

Watchman & Old North State.

SALISBURY, N. C., JAN. 10, 1868.

RATES OF SUBSCRIPTION. Weekly paper, One Year, \$3.00 Six months, 1.50

STATE CONSERVATIVE CONVENTION.

It is resolved by the State Executive Committee of the Constitutional Union Party of North Carolina, that a State Convention of the Party be held in the city of Raleigh on THURSDAY, the 5th day of February, A. D., 1868, at 11 o'clock, of that day.

It is confidently hoped that the friends of a Constitutional Union and Civil Liberty will be active in the effort to make the Convention the largest and most respectable that ever assembled in the State.

Let the Conservative people in every county of the State, where meetings have not already been held, hold meetings at once, pass appropriate resolutions, appoint delegates and see that they attend the convention. The condition of public affairs demands the patriotic effort and co-operation of every good citizen to save the country from impending danger.

By order of the State Ex. Committee. R. C. BADGER, Secretary. Jan. 4, 1868.

TO OUR PATRONS.

At the time of our suspension in December, we promised our readers an enlarged paper upon its re-appearance. Owing to a disappointment we are unable to comply with that promise this week. To enable us to print a paper of the size contemplated we were compelled to have a larger chase than any we have on hand. This, we ordered in time, but owing to the miscarriage of our first letter, it has failed to reach us in time for this issue. We hope to get it in time for our next when we will present our readers with one of the largest and handsomest papers published in the State. We intend that the Watchman & Old North State shall be inferior to no paper of its class in North Carolina, and we trust that our friends will use their influence to aid us in extending its circulation. Salisbury being located at the junction of the N. C. & W. N. C. Railroads, we have advantages which will enable us to furnish the news to all the counties west of us as early as it can be obtained through any other channel. We shall endeavor to keep our readers posted as to the most important proceedings of Congress, and of the State Convention, which assembles on the 14th inst. Now is the time to subscribe.

As the paper will be much enlarged and improved, our published rates will be rigidly adhered to.

To Our Contemporaries.

We tender our acknowledgments to our contemporaries of the State for the very kind and complimentary notices they have taken of us upon the Union of our weekly papers, and the new arrangement by which the Old North State has passed into the hands of the firm which will conduct it hereafter. We are under obligations to all of them, and would not make invidious distinctions, but we must be permitted to bow our acknowledgments specially to our esteemed contemporaries of the Wilmington Journal and Star, and the Western Democrat. We hope we may be able to meet their kind expectations and to have long and pleasant intercourse with them all editorially and personally.

IMPORTANT ORDER.

We surrender much of our space to-day to the important order of General Canby, modifying Gen. Order No. 10. As these orders partake of the nature of legislation and are, for the time being, the law of the State, we have deemed it our duty always to publish them at the earliest practicable moment. We have no special comments to make upon this order at present. We believe that some of its provisions, at least, are very good, and will meet with the approbation of the public. It will at once command an attentive perusal and the obedience of our law-abiding people.

We append the paragraphs of Gen. Order No. 10 referred to in, and modified by this order so that our readers may be able to see at a glance the nature and extent of the alterations and modifications made.

Meeting of the Convention. Gen. Canby has ordered the Convention elect to assemble at Raleigh on the 14th inst. for the purpose of framing a new Constitution for the old State of North Carolina.

Many of the delegates are destined, in the end, to the sorest disappointment. They imagine they are to take rank in history with the framers of the Constitution of 1776, but they are much mistaken. We already have a Constitution, which Congress has no right to overthrow, and it will yet be acknowledged by the National Government. The work of the morley, and with few exceptions, ignorant crowd which is to assemble on the 14th, will soon be repudiated, and its authors consigned to obscurity or remembered only for their folly.

ARM BROKEN.—The youngest son of Mr. John Taylor, of Mocksville, while going to mill, last Thursday, on a mule, was thrown and had his arm broken.

The Old and the New Year.

