

Watchman & Old North State.

BY HANES & BRUNER.

SALISBURY, N. C., JAN. 17, 1868.

OUR WESTERN SUBSCRIBERS.

Owing to our inability to get to press as early as we wished on our last publication day, many of our Western subscribers must have been delayed in getting their last week's paper. Hereafter we expect to mail all our western packages on Thursday night, by which our subscribers North and West of the N. C. Railroad will get their papers one week earlier than if mailed on Friday—the day on which they bear date.

Subscribers to the Old North State will also remember that the numbers lost by the suspension will be made up to them at the expiration of their term, so that they will lose nothing by it.

TOBACCO.

Our subscribers who contemplate the cultivation of tobacco this year, or at any future time, would do well to file away this number of the Watchman & Old North State so as to preserve Mr. Sheldon's essay on that subject.

HELPER vs. HELPER.

Hardie Hogan Helper, of this city, has written a long letter to the Washington Chronicle in reply to another letter which recently appeared in the columns of the National Intelligencer from the pen of his brother, Hinton Rowan Helper, of Ashville, N. C., famous, or at least notorious, as the author of "The Impending Crisis" and "No Joke." The letter of H. R. Helper never appeared in these columns, and the reply is excluded from its great length. The object of H. H. Helper seems to be not only to point out the inconsistency of his brother's course and refute his premises, but also to vindicate himself against the suspicion of having sympathized with his views. His letter is well written and its temper is good.

It is needless for us to say that we disagree with both of the brothers. The theory of No Joke that the negro is destined to extinction—that like the Indian he is destined to disappear to make room for the vastly superior caucasian race may possibly be the correct one. We should not be surprised if a half century hence there would be but comparatively few negroes in the country. Many causes will contribute to produce that result. Here before they have been the most prolific race on the continent. In the days of their slavery, being, for the most part, well provided for, in sickness and in health, they were a longer lived race than the whites. But since they have been made free they have greatly changed in their habits. They are no longer supported by the management of superior minds with the means of comfortable subsistence, and required to perform the amount of labor necessary to the development of their physical powers. The consequence is, and will be, that they will not be the long lived and prolific race in the future—that they have in the past. Already the colored population of the South has greatly diminished in numbers, and the diminution will continue, and become more rapid, until all the more indolent and worthless among them shall have disappeared. Their physical powers being impaired by illness and want of thrift, the number of children born among them will be very small compared with what it was in the days of slavery. The very few children to be met with now, is a sufficient general remark. And of the small number born but comparatively few are able to reach the age of manhood. Thus things continue, in all probability, until a number of negroes among us shall be comparatively small—the descendants of those few among us who are honest, industrious, and who practice the necessary, to the perpetuation of the race. Thus we think it likely that the negro will gradually disappear under the laws of nature and physical causes.

The views of "No Joke" that the negro race has decreed the extinction of the negro race because it stands in the way of the development of the highest civilization, and that, therefore, it is the duty of the white race to exterminate it, cannot be gotten rid of in any other way, we have no sympathy with the days of God's direct communication with man has ceased, and without such direct communication we can not know his pleasure in the matter. Nor can we see any reason why the white race should have any hatred to the negro race so long as that race is content to occupy only its position in the government and in society for which their Creator has qualified them. No one holds the negroes responsible for the late civil war, and all are ready to admit that the Southern people are under great obligations to them for their fidelity which, under the circumstances, stands as a parallel in history—a noble statement during the war. The act of exterminating them by the sword is one with which Southern men can have no sympathy. They will never allow themselves to contemplate such a crime as means of ridding themselves of this population, however worthless it may become. If an exterminating war between the races at the South should ever take place it will be commenced by the negroes and the legendary teachings of the abolition. If that race under such a course, abandoning all disposition to defend its rights as a nation, should appear to be the aggressors, should apply to become the invading army in any of the States of

the South awful, indeed, will be the consequence. But the responsibility will rest upon the Radical Congress which for the purpose of partitioning has sought to perpetuate its power by attempting to confer the privilege of the elective franchise upon them. We concur with most of what H. R. Helper says about the Radical Congress being responsible for the present condition of things in the South, nor do we think that his brother has answered him successfully on this point. If the immigration from the Southern States was greater in 1866 than in 1867, as Mr. H. H. Helper says was the case, it does not go as he supposes, to refute the statements of the letter in the Intelligencer, but only shows the sagacity of the Southern people in anticipating the designs of the radicals. The policy of Congress cannot be successfully vindicated by any person, and the historian most partial to it will never attempt any thing more than a palliation of its acts.

