

GENERAL GRANT ON RECONSTRUCTION—A special dispatch to the Boston Advertiser says:

"There has been a good deal of talk during the past two or three days about General Grant's position on the reconstruction question. It will be remembered that some time last summer one Colonel Hillyer, formerly on General Grant's staff, wrote a letter to some body in Indiana, saying the General endorsed the President's policy, which allegation was met by saying that another Hillyer nor any one else had authority to speak for him. The Democratic members of the Judiciary Committee of the House, it appears, thought a point for the President might be made out of the matter, and accordingly General Grant and Colonel Hillyer were summoned to give evidence in the impeachment inquiry. Hillyer testified that a long interview took place in February of last year between the President, General Grant, and himself, and that his letter as to General Grant's position was founded on what was then said.

"Hillyer had but recently returned from an extended tour in the South, and was giving some account of affairs down there. He spoke of the generally unsettled condition, and General Grant indorsed his report by saying he had discovered the same state of facts in his hurried trip a short time before. The President made some observation to the effect that matters would not become right till the States were restored to the Union, and that this ought to be done as soon as possible; to which both his hearers assented. General Grant was before the committee on two occasions, and his evidence was far enough from being pleasing to the gentlemen by whom he was called. He said in effect, as is understood, that he had not thought it his province to meddle in politics; that he had never been asked by the President for his advice or opinions on political matters; that in all he had said about the necessity for early restoration of the Union he had spoken as a military man and as a citizen, and not as a politician; that in his view military rule ought to cease as soon as possible consistent with justice and safety; that the Southern people themselves should be anxious for restoration of the civil authority; that he had always understood the President's work in the South as of a temporary character, and at most as but an aid to Congress in setting up the civil governments; that he had not sympathized with the President in his conflict with Congress; that he thought the fixing of terms of reconstruction was matter belonging to Congress; that in his judgment the South made a grave mistake in not long ago heartily accepting the terms offered; that he stood firmly by the Congressional plan, and that he was anxious now, as he had been ever since the end of the war, for the early restoration of the rebel States to the privilege of representation in Congress."

OUR CHURCH IN RICHMOND, VA.—We are in receipt of a circular from Rev. James Mitchell, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Richmond, with a very strong endorsement by Governor Peirpoint and Judge Underwood, setting forth the great need of a church edifice for our denomination in that city. Respecting the necessity of the case, the circular forcibly observes that it becomes absolutely necessary to occupy the great centres of influence once held by us in the South; for no succeeding branch of Methodism can do the work of the parent body or carry an independent and untrammelled gospel to the families of the land. This has become matter of painful experience.

Governor Peirpoint remarks: "There is great need of the church building above referred to; it is one of the necessities of the times at this point. The spirit of the southern pulpit is thoroughly disloyal, active in the propaganda of rebel sentiment, and in cherishing a hope that 'the lost cause' may be gained by the destruction of a Republican government in this country. I regard the establishment of loyal churches throughout the South as the great means of counteracting this influence."

And Judge Underwood characteristically says: "The fashionable pulpits of this city have all been false to their trust and to the claims of humanity, and as a natural result the general conscience is almost paralyzed. Poverty and sin abound." Quite independent of these political and social considerations, or placing them in a position altogether secondary, we are fully satisfied that our Church has a mission in the South, and especially in such a place as Richmond, which should not be left unfulfilled, and for the accomplishment of that work at that place, a suitable house of worship is necessary. Mr. Mitchell, therefore, appeals for "material aid," which, we trust, will not be withheld.—New York Christian Advocate.

The "bomb-proofs" and others who "snuffed the battle afar off" are abusing Gen. Longstreet by his letters in favor of reconstruction under the military bills. This calls forth the following bitter piece of irony from an exchange:

The Israelites have been much pitted because the rascally Egyptians compelled them to make bricks without straw; but the Southern editor who boldly stayed at home, flung metaphorical flags to the breeze, charged in the abstract, vanquished theoretically, wrote without brains, printed without ink or paper, published without advertisers or subscribers, and stood magnanimously in the gap when the very devils had deserted—this is the man for laurels and complimentary liquor while living, and for a stately monument when dead.

