

THE RALEIGH REGISTER.

J. C. L. HARRIS, Editor.

"Ours are the plans of fair delightful peace—unwarped by party rage to live like brothers."

W. M. BROWN, Publisher.

VOLUME I.

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Weekly Raleigh Register.

Certain narrow-minded politicians in the north are beginning to understand that Mr. Hayes is president of the United States, and not merely of the Northern States.

Both the Republican and Democratic Conventions of Ohio and the Mississippi Democratic Convention passed resolutions endorsing President Hayes. That looks like the party walls are tumbling.

The Philadelphia Press, referring to Judge Merrimon's address at Chapel Hill, says: "It has long been a matter of surprise that a State of such resources as North Carolina should have fallen so far in the rear. A large part of it is unsettled and in a wild primitive condition, awaiting the hand of man to level the forest and till the soil. The material interests of the State have been sacrificed to a narrow, sectional system of politics."

The New York Herald says of Mrs. Hayes, the President's wife, "she is a charmingly typical specimen of the good women of this country, who 'know that which before them lies in daily life,' and scorn the fame and pretence of those attitudinizing, absurd and ridiculous 'weird sisters' of the day who go about in woman's garb and get up societies and lay down platforms."

A VACANCY IN PROSPECT.

It is understood to be the intention of Judge Strong, of the criminal court of Raleigh, to resign his position at the expiration of the present term. Should this be so, it will devolve upon Governor Vance to fill the vacancy. Of course a Democrat will be appointed, but we sincerely hope the Governor will weigh the matter well and give us such a Judge as will preside not only with dignity, but with a total disregard of political effect. Above all, the Governor should see to it that his appointee is possessed of a quiet, deliberate judgment and free from sudden impulses.

DEMOCRATIC FINANCE.

As an evidence of what Democracy has done for the Empire city, we publish the following.

The New York Bulletin publishes the comparative statistics of the debts of New York city and the United States, the former at the present time and the latter in 1860. The debt of New York city is \$160,000,000. The taxes are \$33,000,000 a year. The population is 1,200,000. The debt, \$133 for every man, woman, and child of population, and the taxation, \$27.50 per capita. In 1860 the debt of the United States was \$65,000,000, or \$95,000,000 less than the present debt of the city of New York. The taxes upon the United States were at that time \$3,000,000 a year, or only \$21,000,000 more than the present taxation of the city of New York.

Is it any wonder that New York feels the pressure of hard times; that her great stores stand empty, and that there is an irresistible call on landlords for a reduction of rents?

THE GREAT FAMINE IN INDIA.

A most terrible famine is now raging in India. This taken in connection with the trouble incident to the Eastern question is well calculated to alarm the friends of the present British dynasty. The following account presents a gloomy picture indeed:

At a public meeting held at Madras on the 4th inst., to consider steps necessary for securing help from England for the famine sufferers, the Duke of Buckingham, Governor of the Madras presidency, stated that the famine area contained eighteen millions of people, of which a large proportion were dependant for their daily food on the exertions and activity of those who transport grain to the country. The necessity for supplies is steadily increasing. The wants of Madras are already beyond the means of the presidency. Everlast that can be secured is needed to save the people. The increasing severity of the distress necessitates an appeal to public charity. Dr. Cornish, sanitary commissioner, said that there were already a million and a half people being fed, and over 500,000 had died. A resolution was adopted that the principal cities of England, Scotland, Ireland and India be informed of the urgent necessity for assistance. The mover of this resolution said that more people were found dead in a single morning in Madras than had died in the whole of Bengal before.

A Calcutta dispatch to the Times says that during the last week there has been a slight and insufficient rain in portions of Madras and Mysore. It is now clear that the famine will rage with increased intensity in these provinces for at least six months longer.

THE REPUBLICAN PARTY AND THE WORKING MEN.