In the letter in the Chronicle Mr. Helper does not advance any doctines other than those which he has heretofore advanced through the columns of the Register and the Old North State. He attempts to defend Congress—and the Republican party by referring to various facts in its vindication, but he is certainly unfortunate in some of his statements; and if some of his arguments prove any thing at all they prove that the negroes can never have justice impartially administered except under a government in which they are the predominant power, or by a perpetual military occupancy of the country, as the following extract will show:

"The writer imputes the disorders which prevail in the South to the policy of Congress, and assumes that they all, or nearly all, proceed from the negro. The truth is that crime and lawlessness have been rife in all parts of the Union since the war; and the negroes of the South are having their share in them. It cannot be forgotten that prior to the passage of the act for the establishment of the five military districts in the South a far greater degree of lawlessness prevailed than has done since. For the Memphis and New Orleans riots, which originated with the negro-bating whites, and resulted in the cold-blooded murder of the scores of blacks, occurred prior to the passage of that, the first of the series of reconstruction acts. In all parts of the South during the same period, the rights of the negroes were trampled on, if not with impunity, certainly without proper vindication; and they were far from enjoying that freedom which had been declared to be their right. It may be that the military protection they have enjoyed during the last eight months has emboldened them to retaliate some of the wrongs which had been inflicted during the two preceding years. It is but natural that the brutalities suffered by them should awaken a spirit of revenge, which in turn calls for severe punishment. But the facts to which I have adverted show that even since the termination of the war the negroes have been more sinned against than sinning. What the South wants at present, until civil government shall be established, is not a military force, but a fair and equitable administration of the laws. But in the direction we hear of turbulent rebels trampling on the rights of the negroes; in another, reckless bands of negroes preying upon society and committing acts of rapine and murder. We want large-minded, disinterested men, who can rise superior to low partisan prejudices and passions and be simply just to whites and blacks."

Notwithstanding Mr. Helper's opinion we believe the negroes received as much justice at the hands of the civil government established in 1865 as they have since received, or ever will receive at the hands of any government to be established in the State. As to the negro hating whites of which he speaks we know nothing—they do not exist in N. C. unless it be among the radicals who will profess any thing or do any thing for the sake of political power. In the Legislature of 1865-66 the whole crew were opposed to giving the negro the right to testify in our Courts, and in the last Legislature a full grown leader among them thought it a "political persecution" to be "stigmatized as favoring negro suffrage."

THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

This body assembled at the Capitol in Raleigh at 11 o'clock to-day. (Tuesday). What it will do remains to be seen—we will not prejudge its action in every particular. But there are some things which we feel warranted in saying it will do. That it will frame a constitution conferring the right of suffrage upon all the male inhabitants of the State, except such as it may choose to disfranchise for "participation in the rebellion," we have no doubt. It will never let pass an opportunity of legislating the Republican party into ascendancy in the State, and it cannot do this in any other way. The fear that its work may be rejected by the people, and that thereby all its aims may be defeated, may restrain it to some extent in its desire to disfranchise white men, but it will certainly enfranchise all the negroes. If it affixes any qualifications for suffrage whatever, so as to make the constitution at all acceptable to the white population it will fall to secure that party a candidacy for which it is struggling. And even with this it may not be certain of its object, and proceed to extensive disfranchisements. Owing to the Radical course of some of its predecessors Congress will doubtless keep a keen eye upon its proceedings, and strive to prevent it from going to any extreme. It is now making efforts to have the Alabama Constitution re-adopted and so modify the Constitution in this State as to secure its ratification by the people. It begins to see that there is danger of the defeat of the whole scheme by the extreme radicalism of the bodies which it has called into existence "outside the constitution," and it is contemplating them to moderation. It is endeavoring by its manipulations to make them the mere puppets in its hands, but some of them, at least, we believe, will prove intractable. So far as the action of the Convention in this State is concerned the conservatives feel little concern. They feel quite sure that the constitution presented will not be such a one as they could reject, even outside the constitution, and they will use every exertion to defeat its ratification at the ballot box. They will never voluntarily consent to place the State government under the control of the most ignorant persons among us to the exclusion of intelligent