THE CROPS IN MARYLAND.—The Maryland farmers are threshing their wheat, which, in the upper counties, promises a fair crop; in the lower counties the prospects of the crop are indifferent. Corn promises well. Tobacco prospects are very unfavorable; the season is altogether too wet.

Alex. H. Stephens on Davis and the Confederacy—Reminiscences of the Rebellion.

A correspondent of the New York Times recently visited Alex. H. Stephens at his home at Crawfordville, Georgia. We extract the following from an interesting letter published by him.

HOW A BAIN-STORM TOOK GEORGIA OUT OF THE UNION.

Mr. Stephens had wanted a convention of the people to be held about the 15th of December. He knew that Georgia would not secede, and he was also sure that South-Carolina, which had not yet seceded, would not, but though she was, out alone, he could not effect this purpose. The election for delegates was ordered for the 1st of January, which was after South-Carolina had taken the leap. "Well," he went on to say, "on the 1st of January, there was a rain-storm more violent than the heaviest in the history of the State since the flood in the Yazoo had there been such a storm. The result was that the country people could not get out to vote, and this gave a preponderating influence in the election of delegates to the towns and villages, where, you know, political epidemics are always stronger than elsewhere. We lost at least twenty Union members by it. Even Rome, up in the Cherokee country, where the Union sentiment was vastly in the ascendant, sent a secession delegate. I went over myself to the Courthouse yonder to vote, and the room was filled with dripping people, with wet saddles in their hands, who had come through the flood and mire with immense difficulty. I made them a little speech there, but I find that I feared the rain would lose me the election. And so indeed it did."

GLIMPSES OF THE EARLY WAR-DAYS.

The day before the adjournment of the Montgomery Convention the different delegations had meetings at their rooms to consult in regard to the important question of a choice of Executive. Stephens was present with the Georgia delegation. It was stated that South-Carolina did not wish to bring forward any name, and thought Georgia should have it. Mr. Stephens' personal choice was Toombs, whom he regarded as the most powerful intellect of the South. There was, however, some mention made of Stephens himself for the office; but he then stated that he would not consent to be chosen, and he would not accept, unless he saw that he could form a cabinet that would agree upon the line of policy on which he thought the war should be conducted. Hitherto the name of Davis had hardly been mooted; but at this point some member came in and said he understood that four States had agreed to support Mr. Davis. This was something new; for Davis' aspiration had been to be at the head of the army rather than in the Presidential chair. It was proposed to send out and ascertain if the report were true. The case was found to be as stated. The delegation then said they would wish Mr. Stephens for the second office, and to this he (being absent) consented. The office, however, was not unpleasing to me; it was free from responsibility, and I thought might afford me the means of doing good.

In speaking of Davis he remarked that there was great popular misapprehension in regard to his character. "He was," said he, "not at all that people suppose. He was all a fire-eater; and though he was of course a State-Rights man, he could hardly be called a secessionist."

"Then he does not deserve to be counted with the conspirators—with the Cobbs and Yanceys and Wigfalls."

"Certainly not. He was opposed to secession, and he had the courage to come out against it. His course was simply the result of timidity, of the desire to keep the inside track and step into the shoes of Calhoun."

Then among other points Mr. Stephens mentioned that Davis was very averse to having Fort Sumpter fired on, and only yielded after it was known that a fleet with reinforcements and supplies was on the harbor. "That, we regarded, after the promise made, as the beginning of hostilities, and held, therefore, that it was not we that commenced the war."

It was universally thought that the war would be a brief holiday affair. "Most of the prominent politicians, when we got together at the time of the convention, hastened to enter the army, fearing that if they did not get in quick they would lose the opportunity of making some capital for the future."

