

We fear we live in degenerate days. If the history of the world, be not from end to end an unmitigated lie, human nature is worse at this present, than at any previous period, since the enlightened teaching of civilization began to dispel that darkness in which the cloud of medieval ignorance shrouded the world.

Worldly wisdom may be in these days a wiser thing than it used to be in the good old times when Washington was alive, the idol of the people whose battles he had fought for independence to a successful issue. Men may not in those days have cut the right teeth, to insure success in all the human undertakings in which they engaged; but of one fact we are assured, whether they were seen in establishing their dogmas, and instituting measures for the fostering of their own interests, at least they were an honest people, they were more chivalrous people, they obeyed more implicitly the divine and human laws, and held in more sacred respect all the teachings of conservatism and honor.

It is enough to drive a man crazy with amazement to read the annals of the revolutionary and anti-revolutionary times in America, and then turn them to be more modern records which tell of the achievements of the same people within the last ten years.

Then those primitive formers of the American government entertained notions of fairness, and honor and integrity, and a sense of duty, which they declared to be inalienable and solemnly pledged their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honors to sustain that declaration. What funny old fellows they were! How entirely crazy! How utterly unworthy to have been the fathers of those men who have instituted the new school of political ethics! Now the very recollections which once clattered about their graves and so hallowed our land with a reputation that no country of the world ever enjoyed before, are being forgotten; and those who now in their places rule the destiny of this people, have reared a banner instead of that which they left planted, bearing on its folds inscriptions of TRUTH, MODERATION, JUSTICE, INTEGRITY, — a banner instead of this, on which might well be written such mottoes as would reflect anything but credit on those who have converted the Senate Chamber and Representative Hall of a great nation into a den of the — worst kind of Radical puritanical plebeians.

If I do not write under a hallucination and am not dreaming the veriest dream that ever darted through the clouded brain of a raving maniac, there have been scenes enacted on the soil of the American Continent within the last five years which would have recalled these revolutionary slumbers from their graves to cry aloud for humanity's sake if the cements of the tomb might have been divested.

Men who have been in the places of dignity which such statesmen as Webster and Clay and Calhoun once occupied with so much distinguished capacity, have given out for the generations of these days a new code of political law and a new philosophy which however much better it may answer their ends, certainly reflects but little credit on the hearts from whence its doctrines emanate, and does not contribute much towards making a great trans-Atlantic reputation for this race and age of American politicians.

The political school to which we have reference prefers the rogue to the honest man, and encourages and applauds rascality; it teaches that honor is only a name, a myth, and that when treachery may be made available it is eminently proper to resort to it for assistance; it teaches that truth has found a better substitute in falsehood, that cruelty should conquer magnanimity; and it does not scruple to do tyrannical injustice to a helpless people when through this agency the interests and malignity of their agrarian followers, on whose support they rely for continuance in position, may be promoted and gratified.

This may be a delightful doctrine for little men, who have none of the elements of greatness to sustain them; this may be a source of much satisfaction to the pigmies who now constitute the statesmen of a land which once had no compeer among the nations; but however this may be the contemplation of this metamorphosis is not likely to fill the souls of just men with rejoicing, and it cannot operate to elevate the character of the people who tolerate such schools of political philosophy in the eyes of the other nations of the earth; rather is it likely to induce the scorn of those powers.

The mere fact of a man's having served with credit in the Southern army is no guaranty of his reliability now as a Southern man. Even if he was a good fighter, and seemingly a willing and trusty soldier; — there were a few men in our armies (and thank Heaven, only a few), who, mayhap, detested the service they were engaged in, but whose pride of manhood kept them steadfast. We speak now of men of intelligence and refinement; — men who were conscribed, not by the strong arm of the law, but by public opinion were forced to take up arms in defence of the South. That there were such men, we have had proof to-day, evidenced by the fact of their affiliation (in this State) with the Holden party. Knowing them to be men of intelligence, we cannot think that mere disaster to our cause could change their feelings and their principles; but are forced to the conclusion that they were dissemblers, crooked-necked hypocrites, who always were our enemies, who "wore the living of heaven to serve the devil in," and who would now gull the people by eting their services in the field as evidences of their devotion to the South and her people, her honor and her liberties. We had evidence of this in our last State elections, when some of these cattle, "meek and lowly followers" of Holden, presuming upon their "army record," asked for the votes of honest men to get themselves into office. The people rebuked them, however. They did not get the offices they sought, and glaring exceptions then as regards the honor, truth and patriotism of the Southern soldier, they stand to-day more prominently notorious, and can never again hope to win back the confidence lost, the honor betrayed.

