THE FAYETTEVILLE NEWS.

TUESDAY, JULY 16, 1867.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

☞ Mr. Jno. E. Spearman is our authorized traveling agent for subscription and advertising.

☞ We hereby give notice that single copies of the News are sold only at this office, and where the carriers of other persons offer to dispose of copies under different circumstances, they do so without our authority or consent.

☞ Although our terms are cash, our country friends are urgently requested to send the names of such of their neighbors and acquaintances as they know to be trustworthy and reliable men, who wish to subscribe for the News but are unable to pay in advance. We will send the paper, and wait for a short time for the amount of their subscription.

REPUDIATION.

The Federal Union, published at Rochester, Minn., says in its issue of the 22d ult:

"A very intelligent gentleman connected with a prominent business house in Milwaukie, and a decided Republican in politics, proclaimed it as his own opinion in this city a few days since that a repudiation of the bonds and paper money issued by the Federal Government was inevitable, and that a proposition, if submitted to the people of Wisconsin to-pay or repudiate, would be decided in favor of the latter alternative."

Repudiation or paying off the public debt with legal-tenders are the alternatives that by common consent are being presented for public consideration.

No repudiation, but the payment of the debt in the money of the country, should be the rallying cry of every citizen who is not within the circle of the favored class whose capital is exempt from the burthens of the support of the Government.—*Cin. Enquirer.*

It is really surprising how rapidly this scheme is growing in favor. We should not be surprised if it were to overshadow the reconstruction question next winter. Anything that will furnish the Radicals with business enough to employ their time and keep their hands off us will be agreeable to the southern people.

Richmond Dispatch.

We cut the above from one of our Virgina exchanges to give it some consideration. From it we learn it is proposed to either repudiate the national debt or pay it off in legal tender notes. It would be contemptible hypocrisy on the part of we Southern people to express any concern about the debt of the General Government on grounds of moral obligation. So limp an element in the discussion of the question as that, in any point of the country, is not worth mentioning.

For our part, all that can be expected of us is that we pay our taxes honestly to sustain the public credit. That we should do, scrupulously. But it would be just as reasonable to expect the released wretch to express love for the dungeon in which he has passed years of misery as to expect the Southern people to entertain any sentiments of the kind for that great engine which of all others wrought our ruin. If the preservation of the Government credit does not claim our sympathy, then in what light are we to consider the matter? Purely in the light of our interest, and when we do that we find that *we cannot afford to repudiate the public debt*, for the reason that it would ruin *the whole, the entire country and produce starvation in every part of it.*

Suppose we repudiate the debt and destroy the value of the present circulation of the country, what will we substitute in its stead? The National Banks, having their stability entirely in Government securities, will, of course, disappear as dew before the sun, and all other issues will be worthless. No one would have means or the disposition to take stock in new banks, but if they had, no one for years to come would have confidence enough in paper money to take it. Then what would the people do? What little gold and silver there is in the country would furnish the circulating medium. But there would exist so intense a prostration of credit and business that the farmer, the only man having commodities wanted by the whole community, as fast as he got them would hoard them.

As it is intimated, seriously, that repudiation is going to be an issue in the country, we think it a very important matter to us that we give it a very close scrutiny, and satisfy ourselves if possible as to its feasibility. We want to know how men like ourselves, when the credit of the whole nation, in the aggregate and the individual, is broken down, are to be kept from starving.

Assuming that there is to be a very large crop this year, it will, when gathered, all be in the hands of the farmer, and we have to purchase for our families every thing they eat. How are we to do it? We had, when repudiation took place, a few dollars in "greenbacks," but they are now worthless. We have no silver or gold, and no property of any description that the farmer wants or will take in payment for the bread that we need of him for our children. Now, what are we to do? You who are for repudiation answer us if you can. We all know what the farmer is; that he is more easily frightened in such matters than other men, and that it takes him a longer time to get over it; and that we might and would perish if we did not have the specie to pay him for his commodities. We don't intend to find fault with him in what we state, for it is nothing but human nature the world over. Other arguments may present themselves to other minds, but for the life of us we cannot see it in any other light.

It seems to us madness that men should propose to themselves the destruction of that which is as vital to their existence as the air they breathe. If the national securities are now to become worthless, (which we don't believe for one moment) independently of any effort to render them so, then that is a matter beyond our control, and one which, when it does come, will drag along in its train suffering in amount and intensity such as we have never dreamed of. If the term ruin is to be found in ruined trade and commerce, neglect of tillage, nothing for the mechanic and laborer to do;—idleness, arson, robbery, famine and starvation, then our ruin will have come indeed.

In our next we will discuss the other alternative—the payment of the public debt in the present currency of the country. We have, in the above, considered the matter in the most direct and simple shape into which we could throw it.

GEN. SICKLES' LETTER.