The movement placing in nomination a working man's ticket for different State offices in Ohio, is supposed to be a ruse on the part of the Democratic party to draw off votes in the coming contest. The fact that, the Republicans in the adoption of their platform, sympathized with the laboring classes and pledged their earnest efforts to so direct legislation in the next Congress as to ameliorate the condition of their unfortunate fellow-citizens now pressed by the tightness of the times, has so alarmed the untrifled that a counter movement was deemed necessary to bolster up their cause.

That the Republican party has ever been, and will continue to be, the best friend of the working classes, is apparent to all but the most hide-bound politicians. It has done more to elevate the tone and sinew of the land than all the associations of whatever kind that ever existed in this land.

No truer assertion was ever made than the one recently uttered by President Hayes, that "the working men should look for protection in the bosom of the Republican party."

If the Republican party, pointing to its past record teeming with instances of devotion to the rights of labor and the interests of the toiling millions, has no claim upon the affections of the people, then no associations, however binding can rescue them from the clutches of bad government and designing men.

For the past few years we have endeavored to impress upon the working men of our State to think for themselves, and shake off the narrow prejudices which many of them have unfortunately allowed to get possession of their minds through the influence of bad men for selfish purposes. Let the workingmen of North Carolina study well the past record of the Republican party and the measures it has originated for their special interest; then let them be compared with the actions of the so-called Democratic party and weigh well the difference.

Such a course will tend more to alleviate the condition of the working classes than every thing else together.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Letters appearing under this head are published as news matter without regard to the opinion of the Editor as to the views expressed by correspondents. These columns are open to the public without regard to party; letters which are respectful and impersonal, will be inserted under this head.—EDITOR.

To the Editor of the Register:

SIR:—I claim the indulgence to be heard through your valuable paper, and while I claim the indulgence, I would ask the question, who are the true "Reformers?" I might answer the question myself, and say that the Democratic party are the true "Reformers." I might answer and say again, that the Republican party are the true reformers. Let us see what the two parties have done to better the condition of the masses. They have to-day control of the State and National governments, and instead of making any reform to better the condition of the masses they have obstructed the wheels of the government, they have stagnated trade and reduced labor to a level that has made it desperate, and in North Carolina we can see and also feel that the entire legislation that has been done for the last two or three years, has been to the interest of a few private corporations and to the entire legal profession, who by the way, are in swarms like locusts all over the State in every town and village, and are getting to be a blight upon the body politic. They are as injurious to the welfare and prosperity of the working classes as the grasshoppers are to the crops in Minnesota.

If one fourth of the legislation had been done for the benefit of the working people their condition would be somewhat advanced above the level of hewers of wood and drawers of water. It would be a good thing if the white working men of North Carolina, mechanics, farmers and laborers would organize for the purpose of having themselves and their interest represented. It is time we had taken such a step. Some of the States have already organized and put their candidates in the field. We, too, ought to be up and at work while there is time, and not be led by the nose upon the eve of a hotly contested campaign by the fair promises of either party, for both have promised and we have been deceived. Let us take this matter of reform in our own hands. It would be well to begin by forming a club in each town and township and appoint its executive committees. We are in the majority and we ought to profit by it; we have lived too long upon fair promises. We can see what the great strike in the North has developed and had it not been that it was premature and a little so, it would have shaken it not overturned the government, and their move was goaded to des-

peration by the fair promises of politicians, and outrages committed on them by Railroad kings, together with the helpless condition of themselves and families. Let us rise up and by our actions show that we are determined to be the true reformers. We can but claim little from the Republican party. We have solidly voted against it, consequently we need not depend upon it for any reform except we can force it by our votes. We ought to follow the example of the President and do away with ring men and politicians. Senator Blaine says he "regards the labor question of to-day second to that of the South." It is a good thing that the politicians are stopped agitating the Southern question. They were so full of it that they had entirely forgotten the interest of the working masses, but could always find time to dance to the music of Tom Scott, Vanderbilt, Mahone and others. The working masses have changed their tone and will make them dance to the music of "Labor Reform."