North Carolina does not want such men to represent her. We honor consistency wherever we find it. And if our desperate condition demands that we send men to represent us who can harmonize with Union-shriekers of the Stevens stripe — let them be those who throughout have maintained the same feeling.

But we conceive that our condition, desperate though it may be, does not demand this. We should concede nothing. We may have humiliation heaped upon us, but we should not count ourself and disgrace. In spite of the radicals in Congress, we contend that we have nothing to repent of. The States are fixed facts. "We cannot be held in abeyance long. They must at some time take us back into the "communion of fellowship."

Let us then send men to represent us who will stand firm by the honor of the State; who bear the ring of the true metal; who will concede nothing; who will hurl back these constitutional amendments in the teeth of Stevens and his reconstructionists, and bid them do their worst; but let us not lend a helping hand to smother ourselves in infancy. In submission there is no degradation — it is the decree of fate; but to turn and rend ourselves at the bidding of our tormentors is cowardly infamously.

Mr. Thos. Settle, a member of the Convention of N. C. which is destined to be known to the history of this State as the "Dirt Eating Convention," has been making a speech in which he enunciates sentiments which do no more in the South than convince the people

generally of what the people who know Mr. Settle, are already convinced, that he has no pretensions to gentility, and is a low demagogue, who has about as much honor as the vilest scamp who ever received his forty shaves from the shaver.

Mr. Settle admits in his speech that he was an officer of the Confederate Army, but denounces those who cling to the fortunes of that government after a certain period as murderers. He went into the Confederate service in a fit of despair although opposed to the War; and left as soon as he could do so with any regard for public opinion. He went in that he might fool people into the belief that he was a true Southern man, so he might when he left the service work against the cause of which he had been a soldier without being suspected. He has been an abolitionist ever since he was eight years old; but never dared say so because he was ambitious of position at the South, and such doctrines were unpopular.

A beautiful picture for the man who but yesterday was speaker of the N. C. Senate to draw of himself, and what unblushing effrontery the scamp must be possessed of to still claim to be a gentleman.

Guilty of lying, of pretending, while believing in abolition, to be a slavery man. Guilty of cowardice, by fearing to oppose a war which he pretends his conscience could not approve. Guilty of treachery to a cause, whose uniform he wore and whose flag he fought under, only to cover the malignant hate, and the base cowardice, and the criminal falsehood which are the prominent features of his character — only to deceive those who trusted him — only to give himself more credit than he is entitled to, and to bring his life, comrades, and country to whelp of villainy who has not even the pride to hide his unworthiness, dares denounce Southern men as murderers. He is to be one of the bright and shining lights of this State under the new radical dispensation which the Convention proposes.

He disgraces even the disgraced Radical party with which he affiliates, and brings reproach on President Johnson, of whom his party claims him to be the best friend. If President Johnson acknowledges any such tie, we are not his supporters, and would be stretched on a forest limb by our neck before we would sustain him with such friends.

We shall support GOVERNOR WORTH for re-election. His administration has given us satisfaction. We would be pleased to have HENRY STRANGE or NEW HANOVER elected Lieutenant Governor. We think he is the ablest man in the State of his age; and we know taking him all in all, his moral as well as mental characteristics, he has no superior anywhere in America.

Any office conferred on him instead of honoring him would borrow honor from him, and the State would have such an officer as she has seldom had before. He is one of the few men of the present day who might go into political life without degenerating into a demagogue, and where so many fall to the tempter, we think this is the highest tribute we can offer to his worth.

The only obstacle we see to his being a successful candidate for the office of Lieutenant Governor, is one which he alone, can remove, that is a disqualification which may exist on his part to accept any position within the gift of the people.

If North Carolina would foster the talent of her sons, she would do more to re-build her prosperity than she has ever done before; and now is the time if ever to frown on the demagogues who have been to her body politic festering sores. We hope Mr. Strange will consent to be a candidate.