We publish to day a letter from General Sickles to Senator Trumbull, Chairman of the Judiciary Committee. As we are not given to fault-finding with officials who sometimes appear to be acting unreasonably and overstepping their rightful authority, so we are not prone to bestow hastily great praise on public men for actions which at first seem wise and beneficial to the public good.

But justice is due to any man, in any position; the best test, the best criterion for judgment, consists of actions, and we cannot withhold an expression of satisfaction with which we have read this very important letter from the Commandant of the District. It is written in earnest and in sincerity, and is intended to produce its good effects. It is able, and faithful to facts, as every prominent man in the South can testify. This communication to a leading Radical of the U. S. Congress bears not the stamp of a politician, but of an official impressed with the grave responsibilities of his high position, and anxious to avert, as far as possible, the serious troubles which will inevitably arise from general proscription and disfranchisement, and the imposition of increased restrictions and severities upon the rights and privileges of the people of the Southern States.

If the idea is not utterly exploded and become entirely obsolete with the party in power, of making fitness and capacity the test of appointment to offices of trust and importance, the strongly expressed views and practical recommendations of General Sickles must have their due weight. Gen. Sickles has been in command of some portion of the South ever since the close of the war; he is a man of ability and experience, and limited to observe closely, and to judge clearly and accurately, the men around him; and if he is impressed with the conviction that the people are loyal and may be intrusted with the management of their own affairs, and the administration of the local and State Governments in which they have a vital and preponderating interest, on what reasonable grounds can the people of the North reject such important testimony as his in favor of speedy reconstruction, on the basis of fairness and justice?

As will be seen by reference to this letter, it is recommended that registration be postponed until October or November, in order that the views of Congress on the subject may be clearly known, and the District Commander be no longer in doubt.

From the Greensboro' Patriot.

RAILROAD MEETING IN GREENSBORO.

Greensboro', June 27, 1867.

Agreeably to notice, a number of citizens assembled in the court house, and, on motion, A. P. Eckel, Esq., was appointed chairman, and L. Swaim, Secretary of the meeting.

At the request of the chairman, Col. J. T. Morehead explained the object of the meeting; and, after some remarks touching the practicability and prospects of the extension of the Western or Coalfields Railroad, introduced a series of resolutions, as follows:

WHEREAS, The act of the last Legislature, amending the charter of the Western Railroad, relieving the corporation of its indebtedness to the State, and by subscribing one million dollars of mortgage bonds, and extending the road through the rich valleys of the Yadkin and Dan, has made the completion of the road a fixed fact; and

WHEREAS, It now depends on the friends of the work to fix *the time* of its completion:

Resolved, That however unpropitious the political state of affairs may be, *now* is the time for the friends of this work to begin in earnest; and that, the people of Guilford, being among the first in interest, intend to be second to none in our effort to hasten the completion of the road; and we call especially upon the people of Chatham, Alamance, Randolph, Forsythe, Stokes, Rockingham, Yadkin and Surry to come forward at once and join us.

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to communicate with the friends of the road in the above named counties in order to give organized aid to the officers of the road, and that for that purpose they make arrangements to hold meetings along the line of the road, and to receive subscriptions in land, labor, material and moneys; and further,

That said committee lay before the people of Richmond, Petersburg and Danville, the great benefits which will flow to their cities by opening this shortest and most direct route to the eastern part of North and South Carolina, and offer them the opportunity of joining with us in a work so beneficial to both.

The meeting was then addressed by Messrs. D. F. Caldwell, Ralph Gorrell, Col. Basford and J. A. Gilmer, Jr. And after suggestions from others, the resolutions were unanimously adopted.

The committee appointed under the above resolutions, are as follows: James T. Morehead, jr., John A. Gilmer, jr., D. F. Caldwell, Jesse H. Lindsay, D. W. C. Benbow.

On motion, Resolved that when this meeting adjourns, it shall be to meet in this place on Tuesday of August court next.

The meeting then adjourned.

A. P. ECKEL, Ch'n.

L. SWAIM, Sec'y.

From the Raleigh Sentinel.

Southern Radicals and the Congress.

It has been apparent, all along, that the course of Congress has never suited Southern Radicals. They have always been ready to go to the extremes of Wendell Phillips, if, by that means, they can gain office and power. This is their *ultimatum*. The real interests of the negro they do not care a groat for, beyond the accomplishment of their own ambitious designs. They have been very troublesome to Congress. At every session they swarm around the Radical members, endeavoring to mislead them. So far, their counsels have had very little influence, except in so far as Radical principles, which grow rapidly, have kept pace with them. The present short session of Congress is likely to be disturbed by them, but whether Congress will listen to such men remains to be seen.

