the Communes of Paris and the Guerrillas of Mexico.

The *Richmond Dispatch*, a paper opposed to Gen. Grant's administration, thus speaks of the benefits resulting from the financial policy of the Republican party. That paper says:

"Mr. BOUTWELL has reduced the public debt so much that the annual interest upon it is now over twelve millions of dollars less than it was two years ago. The country will thus save that large sum annually."

"Not only has he thus relieved the people of a large annual burden, but he has set free over two hundred millions of dollars of capital, which has been or must be invested in some other way. He paid off more than eleven millions of dollars of the public debt during the month of March, just past. Some of the money thus set free was, perhaps, in Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad bonds, and perhaps some in Virginia lands. We merely suggest these as possible investments. We know, however, that the capital will not be permitted to lie idle, and that the Southern States must necessarily get a share of it. So that whilst Mr. Boutwell is reducing the burden of interest he is giving us a chance to have the benefit of some of the money which he thus puts into circulation."

No Government has ever before, nor has any administration of this Government ever made so magnificent an exhibit of success in the management of its finances, as Gen. GRANT'S administration during the time he has been President.

POLITICAL GRATITUDE.

The *New York Sun* is of opinion that there are two men in the United States to whom the Republican party is greatly indebted. Mr. Davis is one who, some time ago, made a speech in Selma, Ala., in which the *Sun* says "he proclaimed his willingness to fight over again the battles he lost in the rebellion. This speech was a godsend to the Republicans, and they ought to find some means of rewarding Mr. Davis for the service he has rendered them."

"Another man to whom the Republican party is indebted, continues the *Sun*, "is Frank Blair, of Missouri." Frank is a good-natured fellow, and does not mean any great harm to anybody; but his tongue is powerful and always swift. He wants to fight over the lost battles of reconstruction, and whenever he gets a chance he drags them out again and holds them up like a Raw Head and Bloody Bones for political goose to be frightened at.

"For some time past the Republican party has lived and flourished on the stupidity of the Democracy, and the prospect seems fair for its living by this means for some time to come. All Democrats are not fools, we hope; but some of them are, and so loud in their folly that people in general are convinced that it belongs to the whole party. We trust the Republicans will not be ungrateful, and that they will at an early day present suitable testimonials to JEFF DAVIS and FRANK BLAIR."

IRRIGATION AND IMMIGRATION.

The *Cincinnati Gazette* gives, in the following extract, some sound, sensible advice to those who are looking for other homes than in the crowded thoroughfares of the Eastern cities. In our opinion, the objection to Colorado on account of the scarcity of water, may be urged with equal force to all the territory north of the northern boundary of Missouri, on account of the length and severity of the winters. Living in a climate in which out-door work can be performed all the year, it seems strange to us, that any intelligent man should voluntarily seek a home, where he is confined to the house on account of snow and frost for two or three months in every twelve.

The *Gazette*, speaking of Colorado, says: "Horace Greeley lately delivered an address before an agricultural society of Long Island on Systematic Colonization, meaning associated emigration. Colorado was the El Dorado recommended. One advantage of associated emigration, he said, was that it would enable them to join their labor to provide means of irrigating the land, this being a necessity in Colorado. We can give the systematic colonists advice worth two of that on emigrating to Colorado. It is this: Don't go near it; don't go within a hundred miles of any land that needs irrigating. The emigrant who, in this country, will be successful in fancy agriculture is to be had for squatting on it, go to land that must be artificially irrigated before it will bear, is incapable of taking care of himself. The man who advises it ought to be made to try it, and ought to be suspended from the use of type until he can raise as much as he can eat."

"We say, don't go within a hundred miles of it. A land destitute of rain for more than half the year is an undesirable land to live in, even if you have by great labor irrigated your own patch. There is plenty of good land in a desirable climate to be had for squatting on it, or for a small price. Any practical farmer who emigrates will go where there is good land, and not where he has to irrigate or drain or underdrain or apply phosphates. These will do for the theoretical farmers of the cities, who have incomes to sink in fancy farming. And they who go where the land and climate are desirable will not long lack good neighbors. Practical farmers know this well enough, and may be relied on to make their way to the region of good lands. But to the laboring men of New York city, who, totally ignorant of farming, are advised to emigrate to Colorado and go to digging irrigating ditches, we would say, trust the mock auction men, the patent safe men, the men who borrow small sums on checks of imposing magnitude—trust any rogue or swindler rather than the honest universal benefactor, who advises you to take your families into the desert where you must irrigate the land before you can grow the food to save them from starving."

COMMON SOLDIERS.

The common soldier leaves his home, suffers the hardships and privations of the camp, and encounters the danger and death on the battle field, while the officers get all the fame and glory. He is prompted by a spirit of heroism and love of country, and he is often poorly repaid by the gratitude of his countrymen.

The homestead men are mostly the "rank and file" of the political army. There is no chance for them to get office. The approaching political contest will determine whether they are willing to give up their nice and happy homes, in order that the political leaders may have an easy place in the offices of the State.

We learn that Wm. Duty, an escaped convict from the Penitentiary, was arrested a few days since in Chatham county and lodged in Pittsboro' jail.