The year 1867, with all its excitement and all its vicissitudes, has gone, leaving behind it but few pleasant memories to the Southern people. It has been to them a trying year, and most sincerely do we hope that they will never have reason to look back upon it with regret. In no respect has it been a prosperous or a happy year to them, and sore, indeed, would be the afflictions that would cause them to pine for the return of such another. The high expectations of thousands of planters have been swept away by the sudden decline in the price of cotton, and the refusal, thus far, of the Government to come to their relief by repealing the tax upon it for the present year. In many portions of the South the failure of the grain crops will be most seriously felt. In a material point of view nothing has prospered in the late Confederate States.

Not only has this been the case, but the political prospects of these States have been overcast with the deepest gloom. The heart of the patriot—the true friend of the Union and the Constitution—has often almost sunk within him in the contemplation of the situation. It seemed that the most abject humiliation and the deepest degradation were inevitable. The high-toned and intelligent among the Southern people, the class which had ever ruled in these States, and which had for so long exercised a commanding influence in the councils of the nation, and whose ancestors had done so much to establish the government—were threatened with subjection to the rule of their former slaves. A condition of things which threatened again to deluge the land in blood was inaugurated during the year, and for no other purpose than to secure the ascendancy of a reckless party intoxicated with military successes and still reeking with the hellish passions ever engendered by civil war.

Such was the year, and such the events and vicissitudes of the year which has just passed away. The New Year brings with it no such high hopes as we would most delight to herald forth. As far as the failure of the material prosperity of the South is concerned, we are but beginning to feel the sad effects of it. Every where business is languishing in consequence of the scarcity of money; nor can we see any remedy near at hand. Already appalling accounts are reaching us of the destitution and distress of many portions of the States south of us. Serious consequences are fearfully apprehended. Many think that bread riots, not to speak of still more alarming indications, are imminent, unless relief comes from an unexpected source. Such are some of the circumstances under which the year 1868 is ushered in. Nor is this all—Providence, who is too wise to err, and too good not to be ever mindful of his creatures, has decreed that, for purposes hidden from us, it should make its advent in the midst of the most rigorous and inclement weather pertaining to the most rigorous and inclement season of the whole year. A dreadful snow storm, with colder weather than usual with such a visitation, had been raging for some time when the Old Year took its exit, and the New Year announced its arrival. What benevolent and humane heart does not sympathize with the sufferings of the poor and destitute among us at a time like this? Much suffering there must necessarily be, and it is the solemn duty of all, who are in a condition to do so, to alleviate it as far as possible. May God, who tempers the wind to the shorn lamb, remember this unfortunate class of our population. What the end of all this is to be is not revealed to ordinary mortals, but we should not for one moment despond. The Southern people are not worse than other people, and sooner or later the day of their deliverance will come.

Taking a view of the political situation we even now imagine that we see it approaching. Among the Northern people, from whom alone we are to expect deliverance, reason is beginning again to resume her sway. The wild and mad excesses of radicalism, by which the South would have been made a desert, has been signally rebuked by the sovereign people. A mighty revolution in public sentiment has set in which nothing can resist. "The hand-writing is on the wall." "The decree has gone forth" that this is a white man's government, and that it must and shall ever remain subject to the control of the Caucasian race. Negro governments may, possibly be established for a time, but they will be of brief duration. They will soon go "glittering down the stream of time," and be "numbered among the things that were." The gloom, then, which over-spreads the country is not entirely unalloyed. We begin to see an oasis in the desert, and we have an unshaking faith that we shall reach it ere long.

Oyer and Terminer.—A Court of Oyer and Terminer will be held at Statesville, by Judge Shipp, on the 3d Monday of January, inst.

We make this an announcement for the benefit of the Bar who may wish to attend.

NEW PAPER.—We have received the first number of a paper called the Daily Herald, just started at Newbern in this State, and published by an association at the low price of fifty cents per month. It is cleverly edited and handsomely printed. Success to it.

THE CONVENTION.