A friend has handed us the following list of persons appointed by the chairman of the Radical meeting, held here on the 4th inst., to proceed to Washington to represent the interests of the "loyal" people of the State.—Among them will be found swarms of office seekers. They are as follows:

"Lewis Thompson, John Pool, Calvin J. Cowles, James H. Harris, Col. David Heaton, James Font. Taylor, E. W. Pou, Dr. William Sloan, John Robinson, William A. Smith, Vincent Michael, C. R. Thomas, B. W. Hatcher, Thos. Settle, G. W. Price, T. A. Sykes, J. E. O'Hara, W. Cawthorn, Jas. Bowman, Handy Lockhart, J. S. Leary, J. T. Schenck, John T. Dewesse, J. B. Cook, R. W. Lassiter, R. P. Dick."

We further learn, that strong efforts are to be made to induce Congress to remove the disabilities from the chief leaders of the Radicals in this State, so as to allow them to run for the Convention. When Congress removes the impediments from the *chief sinners*, it cannot withhold them from the lesser ones.

DANGER FORESHADOWED.—After a short recess, the fell purposes which at the close of the last session of Congress were indignantly repudiated by leading Republicans in both houses are now unblushingly avowed. The determination is expressed to apply to all the loyal States the same unconstitutional legislation that has been forced at the point of the bayonet upon the South.

Let the people of the Northern and Western States beware how they yield one single constitutional right to these unscrupulous usurpers of political power. If they yield this point, they will soon find themselves bound hand and foot, and reduced to the pitiable condition of their Southern neighbors. These cormorants of political power will not be satisfied with negro suffrage in the North. This is simply the entering wedge. Once acknowledge their power to control the question of suffrage in the States, and before another year expires they will be found, like Napoleon in France, and Maximilian in Mexico, compelling in all the States of the North, the election of their candidates at the point of the bayonet, and making the people pay for the maintainance of the military force thus required. Again we warn the people of the North and West to beware the trap set for them.

THE EXECUTION OF MAXIMILIAN.—The Observador, of Matamoras, states that when Maximilian learned the sentence passed upon him he offered a million dollars to Gen. Ribadaneira, the keeper of the prisoners, to be allowed a chance of escape. Ribadaneira requested a written promise from the Archduke, and when he obtained it, showed the document to General Escobedo. Gen. Escobedo gave orders at once that in case he attempted to escape, any of the guards might shoot him on his (Escobedo's) responsibility.

The New York Herald says that Mr. Bradley, counsel for Surratt "seriously damaged his client" by his personal difficulty with Judge Fisher! What Surratt had to do with that, or how it bears on the question of his guilt or innocence, it is difficult to perceive; yet he is to suffer, and perhaps hang, for it! A poor compliment to court and jury,—and yet the kind of justice meted out to the South, in beating us for what Mr. Stanbery thinks!

Richmond Enquirer.

HEADQ'RS SECOND MILITARY DISTRICT,
CHARLESTON, S. C., June 28th, 1867.
[CIRCULAR.]

All fines imposed by Post Courts constituted by Circular from these Headquarters, dated May 15th, 1867, will, when the sentence has been approved by the General Commanding, be collected by the Post Commanders.

In cases where information has been given of any violation of existing orders, the Post Commander may award to the informant a sum not exceeding one-fourth of the fine imposed and collected.

One half of all fines collected shall be forwarded on the first day of each month, by the several Post Commanders, to the Acting Assistant Inspector General at these Headquarters, together with a summary statement showing the amount received, disbursed and remaining on hand, with copies of vouchers. The balance will be retained and constitute a Post Civil Fund, to be disbursed under the direction of the Post Commander in aid of the execution of the several Reconstruction Acts.

By command of
Maj. Gen. D. E. SICKLES:
J. W. CLOUS,
Capt. 38th. U. S. Infantry,
A. D. C. and A. A. A. G.

ANOTHER TURN OF THE SCREW.

We copy below the bill of the House Reconstruction Committee, prepared on Saturday to be presented yesterday, by Thaddeus Stevens. The Washington Chronicle says of it:—

"It sets aside the rebel State Governments, and puts them under complete subjection to the military authority. The acts already performed by the military commanders are approved, and their authority henceforth is supreme in the rebel States until the work of Reconstruction is completed, subject only to Congress. It regulates the matter of registration, and makes the Boards of Registers the judges of the qualifications of all persons seeking to register, instead of the party themselves. It provides against the removal of the Military Commanders, except by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. And, finally, it leaves the President out in the cold, so far as having anything to do with Reconstruction is concerned."

The following is the bill;

AN ACT supplementary to an act entitled "An Act to provide for the more efficient government of the rebel States," passed March second, eighteen hundred and sixty-seven, and the act supplementary thereto, passed March twenty-third, eighteen hundred and sixty-seven.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That it is hereby declared to have been the true intent and meaning of the acts of March 2d and March 23d, 1867, to which this act is a supplement, that the governments then existing in the rebel States of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Mississippi, Alabama, Louisiana, Florida, Texas, and Arkansas were illegal and void; and that thereafter said governments were to be continued, subject in all respects to the military commanders of the respective districts and to the authority of Congress only.