CIRCULAR OF GOV. WORTH.

TO THE PEOPLE OF NORTH CAROLINA:— Having been elected by you as your Governor in November last, for a term, which will expire on the 1st of January next, and believing that my administration has met your approval, I announce myself a candidate for re-election, in August next.

I do not propose to canvass the State. The constant pressure of Executive duties, many of which grow out of our anomalous political condition, require my constant attention. If the practice of canvassing the State at any time be a wise one, I am sure I could not do it at this time, without detriment to the public interests. Nor do I deem it expedient to address to you an extended circular. My past life and actions furnish the best guaranty you can have as to my future conduct. Into them I invite your candid scrutiny.

Upon some of the matters now engaging public attention, I deem it my duty to present you my views.

I think the chief attention of a State Executive should be directed to State affairs, but in our present unfortunate condition it is proper, and it will be expected that I shall give you my views on National affairs. As a part of my early education, I was required to commit to memory and rehearse that portion of the farewell address of the father of my country, in which he so earnestly warns us to indignantly "frown upon the first dawning of any attempt to alienate any portion of our country from the rest."

This became a fixed sentiment with me. The preservation of the Union has been the polar star of my political life. In the circular by which I announced myself as a candidate for the honorable position which I now fill, I referred to the fact that I had offered, in the House of Commons in 1831, resolutions denouncing nullification; that as a Senator in the General Assembly of 1860-'61, in a forlorn minority, I constantly combated everything which I thought tended to disunion; voting in May, 1861, with only two others, against the call of a Convention. I referred also to a circular which I addressed to my constituents in January, 1861, when the question of Convention or no Convention was to be decided by their votes, in which I urged them not to be deceived by the cry that the Convention was to be called to "save the Union," that it was called to "destroy it." I then circulated among my constituents the celebrated speech of Andrew Johnson, then Senator from Tennessee and now President of the United States, in which he denounced with equal fervor Northern disunionism, and Southern disunionism. I concurred with him then, as cordially as I do now.

In my circular of last October, I stated to you that I had always looked back on my course in all these instances with great satisfaction. In the ensuing election many of you had always concurred with me, and many who had formerly differed with me in these views, voted for me. All who voted had recently renewed their allegiance to the United States by taking the oath prescribed in the President's amnesty proclamation. I entertain no doubt that they took this oath with the honorable and sincere purpose faithfully to observe it. All desired that our former relations with the

Union should be speedily renewed. I regarded the cordial vote for me by many of those who had maintained the doctrine of secession, as in accordance with their recent pledge of loyalty to the United States, and as a token of respect for my consistent political record, and hence I received their support as alike creditable to them and to me.

I declared in my circular to you last Fall, and I now repeat, that if elected, "as far as my official position would enable me to do it, both from inclination and conviction of duty, I should endeavor to soften the animosities which have grown out of the horrible war, now happily ended. If some of us have grievously erred, grievously have all of us atoned for it. I shall endeavor to encourage a spirit of mutual forgiveness, — a return to habits of law and order, and steadfast attachment to the Union, which made us so great and prosperous a people while we adhered to the counsels of Washington." I have endeavored to act in conformity to these promises.

I refer to these prominent points in my political record and the circumstances under which you did me the honor to elect me last November, to counteract the unjust impute, at home and abroad, that my election was a disunion triumph. The imputation is grossly unjust to me; and as I believe equally unjust to everybody who voted for me.

My conduct in the discharge of my administrative duties is known to you; and I have so recently had occasion, in my message to the General Assembly, to present my views in relation to State policy, which message was very extensively circulated throughout the State, that I deem it unnecessary to reiterate them.

Wise policy requires, in order to restore prosperity and order, that every citizen quietly and industriously pursue his occupation, and obey the laws of his country while they are in force, however distasteful some of them may be. If we would have peace and plenty we must look for them as the fruits of order and industry. The wisest legislation without these will be unavailing; and with them, the worst legislation will but retard the return of prosperity.