We publish in this issue the order of General Canby, calling the convention together at Raleigh on the 14th inst. It will be seen from the list of the members notified to attend that our worthy and respected fellow citizen, J. S. McCubbin, Esq., who was universally conceded to have been elected from this county and Davis, has been displaced, and the name of Isaac M. Shaver substituted. On what grounds this was done we have no means of knowing. It may be that some of the ballots cast for Mr. McCubbin were informal in not having his name upon them written in full as the law directed, and that, therefore, they were thrown out. However that may be, it is a matter of but little consequence so far as it affects the interests of the people of the State, or of this district. The Convention is overwhelmingly Radical any way so that the influence of one conservative man would scarcely have been felt. And, besides, Mr. Shaver is understood to agree politically with Mr. McCubbin, for whom, as well as Messrs. Robbins and Johnston, he voted. Yet, nevertheless, the people of the District were entitled to be represented in the convention by the man of their choice, and are entitled, to an explanation. Whether Mr. Shaver will consent to serve under the circumstances we have no means of knowing.

That the election was fairly conducted in this District has, so far as we have heard, never been questioned. But this cannot be said of all the counties in the State. In Davidson county, for instance, no one can say that the members elect are the choice of a majority of the people of the county. A consolidation of the precincts was made just on the eve of the election without any previous notice, so that hundreds of voters in that county were unable to exercise the franchise without great inconvenience. And no cause whatever existed for such a course. Inspectors, who could take the required oath, had been selected for every precinct. At one of the precincts, at least, the inspectors attended on the morning of the first day only to learn that their services had been dispensed with, and that they could not vote themselves without traveling more than a dozen miles. The consequence was that not more than about one third of the registered voters in that county went to the polls at all. High minded and honorable men would not accept of a seat under such an election, but we have no reason to believe that the members elect from that county will trouble themselves with scruples of that sort.

Here was a case requiring the interference of Gen. Canby, and if the facts had been fairly represented to him, we doubt not that he would have ordered a new election. But, so far as we know, no complaint was ever made to him, and therefore, we are not disposed to attach any blame to him in the matter. The blame attaches to those who, by false representations, induced the district commander to act as he did, or to the district commander for acting upon the representations made without satisfying himself fully of their truth.

THE N. C. RAILROAD.

We publish a letter to-day from Hon. JOSHUA TURNER, President of the North Carolina Railroad, conveying information which all are interested in obtaining. It seems to be conceded now on all hands that Mr. Turner has administered the affairs of the Road with great success thus far. He has certainly made many reforms, and curtailed the expenses of the Road to a very considerable amount. He has also made some judicious regulations in regard to way freights which will prove of much advantage to the people of the Western part of the State, and will aid in carrying out the great object had in view in building the Road—the development of the resources of the State.

Not being "among the editors who lately wangled such a fierce war upon the President of the N. C. R. or gave aid, countenance, or encouragement to them by copying in our paper the assaults of others," we write this with pleasure. But even if we had been among the class to which Mr. Turner refers, we should have felt bound as a matter of simple justice to have borne this testimony. Such doubtless, was the view taken by our excellent contemporary of the Charlotte Democrat, whose honest frankness has ever commanded our respect. The Democrat says:

"We publish a letter from Mr. Joshua Turner, the President of the N. C. Road, which will be interesting to the public. We have never been an admirer of Mr. Turner, but we will say that we think he is trying to promote the welfare of the State as well as the individual Stockholders. Every tax payer in the State is interested in this work. Even if he does not own stock in his individual capacity he is a Stockholder as a citizen and taxpayer, and has the right to know how the affairs of the Company are managed, and complain whenever he thinks proper.

Party feeling caused the appointment of Mr. Turner as President of the Road, and we do not hesitate to express the opinion that party feeling has influenced Mr. Turner to some little extent in his management of the business, (he is a vindictive partisan,) but if he does his work well and advances the interest of the Road, the State and the Stockholders, we shall not growl at him about unimportant matters. Upon the whole, we think Mr. Turner deserves credit for his good management so far, and we hope he will have a fair opportunity to show that this great State work can be made to pay and redound to the benefit of the people generally.

St. John's Day.

This day, Friday December 27th, was celebrated by the members of Fulton Lodge, No. 99, Ancient York Masons, by a public installation of the officers of the Lodge elected for the ensuing Masonic year. The ceremony took place in the Presbyterian Church, Bro. Wm H. Bailey, P. M., officiating. After the conclusion of the installation ceremonies a most excellent and appropriate address was delivered by Rev. Bro. Pedro Rompe, for which the thanks of the Lodge were subsequently voted him.