SEC. 2. And be it farther enacted, That the said acts to which this is a supplement, shall be construed to authorize the officer assigned to the command of any military district under said acts, whenever he shall deem it necessary to the due performance of his duties under said acts, to remove or suspend from office any municipal or State officer, or person exercising authority under or by virtue of any so-called State government existing in his district, and to appoint another person in the stead of the officer or person so removed, if he shall deem proper so to do, and to authorize the officer assigned to the command of any military district under said acts, whenever he may deem it necessary, as aforesaid, to prohibit, suspend, or set aside any act or proceeding of any such State or municipal government, or any act or thing done under or by virtue of its authority; it being the intention of said act that during its continuance the said so-called State governments of the rebel States shall be allowed to continue only as subordinate to, and subject to the control of, the officers assigned to the military districts aforesaid, respectively and to Congress; and all acts heretofore done by any such officer in accordance herewith shall be deemed valid.

SEC. 3. And be it futher enacted, That the boards of registration of the several military districts established by the acts to which this is additional, shall admit to registration only such person as they deem entittled to be registered by the acts aforesaid. They shall not regard the taking the oath prescribed in the act of March twenty-three, eighteen hundred and sixty-seven, conclusive evidence of the right of the person taking it to be registered but *prima facie* only, and may receive such evidence under oath relating thereto as they may deem proper, either from the person applying to be registered or others, and either of the members of said board is hereby authorized to administer oaths or affirmations and examine witnesses touching the right of any person to be registered. Said boards of registration may strike from the list of voters the name of any one already registered, who, in their judgment, improperly took the oath prescribed in the acts to which this is additional, or was not entitled by said acts to be registered, and shall not be bound or governed in their action by any opinion of any officer of the United States Government. Record evidence shall not be required by said board to prove participation in the rebellion, but parole evidence of the fact of such participation shall be deemed by said boards sufficient to effect the disfranchisement provided for by the acts to which this is additional.

SEC. 4. And be it further enacted, That no civil court of the United, or of any State shall have jurisdiction of any action or proceeding, civil or criminal, against any such district commander, or any officer or person acting by his authority, for or on account of an act done by him in his official capacity under this act, or the acts to which it is supplementary, to wit: the act named in the first section of this act of March twenty-three, eighteen hundred and sixty seven, supplementary thereto.

SEC. 5. And be it further enacted, That no district commander shall be relieved from the command assigned to him under the aforesaid act, unless the Senate shall have first advised and consented to his removal; or unless by sentence of court-martial, he shall be cashiered or dismissed from the army; or unless he shall consent to be so relieved.

CROPS IN KANSAS.—It is stated that the corn crop in Kansas has been injured about ten per cent. by grasshoppers, and ten per cent. by the floods; yet there will be an abundant yield. Wheat is harvesting, and all through southern Kansas there is an unusually large crop.

POLITICAL MEETNG.

REGISTRATION.

SPEECH BY BENJ'N ROBINSON, ESQ.

MY FELLOW CITIZENS: I am no stranger here. Within a stone's throw of yonder stream I was born. Here in your midst I have spent the days of my childhood and youth, and the better part of my manhood. In that sea of upturned faces, I recognize in many, features that are familiar to my memory; for amongst you I find the grey-beards from association with whom I derived those lasting impressions which have governed my actions since I have assumed the duties and responsibilities which belong to the period of manhood. I find here companions who joined my sports on the school play ground in the merry days gone by, and comrades who shared dangers with me on the fields, where, a few years ago, honors were won and a nation staked its life on the hazard of battles. Here amid such associations and recollections I am at home. It is true that I am not of you now, but what matters it that I reside elsewhere, when my heart throbs with affection for you all. With such sentiments, when an invitation was extended to me to address the citizens of my native town, I felt that I had no right to decline to gratify their wishes, especially when the subject was of such vast importance, and I responded to the call without hesitation, nay, cheerfully, glad to be able to renew my acquaintance with old friends under such auspices.

Before addressing myself to a particular discussion of the matter of Registration, it will be necessary for me to advert to the previous history of the country, that our present abnormal condition may be the better understood. In doing this I shall endeavor to waste as little of your time as possible in reference to details and shall only dwell upon the more prominent features of that record of the past, illuminated at times with the lustre of wonderful achievements, darkened at others with misfortunes and shrouded with woes.