We are, as I think, unwisely and unconstitutionally excluded from the National councils, but the results of war have made us powerless. It is unwise to indulge in denunciations of the dominant power, and not inconsistent with real dignity and proper self respect, to abstain from intemperate remonstrances. Let us quietly pursue our several avocations, and hope that Providence will ultimately guide the minds of our late foes to counsels becoming magnanimity and wise and generous statesmanship.

The great object of all good and wise statesmen should now be to mollify the passions which have grown out of the late conflict, and by all their influence to endeavor to restore cordial reconciliation between the lately alienated sections. The good of our whole nation requires sincere and universal reconciliation. This can not be if proscription and mutual crimination are indulged. The sublime injunctions of holy writ which forbid the indulgence of malevolence, are universal in their application.

In such a convulsion as that from which we are emerging, many will have received grievous injuries. No good can spring from the indulgence of revengeful feeling. Let every good citizen exert himself to repress it. Both philosophy and our religion rank forgiveness and charity among the chief of virtues, and as there are few of us who have not occasion to ask forgiveness for our own acts, let us be merciful to each other. If you shall re-elect me as your chief magistrate, I appeal to my past conduct to sustain me in the assurance that I will do all I can to prove myself worthy of your renewed confidence.

JONATHAN WORTH.

RALEIGH, June 11, 1866.

THE "STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL" AT BALTIMORE.—It will be remembered that some time since a quantity of flowers were sent to Baltimore by the ladies of Richmond to be used in the floral or strawberry festival, and it will be gratifying to those, and to all others who sent flowers, to know that the noble, charitable, and unselfish women of Baltimore appreciate those gifts and place a high value upon their floral offerings! The following is an extract from a letter written by one of the lady managers of the Baltimore Strawberry Festival for the Southern Poor:

"A number of beautiful bouquets from North Carolina and from Church Hill, Richmond, came one day too late; and on the evening of the day on which they were received I accompanied some friends who have charge of several graves of Confederate soldiers in our beautiful Greenmount Cemetery, and they decorated their last resting-places with them. One grave, in which reposed the bodies of three North Carolina soldiers who fell together at Gettysburg, was covered with floral tributes from their own loved State. A careless passer-by would have little thought that a stranger's hand had laid them there."

The people of North Carolina will know how to value the generous feeling that prompted the action of the Baltimore ladies, and it will cheer their hearts to know that the children of the "old North State" who sleep on Maryland soil are still cared for and remembered. From the Potomac to the Gulf of Mexico, the whole southern people owe a debt of gratitude to the ladies of Maryland that words can never repay; and we can only hope and pray that the constant affection, regard, and tenderness which the women of Maryland have shown to the poor southern soldier may earn for them, as it deserves to do, a rich and lasting reward of temporal and spiritual blessings.—Richmond Dispatch.

Report of the Committee on the Stay Law.

The Committee on the Stay Law have considered the subject, and ask leave to submit the following report:

The committee are of opinion that a large majority of the people of the State desire the passage of an ordinance, liberally extending the time for the collection of debts.

The committee recognize the fact that neither extravagance, speculation, nor want of ordinary prudence or business sagacity has caused the present financial distress in our State. The people could neither foresee nor prepare for it. A great calamity has befallen them. Amid the wreck of their fortunes, they feel that time should be allowed them to adjust their industry and energies to their new system, and that in their present crippled condition to force their indebtedness would destroy them, without benefitting their creditors. The committee believe this want of indulgence to be both just and right.

Should no relief be afforded, the committee are satisfied that great demoralization, and the complete derangement of the industrial efforts of the people will ensue. Disquiet of mind and conscience will destroy all directness of purpose — care of wife and admonitions of conscience — respectful support and approval in concealments will develop every propensity to fraud — dishonesty, clothed in a garb of sophistry, will unabashed present itself at every board and hearthstone, the honest will bear others burdens until they are crushed — and the State's reputation for honesty will pass away forever. Man needs always the prayer "lead us not into temptation." The committee, therefore deem indulgence not only just and right, but politic and wise. While the condition of the debtors has been thus fully considered, the rights of the creditors have not been overlooked, and the committee have attempted to adjust the rights of each, so that all may look forward hopefully to a final settlement. The committee submit the accompanying ordinance, and unanimously recommend its passage, hoping that it may be deemed just to all, and that its adoption may stay any tendency of the popular mind towards that great moral and political evil, repudiation.