BECOMING DESPERATE.

By reference to our news columns it will be seen that the radicals of the House of Representatives are becoming quite desperate. They begin to see the handwriting on the wall, and their knees are smiting together with fear and trembling. No longer certain that the people of the Southern States will accept of the Constitution to be made for them, they propose to abolish all civil government in those States with a hope that to escape from purely military governments the Southern people will comply with their measures. Seeing that a majority of the Supreme Court is likely to be true to the constitution, they propose to enact that no law of Congress shall be declared unconstitutional by that tribunal except by the concurrence of two-thirds of all the judges. And fearing that, should the matter be longer delayed, enough of the Southern States could be brought to its support, they rescind their acts ratifying the Howard Amendment, as Ohio has already done, they propose to declare it a part of the constitution by an act of Congress. To prevent the President from mitigating the rigors of military rule it is proposed to take from him the execution of the new reconstruction acts, and to establish a new executive for the Southern States in the person of Gen. Grant, notwithstanding the President is sole executive and commander-in-chief, by virtue of the provisions of the Constitution. And lastly, to ensure the success of their efforts in this particular, it is proposed to legislate Gen. Hancock out of his commission for no other reason than that he has shown himself to be the friend of the Constitution and of civil liberty.

This is the last dying struggle of the Radical party—the last flickering of the little hope which remained to them of containing themselves in power after the late fall elections. They might have redeemed themselves to some extent, and have prolonged their power for a time by frankly confessing their errors, and manfully receding from them, but this they had neither the courage nor the magnanimity to do. But, being deficient in all the higher qualities of men and of statesmen, they have resorted to these desperate measures which will surely hasten and render complete their final and irrevocable overthrow. The Earl of Essex, who has attempted to seize the government by an unparliamentary means of the City of London, or the student of Shrewsbury who has attempted the same thing, by means of the Rye House Plot, did not exhibit more recklessness than do these desperate politicians. They seem to be perfectly demoralized. They forcibly remind us of the Simpleton, who, in the midst of a great storm at sea, lashed himself fast to the anchor, so that if the ship did go down, at least, would be safe. And sooner or later "the genius of gravitation will carry them all so straight and so profoundly to the bottom that not a bubble will ever rise to mark the spot where they went down."

Of this we feel quite certain. Even if by such desperate measures as these, they should succeed in obtaining the votes of the Southern States for their candidate for the Presidency next fall, they will thereby drive from them the support of all the Northern States with three or four exceptions. The grand reaction set in last fall, and these measures will but serve to swell its tide until the last vestige of radicalism shall be swept from power, and the Constitution and the Union of our fathers be restored. Even now, the music of its rolling surges are reverberating through the land and filling the heart of the patriot with gladness and joy. The hearts of the true friends of the Union and the Constitution are being re-invigorated with new life and hope, and they are becoming joyous and buoyant. And well they may rejoice, for, even if they are required to pass through further trials, the day of their deliverance is manifestly near at hand, or at all events quite certain at no distant day, and nothing affords clearer proof of it than these desperate measures proposed by the Radical members of the House of Representatives. Whether the Senate will concur in them remains to be seen, but in most of them we believe it will.

GEN. ORDER NO. 164.