We all remember the history of the Revolution of 1776, the causes that led to it and the results of the struggle; we remember that after the successful assertion of their independence the patriots of that era, to perpetuate the blessings of liberty, framed for their government and that of their posterity, a Constitution, which, drawn from the experience of all other peoples and the wisdom of able statesmen, was the wisest political instrument ever framed. We remember how from a struggling settlement, unable to protect itself from the invasions of the aboriginal savage or from the foreign oppressions which were threatened, the American States grew under this compact of Union to be one of the foremost powers of the earth, its civilization and prosperity equal to that of the first empires of Europe, its flag respected and honored on every sea and its name a treasure to its friends and a terror to its foes. We remember with pleasure the loyalty of our section to the principles of that Constitution and their affection for the Union; we remember with regret the difficulties which grew out of too much prosperity, ultimating in combinations among States to oppress their neighbors, and at last growing so intolerable as to necessitate civil war for the arbitrament of matters at dispute. We remember the deadly struggle between the sections, after which they both now stand panting and bleeding, the North triumphant and proud, the South bowed down with grief, overcome with wounds, helpless, dispirited, but covered with the honors which the valor of her brave sons won, and acclaimed to immortality by the shouts of applause which were wrung from a reluctant world. The South, though sustained by a belief that she was right, at the end of the war overwhelmingly defeated, was prepared for an acceptance of those overtures of peace and union which had so constantly been made during the progress of the grand struggle, and hastened to take advantage of the benefits offered by the President's policy in respect to reconstruction. The South anticipated an immediate restoration to former privileges and duties. But it stood in the midst of broken shrines, and mourning over blighted hopes looked around upon the fragments of images shivered into pieces by the remorseless hand of the relentless iconoclast destiny. The aspirations cherished were doomed to disappointment. Dreams that had been indulged were not to be realized; for 'neath those arches of victory, under which, in the heyday of ambition, they had thought to rest, others reclined, and while these wore their garlands of triumph, they were clad in the habiliments of woe and grief. Rejoicing at his success, the conqueror, in his exultation, forgot that magnanimity which was due to his victim, and instead of turning away from an indulgence in those vile passions which were the off-spring of war, instead of driving out of power the Radical party, which had been nourished on hate, and which owed its success to a desire for vengeance and destruction, as unfit for times of peace, its influence grew greater until its will became the law of the nation. We who had tried to reconcile ourselves to defeat, because defeat at least brought peace, soon found that Radicalism, glorying over its achievements, was inspired with a diabolical malignity to which even it had been a stranger during the war. 'Tis true there was a devilish mercy in the leaders that would "spare our lives, but would fetter us to death." So they have gone on—so we still remain where we stood after the surrenders at Appomattox and Greensboro'. But when the crew of a ship that is assailed far from land by the wild fury of a howling tempest determines madly to pull down the masts, throw overboard the compass, and cut away the rudder, it demands no sagacity to portend a shipwreck. Such is to be the fate of the party-ship on the decks of which is gathered the motliest crew that ever sought to navigate the troubled waters of the sea of politics—such, my fellow-citizens, is to be the termination to which the tyrant party is about to come. If you will only do your duty, the duty you owe yourselves and your posterity the result which it will have upon the future of this republic will be important, for the dominant party, will be hurled from power, and right and justice one more resume control in the land. Yes, if you will but pursue the proper course of action you will strengthen your own hands, and their ability to inflict woe upon this stricken country will have been at an end forever. Already the cool sober second thought of the North is beginning to be felt. Already from every quarter where elections have been held within the last six months, the indications are that the great Conservative Democratic party of the country is gaining ground and if we only prove true to ourselves we will ere long be able to wield the large majority which is now turned against us for our destruction.

What is demanded of us to achieve the desirable result which I have just referred? We do not forget that after Congress refused to approve the President's policy in regard to reconstruction, a proposition was submitted to the States of the South, asking them to ratify an alteration of the Federal Constitution, by adopting the Howard Amendment, a request which was indignantly refused by the Legislatures of the Southern States. This refusal to act upon this proposition favorably, enraged the Radicals and induced them to pass the laws now in force respecting the question of Reconstruction. These laws having given the negroes of the South a temporary right of suffrage, and having temporarily disfranchised the classes who would have been disqualified from holding office under the Howard Amendment, had that been acceptable, requires that an election decide whether or not there shall be a Constitutional Convention, and for members thereof in the event it shall be called, and the question whether or not the Organic Law of the States shall be changed so as to permanently confer equal political privileges upon both of the races; and to enforce this law, until Congress should be so well satisfied with the action of the people through their representatives in Convention as to be willing to admit members of Congress from the unrepresented States, the Civil Governments were made subservient to the will of Military Commanders appointed to administer affairs in the South, divided into five Districts. The Radicals resorted to this scheme in the hope that the Southern Radicals and negroes combined would be sufficiently strong to overcome the whites; whose strength has been diminished by disfranchisment, and powerful enough to make a Brownlow government in each of the States.