"Mr. Davis," he went on to say, "observed to me soon after we got established at Montgomery, that it would now be a question of brains who should win, and the remark was just what I thought there must be a great deal where that came from. But there was manifested from the start a wonderful lack of statesmanship, and even of mere ordinary good sense."

with the view of opening negotiations for a cessation of the war, and that he desired to be allowed to visit Mr. Stephens. "I got this letter in April and immediately wrote to Richmond, asking that he should be permitted to come up and see me. In reply I received word that an officer would be sent to ascertain what Cabell had to say. But this was never done, and in June I received another letter from Cabell, stating that he was being and begging, intimation on his behalf. I sent an indignant protest to Richmond, but heard nothing further of the matter till July, when I got word from the commandant of the post at Andersonville that Cabell was dead!"

THE CONFEDERACY A DESPOTISM.

I had, in the course of our talk, many interesting revelations of the inner workings of the Richmond government, and of its civil military policy. Its war measures, especially, were animated with the most severely and prominent animosity, which Stephens regarded as an enormous blunder, and a flagrant violation of the very principle on which the war was waged on the part of the South. "The result was," he observed, "that as the war went on, desertion, absenteeism, assumed prodigious proportions. Mr. Davis, in his Mason speech, stated that there were 150,000 deserters from the army. Now the men had not grown lukewarm in the cause."

"But they found a new cause?"

"They found a new cause. They had seceded for State Rights; they found a centralized despotism, aiming at a dynasty—long before the end, thinking men began to realize that there would have to be a revolution within the revolution. As for the manner in which supplies were raised by impressment, that was mere robbery, and was attended with the most gigantic corruption the earth ever saw."

"And you had arbitrary arrests, too?"

"Oh, of that kind, I had shocking knowledge. When I came out to Georgia in 1863, I found 1,100 persons in prison here in Atlanta, without shadow of law." Then recurring to forced conscription, he added: "It was a satire to see free citizens dragged in chains to fight for liberty!"

"Do you think, then, it would have been possible to have conducted the war purely on the voluntary basis after principle?"

"Most assuredly. If it was not a free-will war it was a crime. Before Clear crossed the Rhine, when he was about to enter the wilderness, he put to his soldiers whether they would follow him, and only wanted such as were willing to go. The result was that though the great body of the army had been pressed into the expedition, yet scarcely one refused to go. It is one thing in such enterprises to coerce, and another, while really commanding, to seem to follow the popular impulse. All statesmen understand this; and war without statesmanship and diplomacy is mere stupidity."

A SCENE IN THE SENATE.

In December the proposition came up for a second suspension of habeas corpus. After a protracted debate in the Senate it came to a tie, and remained with Mr. Stephens, who, as Vice-President of the Confederacy, was President of the Senate, to decide the matter by giving the casting vote.

"I rose to announce my vote, and stated that I felt it to be my duty to explain the reasons that influenced me in what I was going to do, when a Senator objected to my speaking."

"The all knew you were going to vote against the bill."

"Oh, yes! They had heard me a hundred times speak in private against the suspension of habeas corpus." The Senator objected to Mr. Stephens speaking because he was Vice-President, and, after some sparring, another Senator arose and declared his desire to change his vote to the affirmative, which would have carried the bill. Stephens ruled against his so doing, seeing that the debate was concluded; but the members appealed from and overruled his decision and passed the bill.

FOR THE STANDARD.

MASS MEETING IN WARRENTON—LETTER FROM D. E. GOODLOE, ESQ.

Messrs. Editors:—A grand mass meeting of the citizens of Warrenton was held at the Court-house, on the 20th. Some four thousand persons were present, most of whom were colored.

The meeting was organized by calling Albert Burgess to the Chair, and appointing Prof. Jas. H. Foote, white, Jno. Hyman and Wm. Gawnthorn, colored, Secretaries by Cesar Johnson, colored, Prof. Foote, Rev. J. B. Solomon, whites, James H. Harris and Rev. G. W. Brodie, colored, and Dr. Mat. Williams. This was the largest assembly ever met in Warrenton. The speeches were all well received and appropriate. But I must say the address of Mr. Jas. H. Harris was one of the best political speeches ever heard; fair and logical, and sustained in a most eloquent and graceful manner. He took strong grounds in favor of the restoration of North-Carolina and the other rebellious States according to the acts of Congress—advised all to aid the great Republican party in support of these acts—gave the Democrats of the North some facts—interposed a few quotations, and beautiful illustrations, and was frequently applauded. Mr. Harris is certainly a fine speaker. I think Warren is all right, and will vote, when allowed to do so, almost unanimously for the Republican ticket. I wish I had time to give you a synopsis of the different speeches.