I say, again, Mr. Editor, it is time we were doing something in the shape of organizing in this State. Let us not be behind. We have some rights and let us maintain them, we ought not to fall behind in this good work for Northern Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, Ohio, New Jersey, New York and nearly all the States in the Union have all formed labor associations for the purpose of having themselves represented in the State and National governments, and let us have the satisfaction of knowing that we have thrown our weight in the scales and are a part and parcel of the true reformers.

LABOR REFORM.

HO FOR TEXAS!

HOMES FOR FOUR MILLION IDLERS.

WHAT GENERAL ROBERTSON SAYS OF THE RESOURCES OF THE STATE—LANDS WAITING TO BE GIVEN AWAY—HOW CAPITALISTS MAY BENEFIT THEMSELVES AND HELP THE POOR.

General J. B. Robertson, general passenger and immigration agent of the Houston and Texas Central Railroad, arrived in this city a day or two ago to confer with certain gentlemen with whom he has been in correspondence regarding emigration to Texas. Previous to the adoption of the new Constitution of that State, which went into effect in April, 1876, General Robertson was superintendent of the Texas Bureau of Immigration. In conversation with a Times reporter yesterday, he said: The Constitutional Convention was called at the time when "retrenchment" was the cry all over the country. The bureau was expending from \$15,000 to \$20,000 annually in correspondence and distributing circulars, pamphlets, maps, etc. Immigrants were coming into the State so rapidly that the convention decided to abolish the bureau, but in doing so a resolution was passed inviting immigration from all countries. As I was familiar with the subject of immigration, the Houston and Texas Central Railroad tendered me the position which I now hold. When they did so I told them that if they wished me to go North to misrepresent Texas for the purpose of getting them a few passengers, their railroad might go to the devil. I am not here for any such purpose. I wish to see the almost boundless resources of our great State developed, but I wish to deceive no one. We have homes for every one of the four millions of idle persons now said to be in the United States. Texas contains over two hundred and thirty-seven thousand square miles, but from those figures persons cannot realize its extent. It is larger than New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Virginia and North Carolina put together. It is the largest cotton producing State in the Union; in 1870 we raised four hundred thousand bales; this year we will send nine hundred thousand bales to market.

FLOCKING THERE FOR HOMES.

The census of 1870 showed our population to be 812,000, now it is 2,000,000; this estimate is based on the vote polled at the last general election. Last year our population increased 300,000. I speak by the card. I had the number of immigrants sent to me from every railroad entering the State, from every steamship and sailing vessel landing in our harbors, and from every ferry on the Red river. Besides these, thousands who came to stay came as first-class passengers, and I got no record of them. While the assessed valuation of property in Pennsylvania has fallen off about \$40,000,000 in the last year, in Texas it has increased \$35,000,000. We have twenty-three hundred miles of railroads in operation. We have a permanent and constantly-increasing school fund invested in United States and State bonds, which yields an annual income of \$2,500,000. And yet we have fifty millions of acres of land to be given away to actual settlers—160 acres to the head of a family, and 80 acres to each single man—free and for nothing, the only cost to the settler being for his survey and patent, which altogether is about \$15. The great bulk of this public land lies in the northwestern section of the State, north of the 32d parallel and west of the 100th meridian. It is not yet organized into counties, but it is good land, compares favorably with the rest of the State, is fairly watered, bears timber enough for fuel, is well adapted for both cotton and wheat and there is no finer grazing land in the world. The Canadian and Red rivers cross it from east to west and several tributaries of the latter have their source in this region. Two projected branches of the Houston and Texas Central Railroad traverse it from the northwest to the southeast, and the Texas Pacific Railroad, which is already running from Shreveport to Fort Worth, crosses the southern part of it from east to west. Besides the vast tract of land to be given to actual settlers the State possesses about eight million acres of school lands to be sold to actual settlers at \$1.50 per acre, payable in ten annual payments. The Houston and Texas Central Railroad Company owns about five million acres, lying principally within the line of the United States forts, and there are all over the State large tracts of land owned by individuals which can be bought cheap. I am now in correspondence with one hundred and forty-two persons who are organizing colonies for Texas.