If there were any way to escape the despotism which a gratification of that anticipation will impose we should urge non-action in preference to a participation in the elections ordered under that bill; but the Southern Radicals, with the assistance of the negroes, are bent upon having a Convention and after securing that end are determined to control it and frame a constitution which will divest of power all who are in opposition to them, and are resolved to perpetuate the own control. To prevent this whatever may be our feelings a sense of duty to ourselves demands that we shall register and vote, for we not only lose present control by pursuing any other course but we subject ourselves to a permanent and intolerable oppression.

If we are convinced of the importance of this, and would achieve success in an attempt to control the elections we must bear in mind a fact which is now too well established to demand an argument in its proof. *The negroes of the South will co-operate with the Radicals.* On every side we see the indications which lead us to the conclusion that the longer we delude ourselves with any other belief, the longer we waste time in vain efforts to exercise influence over them, the further we will be from the attainment of our object—the control of the Convention.

Therefore, we must form at once a WHITE MAN'S PARTY, pledged to register, pledged to vote, pledged to oppose in Convention any modifications of the suffrage provisions of the Constitution, pledged to introduce into the amendment to that instrument nothing more than is absolutely necessary to a fulfilment of the requirements of the Congressional plan. Without such an organization pledged to such a platform the full white strength of the State cannot be drawn out, and without the entire class of whites entitled to register and vote do turn out, defeat is inevitable. While a firm opposition to negro political equality should be made, there will be no need of altercation with that class. Taking into consideration the fact that they have been banded into secret leagues and taught incendiary doctrines under the cover of darkness and in clandestine conclave, this class has behaved with commendable propriety, and the kind relations between them and the whites should not be disturbed, but rather cultivated.

If the suggested combination is made, and our people go to work with that enthusiasm which should be felt, we may calculate upon the most thorough success. The full white strength in North Carolina is about 95,000 votes, from which after deducting 12,000 votes of disfranchised persons and 15,000 for the Radicals, it will be seen that the white anti-Radicals have a voting strength of 68,000, while, balancing against this, at a very large calculation, the negro vote estimated to be 36,000, we have still left a majority of over 30,000.

The question naturally arises, why take the trouble to form a party to vote, and to frame Constitutions? What good is there to be achieved? I answer that it has been seen that we can carry the elections, and that it is desirable that we should get rid of Black Republican rule, and that we should avoid the establishment of permanent Brownlow despotism. Now I shall endeavor to indicate how this is to be done by pursuing the line of policy already suggested.

The Democrats of the North, alive to the dangers which environ Constitutional Liberty and thoroughly awake to the demands of the occasion, are actively engaged in an effort to overcome the large majority which is now used to consolidate the strength of the Radical party.

The fight is being made there with a vigor which has never characterized a political campaign in this country at any previous period in our history—the platform on which the contest is waged is the Constitution as it was framed and amended by the patriots of the revolution—its converts are from the Radical party and they are the true men who, having witnessed the disastrous effects of its mad rule, are deserting it because it is evident that nothing can avert general ruin but its complete destruction. So thoroughly aroused are the leaders and the people, that it is claimed and conceded that unless the falling fortunes of the Republican organization are bolstered up by newly acquired strength in the South, the next Federal Congress will be composed of Conservative representatives who will at once insist upon the admission of Southern members, without any objectionable test oaths, and who will quickly amend all the wild, unjust legislation of their predecessors, which has imposed upon our section so much misery and operated so greatly to our material and moral detriment. They claim that Kentucky, Connecticut and Maryland now with them, will remain steadfast; they claim that the great Empire State, New York will join these in giving support to the Constitution; they claim that two thirds of the members from Pennsylvania and Ohio will be of their political faith; they claim Illinois as indisputably with them, and assert that Indiana, now so strongly Radical, will abandon the sinking ship and lend its assistance in working out the grand silent revolution. New Hampshire and New Jersey, Delaware and California, Wisconsin and Iowa, all will in some degree contribute aid to the perfection of the design. In view of these expectations, much is demanded of the South which otherwise might not be expected. Without any such promises pledged, we perhaps might be excusable for inaction; but with a prospect of avoiding the permanent establishment of a Brownlow despotism in each of the States, with a prospect of achieving, by success in our own elections, a removal of the disabilities and disadvantages which attach to our present condition, a failure to exercise what remnant of right and strength that is left will be in the highest degree unwise and criminal. If we shall fail to strike a blow for our own deliverance we shall merit the penalty of our folly.

"Even the poor worm will turn, when tread upon,
And the dove will peck in safeguard of her brood."

If these successes claimed shall be secured, and we are misrepresented by Radical members of Congress the Democratic gains will be worth nothing to the country for they will be counteracted by the vote of our delegations. We will by a refusal to go into the campaign make theirs an empty victory, and we will live in that event to lament our infidelity in sackcloth and ashes.