Respectfully,

GEO. HOWARD, Chm'n.

AN ORDINANCE TO CHANGE THE JURISDICTION OF THE COURTS, AND THE RULES OF PLEADING THEREIN.

SECTION 1. Be it ordained by the people of North Carolina, in Convention assembled, and it is hereby ordained by the authority of the same, That the jurisdiction of the several Courts of the State, and of Justices of the Peace, except as provided in this ordinance, shall be as in the year 1860.

SEC. 2. Be it further ordained, That the several Superior Courts of Law, at the Spring Terms thereof only, shall have exclusive original jurisdiction to hear, try and determine all actions of debt, covenant, assumpsit or account, where the sum due or owing amounts (principal and interest) to sixty dollars or more.

SEC. 3. Be it further ordained, That all writs in debt, covenant, assumpsit or account shall be served at least thirty days (Sunday's included) before the return day. Within the first three days of the return term, should the defendant pay to the plaintiff, or into court to his use, one-tenth of the debt or demand (principal and interest) and all cost to that time, he shall be allowed until next Spring Term to plead. At the said Spring Term, should the defendant pay to the plaintiff, or into Court to his use, one-fifth of the residue of the debt or demand and cost, he shall be allowed until the succeeding Spring Term to plead. At the said Spring Term, should the defendant pay to the plaintiff, or into Court to his use, one-half of the residue of the debt or demand, he shall be allowed until the succeeding Spring Term to plead. At the said Spring Term the plaintiff shall have judgment for the residue of his debt or demand: Provided however, That the plaintiff, if required, shall file his debt or demand in writing, and if the defendant shall make oath that the whole or any part thereof is not justly due, or that he has a counter claim, all of which shall be particularly set forth by affidavit, then the defendant shall only pay the instalment required, of what he admits to be due, and the Court shall order a jury, at the same or some subsequent term, to try the matters in dispute between the parties, and at the Spring term the defendant shall be allowed time to plead only upon payment of one-fifth of the residue of the admitted amount, and whatever the jury may find him indebted over and above the same: Provided further, That should the defendant fail to pay the first or any subsequent instalment, then and in that case the plaintiff shall be entitled to proceed to judgment and execution according to the course of the Court in 1860.

SEC. 4. Be it further ordained, That all suits in actions of debt, covenant, assumpsit or account, issued to Fall Term of the Superior Courts, shall be returned by the Sheriffs to Spring Term, 1867, and all actions of debt, covenant assumpsit or account, now pending in the Superior Court, shall be continued to Spring Term, and if the defendant, has entered his pleas, he shall be allowed to withdraw the same, and take the benefits of section 3 of this ordinance.

SEC. 5. Be it further ordained, that dormant judgments shall only be revived by actions of debt, and every scire facias to revive a judgment shall be dismissed on motion: Provided, That those now used shall be dismissed at the cost of the debtor.

SEC. 6. Be it further ordained, That the Clerks of the several County Courts shall transfer all actions of debt, covenant, assumpsit or account, now pending in their respective Courts, to the Spring Term, 1867, of the Superior Courts, and the said Spring Term shall be deemed the return term thereof and the said actions shall

stand as if originally instituted in that Court.

SEC. 7. Be it further ordained, That the Clerks of the several County Courts, if requested so to do by the plaintiffs, sixty days before the Spring Terms, 1867, of the Superior Courts, shall transmit to said Spring Terms certified copies of the judgments in actions of debt, covenant, assumpsit or account entered on the dockets of their Courts, together with the writs of fieri facias or venditioni exponas, issued thereon, and shall issue notices thereof to the defendants, which notices shall be served at least thirty days before said Superior Courts. At the Spring Terms aforesaid, the Courts shall on motion order the said judgments to be entered on the minute dockets, provided the same were not dormant when transmitted from the County Courts, and on such entries being made, the said judgments shall be taken and held to be judgments of the Superior Courts, and writs of fieri facias and venditioni exponas may issue, as provided in section 10 of this ordinance, following the writs transmitted from the County Courts and preserving the liens, as if issued by the same Court.