But I wish to get the large capitalists interested in the subject. I wish to show them how the four millions of idle persons may be profitably employed, not the bummers and tramps—we don't want them in Texas; but those who are willing to work. I intend to show capitalists how they can carry out a noble philanthropy and at the same time make money for themselves. Our plan is to get a number of capitalists to buy a tract of say twenty thousand or thirty thousand acres of land, and sell one-half of it to colonists, reserving every alternate section or settlement. Sell these homes to the colonist on long time, at cheap rates and low interest, with the privilege of paying the whole of the purchase money at any time he may be able, and thereby stop interest.

The company should furnish transportation to such as require it, and guarantee to each settler one year's supply of necessary provisions and clothing and the seed, team and tools to make his first crop. This gives any man who is willing to work an opportunity to secure for himself and family a home, which once secured is such forever beyond any contingencies, for in Texas a man's homestead cannot be sold for debt and he cannot mortgage it. The only way he can get rid of it is by selling it out and out. The plan offers an investment that, properly managed, will yield a handsome profit. The settlement of one hundred families on the alternate sections of a tract of 30,000 acres will make the reserved sections worth more than the whole cost, in addition to which there will be the principal and interest on that sold to the colonists. Last year one thousand families settled in Brown county, paying for their land from seventy-five cents to \$1.50 an acre; now land in that county is worth \$5 an acre. Men say the hard times are the result of over-production, but it would be more correct to say that an unnaturally limited consumption is the cause. Let these four million idle persons become prosperous Texas farmers—and there is no reason why they should not—and they will consume twenty times as much as they do now. New life will be infused into every branch of industry, and we shall hear no more about hard times. We have public schools in every inhabited section of the State for white and colored children, and the State pays for four months' school. Whenever any of our school lands are sold the proceeds are placed in the permanent fund, only the interest being used; besides, one-fourth of all the State taxes goes to the school fund, so that in a few years we shall be able to have longer school terms. Besides the homesteads that we have to offer we can now give employment to forty thousand agricultural laborers, if they will go away from the railroads, at from sixteen to twenty dollars per month.—Philadelphia Times.

REMEMISCENCES.

GENERAL GRANT'S ST. LOUIS RESIDENCE—HON. E. B. WASHBURN, & C.

The writer hereof was called to St. Louis in the summer of 1857. During his stay he visited Professor Koch, an eminent geologist of whom he happened to have personal knowledge, residing in the outskirts of the city. In the course of conversation Professor Koch pointed to a little, low, frame dwelling near by, from which the yellow paint originally applied had almost entirely disappeared, remarking: "General Grant occupied that unpretending structure for the space of two years previous to his removal to Galena." Lively interest was at once excited in our mind, and, in accordance with an expressed wish, Professor Koch accompanied us to the house. A plainer, more inexpensive abode we had seldom seen. It was a story-and-a-half high, and contained only two apartments. Its cost could hardly have exceeded five hundred dollars, and yet, according to the testimony of Professor Koch, General and Mrs. Grant lived in it comfortably. Mrs. Grant, he stated, was a model young wife, constantly exhibiting a cheerful spirit and performing her own house work in addition to the care of two children, while her husband was engaged in hauling wood from

his father-in-law's farm in St. Louis to the St. Louis market. Not succeeding in the business, he solicited and obtained the aid of a few friends for the appointment of assistant engineer on a line of railroad about to be constructed from St. Louis to the iron-ore region of Missouri. The effort failed, and then, under the pressure of necessity, he accepted the tender by his father of the charge of a leather store at \$50 per month, in Galena, where he was found at the opening of the great war in which he became the central figure.