As there seems to be some difference of opinion as to the extent of the alterations and modifications of Gen. Order No. 10, by this order, we will State what we understand the effect of it to be in relation to the collection of debts. No suits can be brought, and no judgments or decrees entered for the collection of any debts contracted between the 20th day of May 1861, and the 29th day of April 1865, and all proceedings now pending for such causes of action are stayed until the establishment of a civil government in the State in pursuance of the laws of Congress. But it does not interfere with the collection of debts contracted before the 20th day of May 1861, or since the 29th day of April 1865. In such cases, however, we presume the Courts will respect the Stay Laws of the State. Sales of property under mortgages or deeds of trust are also suspended except in cases where the interest money accruing since the 29th day of April 1865 shall not be paid by the mortgagor before the day of sale. All restrictions imposed by Gen. Order No.

10 upon the recovery by suit, by minor heirs, females, or insane persons, of estates in the hands of executors, administrators, trustees, guardians, clerks and masters in equity or other fiduciary agents, or invested by them in their fiduciary capacity, are removed, so that suits for the recovery of such estates can now be brought so far as the military regulations are concerned.

IN A FIX.

We heard a ludicrous story of an individual in a Western county whose election as a delegate to the Convention was duly announced by Gen. Canby's order convening that body. Being much elated at the intelligence for up to that time he had not regarded his election as certain, he repaired in all haste to Raleigh, proceeded to invest himself with a new suit of clothes—such a suit perhaps, as Gaston wore in 1835—so as to enable him to make an appearance suited to the dignity of his functions as a Constitution maker. (1) when he was suddenly thrown into the greatest consternation at learning that Gen. Canby had changed the return and given the seat to another. He immediately sent a dispatch, or a message to his successful rival, informing him of the change things had taken, and to acquaint him with the fact that he had bought a suit of Constitution clothes for which he saw had no use, and that he hoped they would fit him. Further or informant saith not, but we hope his successful rival came to his relief and that he went on his way rejoicing.

UNDOING THE WORK.

A telegram from Columbus, Ohio, dated January 17th says: "After the organization of the State Legislature yesterday, resolutions were introduced in each house to rescind Ohio's ratification of the amendments to the Constitution of the United States, depriving those States who refuse negro suffrage of the right to count all who are disfranchised in fixing their Congressional appointments. The rescinding resolution will certainly pass."

This is very gratifying intelligence, but is nothing more than was to have been expected. If the measure is not forced through by the present Congress under the reconstruction acts we may expect to see many other Northern States taking the same course before the expiration of two years. And we shall be much surprised if New Jersey and California do not do the same thing at once upon the meeting of the legislatures of those States this winter. Nor are we entirely without hope that New York and Pennsylvania will follow suit.

J. S. McCUBBINS, Esq.

We are happy to have it stated that we have the pleasure to announce the death of the late Rev. John F. Poindester, D. D., of the Episcopal Church of the United States, on Monday night, January 14th, at his residence in Raleigh, N. C. He was a native of Vermont, and had long occupied a prominent place in the Episcopal Church of the United States, and had been Bishop of Vermont since 1852. At the time of his death, he was the senior and presiding Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church in this country. He was the author of several Theological works, and of a work in defence of African Slavery, and was regarded as an able writer.

DEATH OF BISHOP POINDESTER.

This distinguished Divine died at Rock Point, Vermont, on Thursday last in the seventy-sixth year of his age. He had long occupied a prominent place in the Episcopal Church of the United States, and had been Bishop of Vermont since 1852. At the time of his death, he was the senior and presiding Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church in this country. He was the author of several Theological works, and of a work in defence of African Slavery, and was regarded as an able writer.

NO JUDGE.

We learn that Gen. John F. Poindester, who was tendered the vacant Superior Court Judgeship, by Gov. Worth, declined the honor. It is very much to be regretted that Gen. Poindester could not, under present peculiar circumstances, accept the office of judge, which he is so eminently qualified to fill.—Sales Post.

OUR TABLE.

"The Grayjackets, and how they Lived, Fought and Died for Dixie, with Incidents and Sketches of Life in the Confederacy," is the title of a handsome volume, just issued by Jones Brothers & Co., Richmond, Va.