From these suggestions, my fellow citizens, you will perceive that this entire matter depends upon your own exertions. In your hands rests the future welfare and prosperity, or the protracted suffering and misery of North Carolina. By every motive which can govern human action you are impelled to this work, for if you stand idly by and see men, who have submitted themselves to the control of a foreign influence, undertake the direction of the administration of the political interests of your state, if you sit and resolve to let the elections go by default and to place men who hate you and would reduce you to a condition far worse than that of oppressed Ireland and downtrodden Hungary, and partitioned Poland, in unrestricted supremacy, You will soon see the blindness, you will yet regret the folly which constrained your action and imposed upon you a fearful and intolerable servitude. There is in the history of your State much that is full of glory, there are linked with its past, glowing memories and ennobling associations, to preserve which from tarnish, you should devote yourselves to a careful watch, with eyes that never wink, and you should work with an energy that never tires.

But the question has often been asked: "Suppose you do Register, suppose you do vote, suppos you control the elections, suppose you frame a Constitution retaining all the political power in your own hands? Will not Congress reject you when you apply for admission, and refuse to ratify your Constitution? Yes. I have never thought that Congress would re-admit the South to its old place in the Union, unless the Southern people would yield the direction of affairs to interlopers and negroes; nor have I found any one else of ordinary intelligence and information who thinks otherwise. But Congress has had two years to fix up a plan of reconstruction, it had no obstacles but its own doubts and disagreements to encounter, and when that plan was submitted it was accepted by the North as a finality. That the plan was no more stringent or severe Congress can censure no one outside of its own halls, and the people, appreciating this fact, will make it stand by its own action and the inevitable result thereof, or they will repudiate it, and elect men of different views, and intrust them with the adjustment of the difficulty. Congress will not dare admit the South with such a Constitution as the Southern men ought to frame, and, by a refusal to do so, it will hasten the culmination of its troubles, and precipitate upon its own head the agony of that vengeance which the infuriate citizens of the Republic will yet, in the majestic wrath of their indignation, pile upon the authors of their distress.

Having said this much in regard to the importance of registration, having shown that unless our people shall decide to participate in the elections, a Brownlow despotism will be fixed upon us indefinitely, and having urged my views and sentiments upon your attention at length, I now purpose to correct certain impressions which some uninformed persons have received as to their qualification to register and vote. The fact that a man participated in what the Sherman bill calls the "rebellion," does not necessarily disqualify, but he must also have held, previous to the late war, an office, Federal or State, and must have taken an oath to support the Federal Constitution upon qualifying for such an office.

There is also an impression resting upon the public mind, that at the present session of Congress further steps will be taken in regard to this matter, and new severities be engrafted upon the measures already in existence.

I can say with the utmost confidence that there is no reason for such apprehensions. But for the opinion of the Attorney General, the present session would not have convened, and the indications are that legislation will be confined to a mere explanatory law conferring upon the District Commanders all the power denied them, by Mr. Stanberry, and to making such appropriations as are necessary to carry out the intentions of that body. Indeed, I think that General Sickles will probably issue an order somewhat similar to that of Gen. Schofield for the Government of Registration in Virginia; and feel confident that no change will occur to prevent any persons now entitled to register from availing themselves of that privilege when the machinery for that purpose is put into operation.

Fellow Citizens: I feel as keenly as I have ever felt the weight of any responsibility, the importance of this matter to which I have adverted at such length. I am a convert to the views which I have advanced, having formerly been utterly opposed to any action in regard to this matter. I know that many of you feel now as I felt then; but I implore you to deliberate upon this subject, to divest your minds of prejudice, and to determine to be guided by practical considerations. It will not do for you to surrender your interests and your rights. It will not do for you to let hireling emissaries sent by your enemies, and paid to slander you and to detach your negroes from you, that they may be used to destroy you, to succeed in their foul purposes, when by using your strength you can, at the polls, silence them and at once neutralize the effect of these poisonous teachings by putting at rest forever this question of negro suffrage. It will not do for you to allow the Radical party to foist a permanent Brownlow despotism upon you, when, by exercising the means at your disposal, you may their quietus make with a bare ballot. Better than this a thousand times is the Military government under which we now live. In conclusion allow me to urge upon you the matters which I have discussed. Their importance demands more than ordinary thought. For, perhaps, in these suggestions, hastily reflected upon and crudely thrown out, may be found the path of escape from the Radical rule, and the gate to that peace and harmony which our distracted people so sadly need. If the Radicals shall stay in power God help our afflicted country, for they have "the woefullest division made that ever fell upon this cursed Earth." If we shall escape their rule we will be the most favored people who ever toil upon times of Anarchy like these, when Law and Order are fled and License stalks in the broad light of day.

Letter of Gen. Sickles on Registration.

Charleston, S. C., July 5, 1867.

