

The Situation.

In the midst of the most gratifying appearances of the returning prosperity of the Southern States, covering the progress of internal improvements, the increase of shipping in the maritime ports, the extent of land planted, the introduction of a valuable class of immigrants, together with the influx of capital from the North, the rise in the value of Southern securities and in the general development of the country, we begin to discern a speck of trouble of a political character making its appearance upon the political horizon. The ignorant, headstrong politicians are against work. The fire-eaters are becoming troublesome, are obstructing the onward tide of Southern prosperity. It is unwise in the extreme for native born Southern men to behave themselves in such a manner as to retard and impede the progress of the South just at this time, when the country is again growing quiet, and the heated passions engendered by the rebellion, are dying out, and the people are striving to rebuild their broken fortunes. It is apparent to every one that the South in a few years will be the garden spot of the Union, if our own men will let her. But as long as the spirit, which denominates every Northern man a carpet bagger, is kept up, we will go backwards and not forward. We are glad to see and know that this spirit is dying out in this State. The Military commission appointed by Gen. Grant to travel through the South and report, have performed their duty. They report the South in a great deal better condition now than at any time since the rebellion, and that North Carolina is in a better condition than any Southern State. Col. Foy's letters have done more for this State than anything we know of. There is nothing to complain of in North Carolina in particular. We have been led to these remarks by the movements now going on in Virginia and Alabama. The "no surrender" party of Virginia headed by Henry A. Wise, are fighting everybody and every party, in favor of restoring Virginia to the Union. A "third party" movement in Alabama is arousing old party feelings, and the clangor of political trumpets is heard throughout the State. The middle in Georgia in the Republican ranks, is tickling the vanity of the young coquetry who have passed the ordeal of pantaloons and entered the arena of active life since the surrender of General Lee, and making them actually look upon another fight with the North as inevitable, if not desirable, with a result entirely different from that which followed the last struggle at arms.

This is the very worst nonsense—the height of absurdity. It is unwise, ridiculous and detrimental to our interests for Southern newspapers and would be orators to begin the game of 1861, and those who are guilty of committing these acts of rashness and folly should be treated as the South's worst foes—the enemies of her future opulence and power. The Southern States have nothing to do now but study how to develop their resources, how to improve their reputation in the minds of the people of the Old World and of the North, and to assure those who wish to settle upon her soil, till her fields, work her mines, put her immense water powers to successful use, that they will be cordially welcomed and protected in their persons and property. When Gen. Grant assumes the reins of the Government, the people of the South, will very soon understand that he is no Andrew Johnson; that he does not intend to "make confusion worse confounded," by remodeling the work of reconstruction. The work of three years will not be disturbed, and four years under the guidance of Gen. Grant will drive away all confusion, in this Southern country, and almost leave no trace of the rebellion. The only thing that the people of the South have to do is to mind their own business, pay no attention to anything that tends to keep up strife or retard immigration and capital; work hard, raise good crops, be economical, save money, and let the headstrong, near-sighted, ignorant politicians go to the Devil where they belong. In view of the speedy completion of the Railroad to this place, this article will especially apply to the people of Western North Carolina.

Public Schools.

What does the Standard mean by its article on "Mixed Schools"? It looks very much like the decided and firm stand taken by the Republican party in April last, is to be given up, and opposite grounds taken. The Standard certainly hint d that way in its article on "Mixed Schools." For the Republicans of Western North Carolina, we desire to say that such a policy will not be tolerated. We fought the campaign for the Constitution decidedly against mixed schools. We have no idea that any such measure will receive the slightest consideration at the hands of the Legislature. We have only to say to any member of the Legislature who may vote for a proposition of this kind, that he is dead, so far as the people of Western North Carolina is concerned. We are astonished that the Standard should even hint at such a thing. It would appear that the Republican party will say one thing to secure the votes of the people and turn round in a few months after the victory has been won, and do another. Let others do as they may, we shall maintain our original ground. We have never knowingly deceived the people. We never will.