In this connection we are reminded of the early life of Hon. E. B. Washburn, now closing a distinguished career as American minister at the Court of France. Relieved from our apprenticeship in the office of the Lancaster Examiner and Herald at the age of nineteen, we wandered to Galena and procured employment on the Galena Semi-weekly Gazette. The Gazette was then the principal Whig organ in Northwestern Illinois, and its editorial-rooms were consequently frequented by the leaders of the Whig party. Prominent in this circle of politicians was Elihu B. Washburn, then about twenty-five years old, and rapidly coming into notice both as a lawyer and public speaker. Indeed, even at that time Mr. Washburn and Thomas Drummond, subsequently appointed judge of the United States District Court in Illinois, were the chief orators at Whig meetings held in and around Galena. Mr. Washburn was evidently a born leader. Uniting with a vigorous intellect both physical and moral courage and great boldness in action, he at once became a favorite with the masses. From the public debates so common in that portion of the country he never shrank, and always so acquitted himself as to command the applause of his party followers. His sincerity was never questioned. No one ever doubted his confidence in the rectitude of the course he advocated. He was also a true friend. Somehow we attracted his favorable regard in our capacity as editorial assistant; and although we soon separated, and have seldom met since that period, he has yet constantly followed us with a spirit of marked kindness. Sixteen years afterwards he recognized us in the rotunda of the Nation Capitol, and greeted us with a cordiality which produced a deep impression on our heart. Hence this brief tribute is rendered gratefully, and with a full conviction of the eminent worth of the subject of it.

The editor of the Galena Semi-weekly Gazette in the days of Washburn and Drummond was a remarkable man. H. H. Houghton, like Horace Greeley, Thurlow Weed, Joseph Gales, and John W. Forney, was a practical printer. He had received his training for the work he so well performed inside the walls of a Vermont printing office. In many respects he seemed a prodigy to those who sustained to him relations of intimacy. Small-sized, unimposing in appearance, and unpretending in manners, he was looked up to as a grand thinker and vigorous writer. Many of his best editorial productions were never written, but thrown together at the case under the impelling power of a strong, clear, radiant brain. The principles and candidates of the Whig party found in him a supporter whose forcible arguments and trenchant style materially contributed to the success of that formidable organization. In later years General Grant formed his acquaintance, and no doubt cherishes admiring recollections of the unassuming and yet courageous and intrinsically able Galena editor. I. B. G.

EXRS, July 28, 1877.

SOUTHERN SUMMERING PLACES.

It would be of advantage to the whole country if a part of the great current of tourist travel rushing now here and there through the North could be diverted to some of the summer resorts of the South. The good effect of the President's proposed visit would be greatly strengthened by a cordial social intercourse between the educated classes of both sections, and, under the circumstances, the first advance should be made from our side. At a watering-place where every man pays his own score, there is a freedom from obligation, a lazy good humor holiday, zest, which is much more conducive to good-fellowship and friendly feeling than are the relation of host and guest. It may seem a reversal of things to go South in Summer. But the Sulphur Springs of Virginia are delightfully cool, and this Summer the hotels are better kept, as a general rule, than for many years. The wealthier classes of Virginia resort there now, as before the war. There is of course, less display of substantial family equipages, servants and diamonds, but there is just as much state, and as solid a conviction that when Virginia makes a joke all the world laughs. There is really a little too much vaunting of property, perhaps, for sound common sense. The younger generation show themselves too apt to sit down on "the fortune lost in the war" as a pedestal quite sufficient for present and future glory. Intercourse with Northerners would probably suggest to their minds that twelve years is enough for an energetic man, in possession of education and influence, if not to make a fortune, to lay the basis of a comfortable competency. Southerners are

now slow in receiving such practical hints. It is curious to observe how they have been inoculated with a good many work-day ideas by the very Federal soldiers whose presence was so sore a grievance among them.