The Hon. Jas. H. R. Goodloe was invited to be present and address the meeting, but was prevented from doing so on account of official business. I herewith enclose a copy of his admirable letter, which I hope you will find room for in the Standard.

This large crowd dispersed late in the evening without one instance of disorder.

Yours truly,
JAS. H. FOOTE, Sec'y.

Warrenton, July 23, 1867.

RALEIGH, July 17th, 1867.

MY DEAR SIR:—I learn from you, and also from our friend William Cavorth, that I am expected to be present at the meeting on Saturday. I very much regret that the pressure of my official engagements will deprive me of that pleasure. At the recent term of the Circuit Court, judgment was rendered in favor of the public places, as he had been being my duty as Marshal to see that the executions are served, I find my attention drawn to nearly every corner of the State, in rapid succession, lest something may go wrong. I have at the same time to make out my semi-annual returns, and to edit the Register; so, between these various and pressing duties, you can imagine I have very little leisure. It happens that I am compelled to leave here in the morning, in order to be ready for the boat on the Black-water on Friday; and I should feel that I had committed a serious breach of duty if I were to stop in Warrenton. I have thus frankly stated in detail, my reasons for declining to be present on the occasion, and I hope they will be satisfactory. In a few weeks I shall be relieved from the pressure on my time, when I propose to return to Warrenton to spend some weeks. In the mean time I shall address the people from week to week, through the columns of the Register, so that there will be no mistaking my position. I have at great personal inconvenience, and with the hope of making money, undertaken to edit the paper, in order to spread before the public the principles and views of public policy which I feel to be of vital importance, and indeed essential to freedom, peace and restoration. If I could be present at the meeting on Saturday, and were gifted with powers of utterance equal to those possessed by many gentlemen who will be there, I should say to the people of this State, that there is no escape from the present state of things—no military rule, no disfranchisement, and from the paralysis of industry, except through the gate of reconstruction, offered by the acts of Congress. Opposition to those acts, whether active or passive, will be equally unavailing. Failure to form a State government will result in the control of affairs ending in the hands of the military, and those of persons who can take the test oath. On the other hand, reconstruction under the acts of Congress will immediately restore the Constitution, and will render easy and certain the restoration of the remainder.

To the people of color I would say, I rejoice that you are free. It is a consummation my heart has yearned for from my youth up. I desired that it should come peacefully, with the consent of the white people; and I have from my early manhood devoted all the energies of my mind to the work of convincing white men that black men have equal rights in the sight of God, and should have equal rights before human tribunals with themselves. And now that you are free, and also citizens and voters, I take the liberty of advising you to live on the very best terms with your white neighbors, and with those who formerly held you as slaves. Listen to no man who whispers the word of contention in your ears, or disfranchisement, or military rule, or law-abiding white neighbors. Remember that if you were born slaves, the white people were born slaveholders, or were brought up amid prejudices, and were unjust laws, which existed before they were born. We are all more or less the creatures of circumstances; and as custom under the old order of things produced unjust prejudices against you, so custom under the new order of things will change prejudices and opinions, and turn them in your favor, if you are true to yourselves. For, as Shakespeare says, he who is true to himself will be false to no man.