SEC. 8. Be it further ordained, That the writs in each county shall return all writs of fieri facias or venditioni exponas issued from the County Court, on judgments in actions of debt, covenant, assumpsit or account to the next term of said Court, without sale; and shall return all writs of fieri facias or venditioni exponas issued on similar judgments from the Superior Court or decrees of the Court of Equity on money demand to Spring Term, 1867, without sale.

SEC. 9. Be it further ordained, That no writs of fieri facias or venditioni exponas judgments in actions of debts covenants, assumpsit or account shall hereafter issue from the County Courts, nor shall said writs on such judgments issue from or to the Fall Terms of the Superior Courts, except in cases where defendant fails to comply with the provisions of this ordinance, and it is directed that plaintiff may proceed according to the regular course of the Court.

SEC. 10. Be it further ordained, That no writs of fieri facias or venditioni exponas judgments in actions of debt, covenant, assumpsit or account, or decrees for money demands in Equity shall issue from Spring Term, 1867, without permission of Court, and should the defendant within the first three days pay one-tenth of the judgment or decree and costs, then the writ shall be credited one-tenth, issued and immediately returned "Indulged." Provided, No plaintiff shall be allowed to take the said one-tenth, without first entering his assent to said return: And Provided further, That such assent and return shall not prejudice any lien the plaintiff may then have by virtue of said fieri facias or venditioni exponas: Provided further, That at Spring Term, 1868, the defendant upon paying one-fifth of the residue of the judgment or decree and costs shall have indulgence in like manner.

SEC. 11. Be it further ordained, That upon all warrants before Justices of the Peace for a demand [principal and interest] of \$25 or less, should the defendant pay one-fifth to the plaintiff or to the Justice for his use, he shall be allowed six months to plead, and at the expiration of said six months, should he pay as aforesaid one-half of the residue he shall be allowed six months more to plead, and at the expiration of said months plaintiff shall have judgment and execution for the residue. Upon demands [principal and interest] of less than \$60 and more than \$25, the defendant shall be allowed twelve months instead of six, on each payment: Provided that the plaintiff shall file his claim in writing and if the defendant on oath, shall deny the same, or present a counter claim, the Justice shall proceed to try the same. Upon judgment the defendant shall be allowed a stay of execution for six or twelve months, as the case may be, upon paying one-fifth, and afterwards one-half, as before judgment.

SEC. 12. Be it further ordained, That this ordinance shall not apply to proceedings by attachment, unless the defendant replevy and give bail, and then and in that case the proceedings shall be subject to the provisions of this ordinance as if commenced by writ or warrant.

SEC. 13. Be it further ordained, That where the action is by a Guardian in behalf of his wards, still minors at the return term, and the interest exceeds one-tenth, the first payment shall be increased to the amount of interest due, not to exceed one-fifth of the whole debt.

SEC. 14. Be it further ordained, That this ordinance shall not affect the remedies for rent of houses or lands since December 31, 1865, or remedies upon bonds or notes given executors or administrators for property of their testators sold since July 1, 1865 or that may hereafter be given, or remedies for the collection of State or County Revenue.

SEC. 15. Be it further ordained, That laborers in agriculture shall have a lien on the crops, which they are hired to cultivate, for their wages.

SEC. 16. Be it further ordained, That any creditor, attempted to be defrauded as set forth in Section 1 Chapter 50 Revised Code, may without obtaining judgment at law, file his bill in Equity, and said Court is hereby authorized and empowered to direct proper issues to be made up and tried, and to make such orders and decrees as to right and justice may appertain; and said proceedings shall not affect the creditor's right to proceed at the same time at law; and any surety, before paying the debt of his principal thus instituting to defraud his creditors, may institute proceedings in equity, in like manner to the end that he may obtain relief.

SEC. 17. Be it further ordained, That executors and administrators shall have five years in which to settle the estates of their

testators or intestes; and the Court may in its discretion, extend the time of such as have heretofore qualified, not exceeding five years from the ratification of this ordinance, and also the time for pleading.

SEC. 18. Be it further ordained, That all acts and parts of acts, suspending the operation of the Statutes of limitation, as the same appear in the Revised Code, are hereby repealed, except as herein provided; and it is hereby declared that the said acts were not intended, and shall not be construed to have any effect in preventing judgments from becoming dormant.