The whole mountain region, from Upper Virginia to South Carolina, offers temptations such as are not to be found in the Adirondacks to sportsmen of every kind. Bears, wolves, deer and the smaller game are to be found in all the ranges below Christianburg. In Southern Tennessee, every farmer in these mountain regions will "take in folks" for prices absolutely low, and furnish, as a rule, good butter, coffee and hot bread and chicken ad nauseam. There are quiet little watering places, too, much smaller than the Virginia Springs, to which the best classes of the Carolinas, Georgia and the lower gulf States resort, and where Northerners receive an exceptionally cordial welcome. Board at these places is substantial, good and well served, ranges in price at from \$5 to \$10 per week. There are quaint little inns, too, in villages lying literally above the clouds, where the same kind of board costs but from \$3 to \$5 per week; where bear-steaks and venison collars appeal for breakfast; where Spring chickens are sold for eighty cents per dozen, and mountain trout at five cents per pound. We know of no such paradises for artists and epicures as these almost inaccessible North Carolina hamlets. In South Carolina the principal place of resort is Caesar's Head, a mountain summit over 4,000 feet above tide water; from which can be seen the vast valley of Carolina and Georgia, and where Winter clothes and fires are necessary just now. There are houses furnishing comfortable and very cheap accommodations here also. We know, in short, no better field for exploration open to artists, lovers of the picturesque, or students of human nature, than these remote Southern watering-places. The scenery is the most magnificent in the whole Appalachian Range and the social world—the thought, manner and character of the people—are totally different from anything to be found in the North, and well worth our attentive study, keeping the condition of the country always in view.

The one difficulty in the way of tourists, however, to these regions, is the exorbitant charges made by every Southern railway and wayside hotel. "Passengers are so few in number," is the frank plea, "that we must make what we can off of them." It will not need a long experience, however, to convince them how suicidal is this policy.—N. Y. Tribune.

STATE NEWS.

Charlotte is extending its gas lights.

Peter Warren Wheeler, a worthy citizen of Beaufort, died on the 30th ult.

Mrs. O. P. Spencer writes many verses on the Normal School. They were recited at the Normal School at Chapel Hill on the 8th inst.

Elizabeth City Economist: Last week, at Van Sykes' landing, a man fell from the mast head of a vessel loaded with melons, and was instantly killed.

A Philadelphia capitalist wants to come to North Carolina to engage in manufacturing stockings by machinery. At present the old women constitute our sole resource—our only stocking manufacturers.

Oxford Torchlight: As we go to press it gives us great pain to announce the death of Mrs. H. B. Ferebee, a most unexceptionably pious lady, which took place at the residence of T. T. Grandy, Esq., on Sunday last. She was in the 73d year of her age.

Two more mad dogs killed in Wilmington. The STAR reporters, however, are entirely serene; alcohol in large quantities being an unfailing antidote for a snake bite.—Southern Home. That was not shot well. "The STAR reporters" run two temperance societies, and have not "smiled" in years.

Biblical Recorder: Dr. Jeter, of The Religious Herald, of Richmond, is speaking the month at Buffalo Springs. Last week he visited Yanceyville and the grave of Rev. John Kerr, the great orator and preacher. In an editorial he urges the Baptists of North Carolina and Virginia to erect a monument to the memory of John Kerr.

Asheville Pioneer: Hog cholera is prevailing among the swine on Swannanoa. A gentleman who resides about seven miles from town informs us that large numbers of hogs in his section are dying. The corporation has made a road from the gap in the mountain to the summit of Beau-Catcher. —Beef retails in Asheville for six and eight cents per pound.

Macon Advance: We understand that there has lately been made a discovery of magnetic iron on the lands of Dr. R. C. Washburn, on Valley River. Prof. R. C. Smith has been examining it and pronounces it No. 1. The Professor has commenced his work in making a collection for the State. We were shown a bunch of one hundred and twenty heads of oats, by N. G. Allman, Esq., that grew from one oat grain this year.