There are eminent men in Congress, and in the Northern States, who have talked loose about a general confiscation of the property of the Southern people. I am sure they have no real conception of the fearful calamities they would produce if their policy were carried out. They would ruin the black people as well as the whites; the loyal as well as the disloyal; they would defeat the credit of the Confederate States, and would, in addition, make it impossible to give employment to laborers. All house servants, field hands, and laborers of every kind would lose their places if those who have property are to be deprived of it by confiscation. No crops would be raised; and starvation every where would follow, as it has followed in the track of the great armies which contend against each other in the South. If confiscation should take place, I warn the colored people against indulging the hope that they would get anything by it. I know the thing will never happen, and that it is morally impossible; but if I suppose for a moment that it is possible, it may be seen that it will call forth, or produce, the more heartless and corrupt set of officials that ever existed, and that they would steal everything, squander everything, and leave nothing for the government or for the colored people. But be assured that nothing of the kind is thought of by any considerable body of men in Congress, and that the only way to get you and tell you otherwise to deceive you, and to secure your votes; but they are as little your friends as they are the friends of the white people. If you doubt it, ask them how long they have been the champions of your rights. In ninety-nine cases out of a hundred you will find that such men would have sold you to the sugar planters and cotton planters of the far South at any time before you were set free.

To whites and blacks I would say, let us cease talking of the past. We can never agree as to the merits of the great controversy. But in the future there is but one course left open. We will make a constitution as free as that of Vermont; and under it we will have equal laws, equal advantages and opportunities in life. Then every man must rise or fall according to his merits.

Thus, my dear sir, you have the substance of what I would like to say to the people of the South, if I could spare the time from my official engagements. I am, very faithfully, your friend,
DANIEL R. GOODLOE.

Prof. Jas. H. Foote, Warrenton, N. C.

FOR THE STANDARD.

REPUBLICAN MEETING AT BENTONVILLE, JOHNSTON COUNTY, N. C.

Messrs. Editors:—According to previous notice a very large portion of the people, both white and colored, from Johnston, Wayne and Sampson, met at Bentonville on the 17th July, for the purpose of giving expression to their feelings on the present state of the Republic.

On motion of Thomas D. Snead, Esq., of Johnston the meeting was organized by appointing Bryant Williams, Esq., Chairman, and Mr. Joseph Stafford and Capt. Benjamin Williams, Secretaries.

On motion, Green Flowers, John Cole and W. A. Langston, whites, and Charles Eason, William Cole and Neelham Sasser, colored, were appointed a committee to draft resolutions for the action of the meeting.

free as that of Vermont; and under it we will have equal laws, equal advantages and opportunities in life. Then every man must rise or fall according to his merits.

Thus, my dear sir, you have the substance of what I would like to say to the people of the South, if I could spare the time from my official engagements. I am, very faithfully, your friend,
DANIEL R. GOODLOE.

Prof. Jas. H. Foote, Warrenton, N. C.

FOR THE STANDARD.

REPUBLICAN MEETING AT BENTONVILLE, JOHNSTON COUNTY, N. C.

Messrs. Editors:—According to previous notice a very large portion of the people, both white and colored, from Johnston, Wayne and Sampson, met at Bentonville on the 17th July, for the purpose of giving expression to their feelings on the present state of the Republic.

On motion of Thomas D. Snead, Esq., of Johnston the meeting was organized by appointing Bryant Williams, Esq., Chairman, and Mr. Joseph Stafford and Capt. Benjamin Williams, Secretaries.

On motion, Green Flowers, John Cole and W. A. Langston, whites, and Charles Eason, William Cole and Neelham Sasser, colored, were appointed a committee to draft resolutions for the action of the meeting.

While the committee was absent, Wm. A. Smith, Esq., of Johnston was called upon, who spoke in his usual style for one hour and a half, showing who were responsible for the war and who were responsible for our present situation, showing clearly that the secessionists of the South and copperhead Democrats of the North were the guilty parties. This was done to the satisfaction of all present, except a few ignorant secessionists and traitors from Wayne. He further said the presentation of Congress, and its acceptance in good faith by the people, was the only hope of the loyal people of the South, and that have ever any who could vote under the acts of Congress to register and vote for a Convention, and vote for none but true Republicans to that Convention. He said there would be a great effort by intimidation and otherwise to keep the loyal people from registering and voting, but they must stand firm, and register and vote at all hazards; and he exhorted the people to be on their guard against the mob of traitors to apply to the nearest military Post for protection, and it would be granted. He said it was true that traitors to the government of the United States, held nearly all the offices under the State government, and were allowed to carry arms to enforce the laws, which gave the opposition to the reconstruction measures great advantage over its supporters, as he feared those arms might be used as they were in New Orleans to slaughter Union men. He, therefore, hoped Gen. Sickles would remove all disloyal men from office, and put none in office but loyal men to the government, and who can take the oath of office of 1862.