At night a Grand Party or Ball was given by the Fraternity at the Boyden House, which was in every respect a brilliant success. The receipts considerably exceeded the expenditures, leaving a balance to be appropriated to charitable Masonic purposes. Much of this success is due to the efforts of Bro. B. State, who displayed great zeal and energy in its management.

LOYALTY—OF WHAT DOES IT CONSIST?

Some of the ideas of "loyalty" now prevalent in this country seem to be very crude. The word is constantly on the lips of many men who seem to know nothing of its significance. With thousands it expresses nothing but their passions or their prejudices. It is with them a matter of feeling only; they know nothing of it as a principle. They imagine that every man is disloyal who dares to differ with them in opinion upon mere questions of policy. Believing, or affecting to believe, that they are the political saints, they claim that the government, with all its offices, belongs to them. In narrow-mindedness and bigotry they remind us of some bitter sectaries in England, during the civil and religious commotions of that country in the 17th century, who resolved, "First, That the earth belongs to the Saints. Second, That we are the Saints."

Like these Sectaries, they have "resolved" that they are the "Saints," and that they must govern. Their "loyalty" or "Saintliness" consists in nothing but a slavish adherence to a party which they expect to raise them to power, or avenge them upon their enemies. Like the Jacobites of the English Revolution, they will continue to diminish in numbers and influence until the last of them shall drop, unnoticed and almost forgotten, into their graves.

In a government like ours—in any limited and constitutional government—loyalty consists in a devotion to the constitution and the laws made in pursuance thereof, not to the party which happens to have control of the administration. If this were not the case every party in opposition would be a treasonable party. No laws, however obnoxious and unconstitutional could be opposed without subjecting those who opposed them to the imputation of disloyalty. But instead of this being so, loyalty to the government often compels the citizen to oppose the government, i. e. the administration of it. If, for instance, any department of the government should attempt to subvert the constitution, the persons administering that department would themselves become traitors, and it would become the duty of every loyal citizen to resist by every constitutional means in their power. Such is now the case with Congress. It is not pretended, even by the Republican members, that Congress possessed any power under the constitution to pass the reconstruction acts. Such being the case, it is the duty of every loyal man to oppose the measure to the utmost of his power in the exercise of every legal and constitutional means. The constitution to be subverted to us by the Convention, which assembles at Raleigh on the 14th proximo, should be rejected by the people of the State, and will be voted against by all that are truly loyal unless it be such a constitution as they are satisfied with. And even then no charge of disloyalty can be preferred against those who oppose it, as to accept of it might be construed into a recognition of the right of Congress to reorganize the State government.

Tobacco vs. Cotton.

We recently took occasion to express the opinion that for the future the culture of cotton in the Southern States in larger quantities than would satisfy the American demand would have to be abandoned. We gave our reasons for this opinion at the time, and we will not repeat them on this occasion. We were sorry to have to give any such opinion, but circumstances and our duty as a journalist compelled us to do so. We even then hoped that we might be mistaken, but since that time we see that others, more able and practical than ourselves, have come to the same conclusion. Among these is Senator Sprague, of Rhode Island, whose opinion we publish in another column.

With facts like these staring them in the face it behooves the people of this part of the State to look around them and see if there be not other and more remunerative crops to the cultivation of which they can turn their attention. We have before intimated that the crop which would prove most remunerative to the planter in this part of the State would be tobacco. This is, we believe, generally conceded, and being generally conceded we take it for granted that the farmers of Rowan and the adjoining counties will engage in its cultivation next year. As we intend to do whatever we can to promote the material prosperity of the country, we shall soon publish several very interesting articles on the culture of tobacco, giving all the information to enable those wishing to engage in planting it to thoroughly understand the management of it, from the plant bed to the factory. If this can only be made a tobacco growing country, we may expect soon to see our goodly city start on a new career of prosperity, and our people recuperate from their losses by the war.

THE CONSERVATIVE STATE CONVENTION.