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NEW STORY.

We shall publish in our next issue a brief but charming story by our well known contributor "Lina Benton," the author of "A Confession," "Aunt Grace," "The Sister's Trial," "Paul Hermon," etc., etc., entitled "Marg'et's Story, or the Reason He was a Bachelor." We would specially commend this story to such of our lady readers as ever felt inclined to lighten their charms by artificial appliances such as chalk, paints, etc.

HAVE YOUR PUMPS REPAIRED.—We would inform such of our readers as have pumps that need repairing, or that may need new ones, that Mr. Lumley, an excellent and experienced pump maker from Salem, is in town, and would be glad to serve them.

STATE CONVENTION.

Just as we go to press we learn that Calvin J. Cowles, of Wilkes, was elected President of this body on Wednesday.

THE ECLECTIC MAGAZINE for January is also upon our table. This valuable publication which, we believe, has been suspended for some time has been resumed and is greeted with a cordial welcome upon its re-appearance by thousands of friends in every part of the country. The Eclectic, as its name imports, contains the cream of all the foreign Magazines, Reviews and other Literary Periodicals, and is a work of surpassing interest.

The present number is embellished with an elegant steel engraving of Shakespeare before the Court of Elizabeth reciting Macbeth, and also another very fine engraving—the Household Treasures. These engravings are in the finest style of the art and cannot be surpassed anywhere.

Among the many excellent articles contained in this number we will only mention the admirable essay on Voltaire, from Fraser's Magazine, the Christians of Madagascar, from the Edinburgh Review and the article on Faraday from the Cornhill Magazine. There are also many others of very great interest.

Each number contains about 140 pages Octavo, and it is mailed to subscribers at \$5 per annum. Address W. H. BIRDWELL, No. 5, Beekman street, New York.

LIFE INSURANCE.

We invite the attention of our readers to the advertisement in our paper of the Arlington Life Insurance Company, of Va., Lewis C. Hanes, of Lexington, N. C., agent; and also of the Piedmont Life Insurance Company of the same State, Bingham & Co., agents, Salisbury, and James F. Johnson, Charlotte, N. C., special agent.

It is needless for us to expatiate upon the importance of life insurance to the people of the South at this time—it must be known and appreciated by all. Both of these Companies are Southern institutions of high standing, and as such should be patronized by the Southern people. We would not appeal to the prejudices of any against Northern Companies, but taking a practical and business view of the matter all must see that our interest lies in making all our investments in our own midst—the little money that we have should, as far as possible, be invested among us. We, ourselves, would advise others wishing to make similar investments to consider the advantages which they offer.

DAVENPORT FEMALE COLLEGE.

We invite the attention of our readers to the advertisement of this Institution to be found in our columns to-day. It is the property of the South Carolina Conference of the Episcopal Methodist Church South, and has just undergone a complete reorganization of its Faculty and Trustees, and has a reasonable prospect of entering upon a splendid career of prosperity and usefulness. We doubt not that it deserves, and we trust that it will receive the patronage of the very respectable denomination of Christians to which it belongs. It is located at the beautiful village of Lenoir, Caldwell county, N. C., one of the most beautiful and picturesque spots to be met with in Western North Carolina;—a society good and climate healthy and delightful.

THE CONVENTION.

No permanent organization of this body was effected on the Tuesday. We give elsewhere from the Raleigh Sentinel such proceedings as were had on the first day. We will keep our readers posted as well as we can as to its doings.

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. 8, 1868.

THE "CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION," (SO-CALLED).

Tuesday, Jan. 14, 1868.—The Convention was called to order at 12 o'clock, by Mr. Kinney, the Delegate from the County of Davidson.

At this point, Mr. Hodnett, of Caswell, said that he had understood that the caucus, last night, had picked upon Mr. K. to call the Convention to order; and, while he had no objection to the gentleman's acting in that capacity, yet he doubted the right and legality of such a proceeding. But Mr. Kinney should be appointed, by a motion regularly put and carried, he would vote for him.