The committee through its chairman, Green Flowers, Esq., reported the following preamble and resolutions, which were unanimously passed:

WHEREAS, according to the existing orders, all men of North-Carolina are prohibited from carrying arms, except public officers of the State; and whereas, a large majority of these officers are as hostile to the Union as the Union men, as the days of Mr. Jefferson Davis, and whereas, we who live in the interior of the country, far from any military Post, have no protection from marauders and traitors, and whereas, we feel insecure with men to rule over us with arms in their hands, who are enemies to us and to the government, and whereas, we are taxed to keep up a government which is opposed to the reconstruction of Congress, which we look upon as the only means of our protection in the future; therefore,

Resolved, That we respectfully ask Gen. Sickles to remove all officers of the State who cannot take the test oath of office of 1862, passed by an act of Congress of the United States.

Resolved, That we respectfully ask Gen. Sickles to issue an order prohibiting the Rebel Legislature of this State from meeting again.

Resolved, That we endorse the action of the Republican Convention held at Raleigh on 27th March last.

Resolved, That we will do all in our power as good citizens to aid Gen. Sickles in carrying out to the letter, the recent action of Congress.

Resolved, That the proceeding of this meeting be published in the Standard, and other Republican papers requested to copy.

BRYANT WILLIAMS, Chairman.
JOSEPH STAFFORD, Secretary,
BENJAMIN WILLIAMS, Secretary.

FOR THE STANDARD.

Messrs. Editors:—I have by accident picked up, in the room of a friend, a copy of a rebel sheet published in the city of Raleigh, and dated July 18th, 1867. The following paragraph attracts my notice:

"The fourth of July orator at Elizabeth City who we will guarantee is a candidate for something went a bore; beyond any of his cotemporary 'glorifiers' in eulogizing Mr. Lincoln, &c."

I had supposed that old Bro. Pell had consented some time ago to repent and become a good man. The hearts of some of our correspondents were touched about the date of his recent affliction, and they withdrew their fire, supposing that such a visitation from Divine Providence would serve as a warning and lead him to consider and amend his ways. But as it seems to have failed, they may find it necessary to deal with him again, and a little more severely.

Do you suppose he has any such great veneration for the character of George Washington as to be troubled at his disparagement in the Northern States, when he wrote after the gods of the Confederacy. I suppose the name of Jeff Davis had been used where that of President Lincoln was, would Bro. Pell and his readers have been displeased? No one is likely to convince our people of the sincerity of his attachment to the "father of our country" by the manifestly hostile national government, dishonors the national birth-day, and so far as he dares, flouts the national flag. What right have they who sought to destroy the country of Washington—who at heart detest the nation whom his valor, and his goodness established—who rid themselves of the battle-field, the flag beneath whose folds Washington and his brave compatriots fought—what right have they thus sacrilegiously to mention his name? This is not a foreign nation, but that loves the flag and country of Washington more than Bro. Pell and his political school. It is truly refreshing to hear brazen-faced traitors prate of statesmanship and patriotism.

The name and memory of Washington will always be revered by the true and loyal of this country. For his many sterling traits of character, he stands peerless upon the pages of history. Washington fought to secure the liberties of his own countrymen, and to maintain the principle that all men are created free, and endowed with the inalienable right of liberty. Jeff Davis and his followers denied the principle and fought to fasten the chains of slavery on millions. Abraham Lincoln will be forever honored and loved by the good and true friends of human liberty for his unselfishness in breaking off the shackles that bound a race—not of his own color and blood, as in the case of England, France, and Sweden, and a helplessness race, and in ushering them into light and freedom.