We publish in our editorial columns to-day the call of the Executive Committee for a Conservative State Convention, to assemble at Raleigh on the 5th day of February, proximo. We think the time has been well chosen and that the call will meet with the approbation of all Conservative men. By that time the policy of the so-called reconstruction convention will be developed and the conservatives will know exactly what they will have to oppose—for we take it for granted that no such constitution will be presented as the conservatives will think of accepting under the circumstances. In fact the whole reconstruction policy of Congress being palpably, and even avowedly unconstitutional, they cannot be expected to sanction it by a voluntary acceptance of the Constitution presented, unless it be in every respect such a one as they desire. This it will not be, for whatever else may be omitted in it, it will certainly contain a principle of universal manhood suffrage, and to this no conservative will ever consent.

No delegates have yet been pointed to represent this county. Conservative State Convention, time that some action was taken that end. We hope our leading will confer together on the subject and issue a call for a county meeting at the earliest practicable moment.

Wm. H. Hunter.

This estimable gentleman, so well throughout the country as "Tex. Cur. Press." we regret to learn, has determined to remove to Baltimore, and will leave Salisbury in a few days for that city. During a few years residence in this city, Mr. Hunter's excellent family has won the respect and esteem of our citizens, and will carry with him to his new field of labor their kindest wishes for his happiness and prosperity.

COL. DANIEL BOOSE—Read the interesting article on our first page with the above caption. It is from the pen of a clever and well-known writer whose services we contemplate securing whenever our finances will permit us to do so. This our patrons may enable us to do by aiding us in extending our circulation and paying us promptly.

A GOOD MOVE.—At a meeting of Fulton Lodge, A. Y. M., on last night, the Secretary was directed to send a copy of the By-Laws of the lodge to every lodge in the State with a request for an exchange. This may lead to a comparison of their respective merits and lead to something like uniformity and perfection.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.—The December numbers of the North British Review, and Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine are upon our table. We have not had time to peruse them extensively, but their tables of contents give assurance that they are not behind their predecessors in interest. Of the general character and great merits of the British Periodicals, it is not necessary for us to repeat what we have so often said. They are certainly unsurpassed by any similar publications in the world. Their great popularity long since led to their republication in this country immediately after their first appearance in Britain, and the success which the enterprise has met with affords the best evidence of their excellence.

Address the Leonard Scott Publishing Company, 140 Fulton Street, New York, to whose prospectus in our columns we invite the attention of our readers.

THE WEATHER.—After several days of rainy weather and muddy streets, the sun shown out this morning, much to the delight of all classes of people. We hope in a few days to have dry streets and pleasant weather again, but at this season of the year it is so precarious as to leave but little room to hope.

NEW GROCERY STORE.—We notice that Mrs. L. S. Aldrich has opened a Family Grocery at the building formerly known as "Phoenix Hall," on Innes St., just opposite the Mansion House, where house-keepers may obtain all articles in her line of business, such as prime Coffee, Sugar, Crackers, Cheese, Molasses, Corn Meal, Candles, Raisins, Nuts, &c., &c. We hope she will receive the patronage which she merits.

THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.—THE COLONAS PROVERB.—We were not in the city during the greater part of the holidays, but we learn that they never passed off more quietly. We have heard the demeanor of the colored people especially commended, by Mayor Shaver and others, as being exceedingly orderly and quiet. We note this conduct on their part with the utmost pleasure, as we are ever anxious to do them justice, and to promote good feeling between them and the white race.

TOBACCO CULTURE—THE PLANT BED.

In accordance with a promise made in our last Saturday's Tri-Weekly issue, we publish to-day the following communication which originally appeared in the Old North State of October the 30th 1866. It is from the pen of a gentleman who has had much experience in the cultivation and management of tobacco, and may be relied upon as judicious in the instructions which it gives.

Next week will publish an essay from the pen of Samuel C. Shelton, Esq., of Irishburg Va., on the same subject.

Mr. Editor:—Will you permit me, through the columns of your valuable paper, to impart such information of a practical character as will, I hope, be of use to those who are disposed to grow a successful crop of tobacco this year? I am, Sir, your obedient servant, S. C. Shelton.

Owing to the responding to the inquiry, I have to beg pardon for the delay.

The tobacco plant is a very hardy one, and will grow in almost any soil, but it is best to have a rich soil, and one that is well drained. The soil should be well prepared in the autumn, and the plants should be set out in the spring.

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