SEC. 19. Be it further ordained, That any sheriff, clerk, or other officer, failing to execute any of the provisions of this ordinance, when the execution thereof devolves on him, or issuing, or executing any process whatever contrary to the provisions of this ordinance, shall be subject to penalty of five hundred dollars, to be recovered by rule of Court, as penalties and fines were recovered in 1860.

SEC. 20. Be it further ordained, That in all actions brought by any bank of the State or by assignee or endorsee of said bank, or any officer of said bank, that it shall and may be lawful for the defendant to set off by plea or on trial any note issued by said bank or its branches, whether the same has been presented for payment or not, or to set off against the contrary notwithstanding, but said plea of set off on trial, shall not avail to carry costs against the plaintiff, unless there has been a tender of such payment before suit brought: Provided, That should the defendant require the debt to be scaled according to the scale of depreciation of Confederate currency, then and in that case the said notes shall not be set off in any manner.

SEC. 21. Be it further ordained, That the General Assembly shall have no power to repeal, alter or modify this ordinance until the third Monday of November, 1868, and this ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after its ratification.

INTERESTING DEBATE IN CONGRESS.

In the House on the 11th inst. Mr. Ancona offered a resolution to the effect that as the Irish had fought for this country in every war, their purpose of freeing Ireland was entitled to our respect and sympathy, which Great Britain had forfeited by her faithlessness; and that therefore the neutrality law of 1818, under which the Fenians were estopped from invading Canada, should be repealed. A motion to lay the resolution on the table was rejected — yeas 4, nays 113. Mr. Schenk offered a substitute declaring as the opinion of the House that the President should reconsider the policy which had been adopted by him in reference to the troubles on the Canada border, and adopt as near as practicable the same course which Great Britain pursued in the late civil war. A motion to lay this resolution on the table was negatived by a decided vote. The original resolution and proposed substitute were finally referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Mr. Boutwell introduced the following preamble and resolutions:

Whereas it is notorious that Jefferson Davis was the leader of the late rebellion and is guilty of treason; and whereas by the President's proclamation of May, 1865, Davis was charged with complicity in the assassination of President Lincoln, and the said proclamation has not been revoked; therefore,

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this House that the said Davis should be held in custody as a prisoner, and subjected to a trial according to the laws of the land.

Mr. Boutwell moved a suspension of the rules.

Mr. Rogers desired to ask a question, but the Speaker ruled the debate was not in order. Mr. Rogers, however, asked if Boutwell or any unprejudiced mind believed that Mr. Davis was guilty of complicity in the assassination of Mr. Lincoln.

The Speaker called Mr. Rogers to order, and said he must take his seat. The rules were suspended, and the resolution was adopted — yeas, 105; nays, 19.

The House proceeded to consider the bill reported from the Reconstruction Committee to provide for restoring to the States lately in insurrection their political rights.

Mr. Rousseau argued that it was the fact that the insurgent States were not now represented and the country restored to peace and prosperity.

Referring to the attack of Ingersoll recently on the President and those who supported him as "sycophants" and "lick-spittles," Mr. Rogers said he hurled back the epithets in the teeth of him who uttered them, and who had done nothing during the war but stay at home and look after offices. Generals Grant, Sherman, and Thomas supported the President's policy. Were they "lick-spittles?"

Rousseau proceeded to argue that a just and temperate policy by the Radicals might have given them a long lease of power, and even now so well convinced were the Radical leaders that their course would not be approved by the people, they would not dare adjourn without admitting the Representatives from Tennessee. They would have to eat their own words on that question. Queen Elizabeth once asked the Speaker of the House of Commons what that body had passed. "Seven weeks, your Majesty!" So this Congress, if asked the same question, would have to answer "Seven months," for it had done nothing but pass a Freedmen's Bureau bill and some such measures.

On the conclusion of Mr. Rousseau's speech, Mr. Grinnell made some remarks of a personal character about Mr. Rousseau, who told the Speaker that unless he protected him he would protect himself. The speaker rebuked Grinnell for his conduct. Mr. Rousseau said he would treat with contempt anything the member from Iowa might say. On a previous occasion he (Grinnell) said he would not resent an insult. He (Rousseau) therefore wanted nothing to do with him.