It was no love for Washington, but hatred for Lincoln and the government, an opportunity to let off a little rebel steam and a personal pique, that caused Bro. Pell to pen

that paragraph. Not that I love General more, but that I love Ross less.
M.
July 23, 1867.

REPUBLICAN MEETING IN CLAY.

The Republican party of Clay County, pursuant to previous notice, met at the Church, on Shooting Creek, the 4th day of July, 1867; and, on motion, John Galloway, Esq., was appointed Chairman, and Wm. H. Hogbed was called on to act as Secretary, when the following resolutions were offered and unanimously passed:

1. Resolved, That we endorse the principles of the republican party as enunciated in the resolutions of the meeting in Raleigh on the 27th of March, and that we will give our friends elsewhere in the State and in the Nation a cordial support in elevating Republican principles and men.

Resolved, That the meeting do now adjourn. W. M. Davis, N. B. Bell, John Patterson, and W. H. Hogbed delegates to represent the County in the Republican convention to be held in Raleigh on the 4th day of September next; and should our delegates fail to attend said convention, we appoint Gen. R. M. Henry, of the County of Macon, to represent the Republican party of this County in said convention. Earnestly indorsing the call made for the convention, and anxiously desirous of being represented in said convention, we most respectfully request our delegates, or a part of them, to attend the said convention.

3. That the Secretary be requested to furnish the proceedings of this meeting to the Standard and Pioneer, and request their publication in the other Republican papers of the State.

4. That the thanks of this meeting are hereby tendered to Col. W. T. Crane, of the State of Georgia, and Gen. R. M. Henry, of the County of Macon, for the very able and eloquent addresses delivered to the large concourse of citizens of Clay and Georgia that have met here to-day, to pay their homage to the altar of freedom and liberty on this the noted day of American Independence.

5. That the thanks of the meeting are tendered to the Chairman and Secretary for the able and impartial manner in which they have discharged their duties.

JOHN GALLOWAY, Chairman.
W. H. HOGBED, Sec'y.

FOR THE STANDARD.

REPUBLICAN MEETING IN GASTON COUNTY.

At a meeting of the citizens of Gaston and Cleveland counties, held at King's Mountain, on Saturday the 18th July, on motion, Alexander Bryant was called to the Chair and K. J. Kenedy, white, requested to act as Secretary.

The object of the meeting was then explained by James Rhyne, colored, in an able and eloquent manner; after which, upon motion, the following gentlemen were appointed to draft resolutions expressive of the sense of the meeting, viz: Alexander Bryant, Stanford Whitworth, Caleb Roberts, Edmund Bracha and Tilton Bryant, all colored.

During the absence of the committee the meeting was addressed by the Rev. Samuel Hunter, colored, in an able manner who gave much good and timely advice; and also by James Rhyne, colored. Mr. Rhyne set forth the right and duties of the colored people in their new condition in an able and satisfactory manner and dealt some heavy blows to secessionists.

The committee returned and reported the following preamble and resolutions, which were read by the Secretary and adopted:

WHEREAS, the situation of affairs in our State demand immediate action on the part of every loyal Unionist to restore the State to its former position in the American Union; therefore,

Resolved, That we cheerfully concur in the reconstruction programme of the Congress of the United States, which after trying the effects of gentle means, and which we have had to resort to a more severe method to reclaim the erring people of the South.

Resolved, That we hold that all men are created free and equal and should enjoy equal rights and privileges under a republican form of government.

Resolved, That we sincerely exult in the fact that as a nation we are now absolutely a nation of freemen, and that the sun in all its course over our wide spread country no longer shines on the brow of a slave; without reservation we heartily endorse the measure of civil rights impartial enfranchisement without any property qualification conferred without distinction of color, and that we are ready to unite in the early practical attainment of these inestimable privileges.