Whereupon Mr. Heaton, of Craven, rose and made the motion, and it was agreed to. On motion of Mr. Kinney, Mr. King, of Lenoir, was appointed Chairman pro tem.

On taking the Chair, he read a few sentences from a manuscript prepared for the occasion.

A prayer by the Rev. Mr. Walker, one of the delegates from Guilford, followed.

On motion Mr. J. P. Andrews, of Wake, was appointed Secretary pro tem.

The roll being called, 33 members responded by their names.—(The number was subsequently understood to be 100.)

After some discussion, in regard to the manner of administering the oath and examining credentials, it was determined to call the roll and swear delegates in bodies of twelve.

Mr. Abbot, of New Hanover, moved that the Convention adjourn, it adjourns until 12 o'clock to-morrow.—Laid over.

Mr. J. W. of Washington, then moved that the Convention do now adjourn until the above mentioned time, as there were many members absent.

At the request of the Chairman he withdrew the motion; whereupon, the Secretary read the following dispatch from Gen. Canby to the Commanding Officer at Raleigh: "General Order No. 165 is amended as follows:—

James McCubbin, as delegate from Rowan and Davie, in place of I. M. Shaver; J. O. Marler in place of E. Bartlett, delegate from Watauga. Inform all parties. By order of E. R. S. CASEY."

BOARD OF VALUATION.

The following important Circular has just been addressed, by the Public Treasurer, to the Chairmen of the several County Courts in this State:

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA. TREASURY DEPT., Raleigh, Jan. 9, 1868. SIR:—By the act to raise Revenue, ratified February 25, 1867, it is the duty of the County Courts, at the first term after the 1st day of January, to appoint Boards of Valuation for the purpose of assessing the value of real estate in this State. The duties of these Boards are to assess the value of the real estate in their respective counties for the year 1868, and to report the same to the Public Treasurer, on or before the 1st day of March, 1868.

It must be remembered, however, that the taxes, payable in the Fall of 1868, will not be levied on the basis of new valuation. By the act to raise Revenue it is provided that said new valuation shall be reported by the Clerks of the County Courts to the Public Treasurer, by him to be laid before the next General Assembly. For purposes of State and county levies the valuation of 1866, as modified in certain special cases of increase or decrease of values by reason of extraordinary causes, as provided in sections 28 and 29 of the act for collecting Revenue, will be retained until otherwise hereafter directed by law.

THE NEW "RECONSTRUCTION" BILL.

WASHINGTON, January 12. The Reconstruction Committee held a meeting this morning and agreed to report the following bill, which will be laid before the House on Monday:

Section 1. That in Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, Florida, and Arkansas the civil State Governments in said States respectively shall not be recognized as valid or legal State governments, either by the executive or judicial power or authority of the United States.

Section 2. That in order to secure a more speedy enforcement of the act entitled "An act to provide for the more efficient government of the rebel States," passed March 2, 1867, and of the several acts supplemental thereto, the General commanding the army of the United States is hereby authorized and required to enjoin, by special orders, upon all officials in command within the several military departments within said States, a strict performance of all acts authorized by the said several laws above recited, and to remove by his order from command any or all said commanders, and detail other officers from the army not below the rank of Colonel to perform all duties and exercise all powers authorized by the said several laws.

Section 3. That the General of the army is authorized to remove any or all civil officers now acting under the several provisional governments within said several diorganized States, and appoint others to discharge the duties pertaining to their respective offices, and may do any or all acts which by said several laws above mentioned are authorized to be done by the several commanders of military departments within said States; and so much of said acts, or of any acts, as authorize the President to detail military commanders for said military departments, or to remove any officers, which may be detailed as herein provided, is hereby repealed.

THE BURNING OF THE OXFORD VILL.

There is now no doubt that Henderson Cooper, and his fellow-prisoners, were burned to death in the Granville jail. Their bodies were found, when the fire died out. Cooper (who, it will be recollected, was the negro who committed rape on a white woman, and whose case we commented on some days since) had once escaped from jail by burning part of the timber of himself. It is supposed that he was making another attempt to burn his way out when the fire spread and consumed the building.—Sentinel.