MY DEAR SIR:—I have decided not to begin registration in this district until Congress determines who shall be registered. I trust, therefore, that it will be the pleasure of Congress to extend the time for the completion of my registration until say, October or November. If I proceed now, and disregard the wishes of the President, my action would be regarded as insubordination; if I follow his intimations, many would probably be registered not eligible according to the true interpretation of the acts of Congress.

If it is meant that all who have held any office—Federal, State, or municipal—having taken an oath of office to support the Constitution of the United States, and afterwards engaged in rebellion, or given aid and comfort, etc., are disfranchised, this should *be expressly declared;* otherwise, if left to *construction*, it may be held that no other officers are *included than those classes enumerated in Article VI., of the Constitution*, and that even as to these *a full pardon removes the disqualification.*

If it is meant to exclude lawyers they should be expressly mentioned, or else described by some classification; as for example, after the word "office," add "any licensed calling or employment or profession." Otherwise, if the eligibility of lawyers be left to *construction*, it may be held that a lawyer is not a public officer, although a functionary of a court or other judicial body.

The truth is, we have now in operation two distinct systems of reconstruction, originated by Congress, and engrafted upon the President's plan of reconstruction. The *first* Congressional plan is expressed in the Howard constitutional amendment, leaving suffrage to be regulated by the several States, and imposing upon certain classes of persons disqualification for office, as a punishment for rebellion and as a safeguard for the future. That plan having been refused by the rebel States, Congress passed the reconstruction acts, which form a *second* scheme of reconstruction, entirely distinct in principle and plan from the former. In the second plan Congress assumes control of the question of suffrage, which is extended to all who can take a prescribed oath, and *also* enforces the disqualification for office, which would have been the penal and conservative feature of the first plan. Now, it seems to me that the true conservative guarantee against reaction is in the addition made to the loyal vote by the enfranchisement of the colored people, but being done, the occasion for the disqualification clause ceases. Hence, the true solution, I believe, is to declare, with universal suffrage, a general amnesty—*naming the exceptions.* A more liberal amnesty is, in my judgment, essential to the success of the Congressional plan of reconstruction. It will enlarge the range of popular choice for the important judicial, executive, and legislative departments of the State governments, otherwise inconveniently confined to classes very few of whom are fit to hold office. The people can surely be entrusted to judge and select from those who took part in the rebellion the men at once qualified and sincere in their adhesion to the new order of things. Such men, being eligible to office, will have motives to identify themselves with reconstruction, and to support the views of the majority. Now, more than ever, men of ability and experience in public business are needed for the State governments in the South; and it is truly unfortunate that at such a moment nearly all who know anything of public affairs, and especially those who could fill judicial station, are disfranchised. This exposes the experiment of general suffrage to needless hazards. If the experiment fail, it is most likely to fail from the inability of the people to put in office those who could and would assure success. It would have been advantageous perhaps to have removed many disaffected persons, especially judges, sheriffs, and magistrates, in the execution of the sixth section of the act of 2d March, if competent successors could have been found among those who are eligible to office; and I would regard the possession now of a wider field of choice for civil officers as one of the most effective instrumentalities in the execution of the military authority conferred upon district commanders. As it is, I find myself prevented, as will the people by and by, from securing for the public service men of aptitude and character, whose repentance is as certain as the devotion of the most consistent loyalists. In truth, the zeal of some of the converts outruns the discretion of many of the faithful. With reference to other practical suggestions, it might be useful if Congress, by one of its committees, interrogated the commanding officers of the several districts upon the operation of the reconstruction acts, and the further legislation required.

Very respectfully,

D. E. SICKLES.

Hon. LYMAN TRUMBULL, Chairman Judiciary Committee, U. S. Senate.

MILITARY COMMISSION.—We are informed that the Military Commission, which has been constituted for the trial of D. G. McRae, Esq., and Capt. Tolar, of Fayetteville, now in confinement at Fort Macon, will convene in this city, on Wednesday. Rumor assigns a prominent lawyer of this city to the prosecution, by employment of the District Commander. It is understood that Robert Strange, Esq., of Wilmington, will appear for the defence, in the case of Mr. McRae.—*Ral. Sentinel, July 9th.*

THE WHISKY FRAUDS.—Well-informed traders estimate the annual production of distilled spirits in the United States to be not less than eighty millions of proof gallons or over one and a half millions per week. In sixty days 13,000,000 gallons have been produced, and of this 347,000 gallons have been seized, making one detected fraudulent gallon out of every thirty-eight gallons produced.

Internal Revenue Record.

Maximilian was shot with his face to the executioners, and his last words were "Poor Carlotta!" He died as became a king, after fighting like a hero; and his last sympathies were for the wife of his bosom—not himself. His death has created a profound indignation throughout Europe, and Mexico will evermore rue the day when she ordered his butchery. France, that betrayed him from sheer intimidation, and the United States, that gave him into the hands of unrestrained assassins, have put blots on their banners whose colors will but grow bolder with time.