Resolved, That as the most potent and efficient means by which the South can speedily regain her lost prosperity, we earnestly advocate a spreading of knowledge and education among all classes, and that to the attainment of this great end, we demand and shall persistently and firmly insist upon the absolute right of free discussion and free speech on all subjects of public interest.

(From the Arkansas State Gazette.)
ARKANSAS STATE LEGISLATURE.

SEN. SMITH'S REFUSAL TO ALLOW IT TO BE ASSEMBLED.

On the 8th day of July, (the day fixed by joint resolution of the General Assembly of the State of Arkansas, for the meeting of the two Houses,) the following members of the Senate and House of Representatives, convened in Little Rock, to wit: Hon. J. Eakin, R. C. Newton, F. J. Cameron and R. Medlock, of the House of Representatives.

Whereupon, previous to entering upon any business, in order to preserve peace and avoid unnecessary conflict with military authority of the Government of the United States, the following communication was addressed to Gen. Smith commanding sub-district of Arkansas:

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., July 8, 1867, 10 o'clock A. M.

GENERAL: The General Assembly of this State, at the Winter Session, adjourned to reconvene on the 8th of July.

Since the adjournment an order was issued from the Commanding-General of this District forbidding it to reassemble.

Subsequent to this order the Attorney-General of the United States had published an opinion declaring that military officers are not authorized to vacate civil offices, except upon trial and conviction of occupants.

The undersigned members of the General Assembly of Arkansas respectfully desire to know whether the assembling of the Legislature will be prevented by you, as military commander of the State, should its members attempt to convene according to adjournment.

There is much unfinished business materially affecting the interests of citizens, which they deem it their duty to complete. They do not desire any conflict, however, with the military force, nor any breach of the peace; inasmuch as the Legislature is a peace civil body, with no powers of resistance.

Hence we have deemed it advisable, in behalf of the Senate and the House of Representatives, which branches respectively of the General Assembly it is our duty to keep alive by adjournment from day to day, and by sending for absent members until a quorum may be had, to ascertain from you our pacific efforts, so that we would call forth military interference.

If convenient, an answer is requested by twelve o'clock M., the hour fixed for meeting.

Respectfully, John R. Fellows, Senator Twenty-second Hempstead County; F. J. Cameron, Representative Dallas County; B. S. Dedlock, Representative Saline County; R. C. Newton, Representative Pulaski County. Bvt. Brig-Gen. C. H. Smith commanding, &c., Headquarters.

Which communication was shortly returned with the following indorsement: B'th's SUB-DISTRICT OF ARK., LITTLE ROCK, July 8, '67.

Respectfully returned. In the absence of other instructions, the order of Brevet Major General of Arkansas, commanding Fourth Military District, forbidding the reassembling of the Legislature of Arkansas, will certainly be enforced.

By command of Brevet Brig-Gen. C. H. Smith, Samuel M. Mills, First Lieutenant, Adjutant Adjutant-General, Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

Whereupon the undersigned members of the Senate and House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the State of Arkansas, in behalf of themselves and of each of said Houses, and of the people of Arkansas, their constituents, do most solemnly protest against such military impingement on the discharge of their duties under the Constitution and laws of the State of Arkansas, and the Constitution of the United States; and do insist that the General Assembly has the right to convene now, or at any time hereafter when said impediment may be removed.

And further, the clerk and Secretary of the House and Senate, at request of the undersigned members, have caused a copy of these proceedings and protest; and that copies of the same be transmitted to the President of the United States, to Congress and to Gen. E. O. C. Ord, commanding the Fourth Military District; and that a copy be furnished His Excellency, Isaac Murphy, Governor of the State of Arkansas, with its full and complete copy of proceedings and correspondence.

Attest: E. P. LINZEE,
Assistant Clerk House of Representatives.

NOTICE TO DISTILLERS.

OFFICE OF COLLECTOR, INT. REV., GREENSBORO, N. C.

Distillers are hereby notified that the order of Maj. Gen. Sickles, in relation to distilled spirits, was not a reference to the distillation of Peach or Apple Brandy.