From Washington.

Washington, Jan. 11.—The returns to the Department of Agriculture, relating to the cotton crop in the States fully 20 per cent increase, in the aggregate, over the crop of 1866. The actual crop of 1866, as sold and shipped, making due allowance for receipt of the previous crop, and amount not sent forward on the 1st of September, 1867, was very nearly 1,800,000 bales. The total estimate, made in view of all the Department's data, as well as outside information, is placed at 2,114,000 bales.

Section 4. That it shall be unlawful for the President to order any part of the army or navy to assert by force of arms the authority of either of said provisional governments in said diorganized States, or to oppose or obstruct the authority of the United States, as provided in this act, and acts to which it is supplemental.

Section 5. That any interference by any persons with intent to prevent the free execution of orders of the General of the Army, made in pursuance of this act and acts aforesaid, shall be held to be a high misdemeanor, and the party guilty thereof shall, upon conviction, be fined not exceeding five thousand dollars and imprisoned not exceeding two years.

Section 6. That so much of all acts or parts of acts as conflict or are inconsistent with the provisions of this act are hereby repealed.

THE FINALITY NOT FINAL.

It would seem from the indications from Washington that the radicals are struggling desperately to preserve their organization on the extreme basis which they started after the war, disallowing to the popular changes which have taken place in the North. There has been a great deal of talk of Congress being called to a final vote. The radicals are now well over by the bill that they have introduced.

How perfect was the reconstruction of the South, as the bill that they have introduced, would show.

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Mr. Rodman, of Beaufort, moved that the gentleman whose names were mentioned in the dispatch, be enrolled as members. Carried.

The motion to adjourn being renewed it was adopted.

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THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION IN THE SOUTH.

It is understood that the unrepresented States will send delegates to the Conservative Presidential Convention. I also learn that it is in contemplation by the whites of the South to hold separate elections for presidential electors, and to disregard the reconstruction acts in this regard. The President is understood to favor this movement. In a certain contingency, the moral effect at least would be potent indeed.—With an actual united South, and a majority of the Northern States, Congress would not dare inaugurate a President upon the strength of the negro vote!—Washington Letter in the Baltimore Gazette.

Important of True.

The Baltimore "American" says: "Members of Congress and others in Washington are somewhat excited over a rumor that the Supreme Court, on an early day, will reverse its decision of last Spring declaring that it had no jurisdiction regarding the legality of the reconstruction laws of Congress. A new case, involving the constitutionality of the reconstruction acts of Congress, is to be brought up in the Supreme Court in a few days, and it is asserted that the Court will decide such unconstitutional, and all operations under the same null and void. The case will involve the State of Mississippi, and the decision of the Court, it is said, will be that Mississippi is legally in the Union, as much so as New York or any other State."

The Reconstruction Acts to be Declared Unconstitutional.

I have the best authority for stating that in the cases brought before the United States Supreme Court last spring by the States of Mississippi and Georgia, testing the Constitutionality of the Reconstruction Acts, the decision of the majority of the Court will be adverse thereto. It is likely that the minority of the Court will be smaller than at first supposed, and there are even hints that Chief Justice Chase may not care to place himself upon the ground in a dissenting opinion. Such a decision will strike down at a blow all the reconstruction work that has thus far been done, and leave the decision of the next Presidential election in the hands of the North.— Wash. Cor. N. Y. Telegraph.

From Washington.

Washington, Jan. 11.—The returns to the Department of Agriculture, relating to the cotton crop in the States fully 20 per cent increase, in the aggregate, over the crop of 1866. The actual crop of 1866, as sold and shipped, making due allowance for receipt of the previous crop, and amount not sent forward on the 1st of September, 1867, was very nearly 1,800,000 bales. The total estimate, made in view of all the Department's data, as well as outside information, is placed at 2,114,000 bales.