Another proposition as base as mixed schools, has met its death in the House of Representatives. That is—the proposition to raise the tax on land more than the constitutional limit—sixty six and two thirds cents. We are gratified to know that our Representative, Mr. James M. Justice, exerted himself to defeat this measure. He told the people that he would do as he has done. He has kept his promise.—Our interests will not suffer in the hands of Mr. J. M. Justice.

COMMUNICATIONS.

For the Star.

MESSRS. EDITORS.—The news has just reached us, that the Supreme Court of our State has recently decided the law, commonly known as the Stay Law, to be unconstitutional.

I have nothing to say in regard to the Supreme Court as a branch of the State Government, they have performed their duty. It seems to be remarkable that we can have no stability in our government, that the people are tossed from pillar to post, like I might say a common football, for no sooner is an important law passed, and a little time given the people to prepare for it, than it is repealed, or some blood sucker, takes it to the Supreme Court, hoping that it may be decided unconstitutional. Such a scene can not be imagined, as will take place provided, Creditors are allowed to proceed to judgment, execution and sale, in the collection of debts now due.

In answer to this, it may be said, and will be said that, the benefits of the Honorable, will be an offset; not so, for the reason that not a dollar can be collected, from any one not worth more than fifteen hundred dollars.

In some districts, the Spring Courts have commenced, and in others they will soon commence, therefore it is very important, that the General Assembly should act upon this matter, and act at once, unless they do, no one can imagine the distress in the country.

I regretted very much to see in the message of the Governor, his recommendation for a repeal of the Stay law, and now that it has been decided unconstitutional by the Supreme Court, his influence may be brought to bear, against the passage of any law of like principle; I hope not, for he ought to know, that the Republican party, and his immediate friends, will suffer greatly from such a course.

Attempts have been made more than once in the House of Representatives, to repeal the Stay law, which have been overwhelmingly voted down, this same strength, can remedy the evil now existing, caused by the decision of the Supreme Court.

It has been frequently stated that there is a certain class of Carpet Baggers in the General Assembly, extremely desirous to cut all things loose, let property go to sale, so that they may become the great land mongers of the South. Watch them if they need it in every move, if they are not stopped in their course we are a ruined people.

SALLUST.

For the Star.

At a Republican meeting held in Morgan Township, No. 12, in Rutherford County on the 20th Feb. 1869.

On motion of Henry Keeter, J. H. Adair was called to the chair, and W. L. Blankenship, requested to act as Secretary.

The object of the meeting having been explained.—On motion the Chair appointed G. M. Adair, James Hill, Elijah Hill, Henry Keeter, D. Blankenship, P. Morgan and George Nanney, a Committee on Resolutions and Nominations, who after a short absence returned and reported the following Resolutions and Nominations, which were unanimously adopted.

ALUM WELLS OF LINCOLTON, N. C.—It may not be generally known that there are several Alum Wells in Lincoln and that several persons have been very much benefited by the water. Last summer a young lady who had been in bad health for a long time, and whom the Physician at last told he could do nothing more for her, and that she likely would not live but a short time, as a last resort she came to Lincoln to try the Alum water. The consequence was that in a few weeks returned home and is now stout and hearty.

Others for years have been using the water and have derived great benefit therefrom. The one most noted belongs to Col. Wm. H. Michal, but there are some half dozen others containing more or less Alum. We think the water was more fully tested it would be found equal to the celebrated Alum Springs in Virginia—one of which several years before the war sold for a hundred thousand dollars. Besides the various diseases they cure, they are especially noted for curing cases of scrofula, which no other water or anything else will cure. The writer is well acquainted with chronic scrofula, and had been under the able physician in South Carolina and Virginia, and had also attended Sulphur acid, Chalybeate Springs and was nothing bettered, but who in a few weeks was cured by using the Rockbridge Alum Water, Virginia. No application to the eyes would ever have cured him, for the disease (scrofula) was in the system and needed to be worked out. It is now 18 years since he was at the Alum Springs, and though in his profession he has constantly used his eyes they continue sound and good. But there are other far more remarkable cures of scrofula and other disease that have baffled physicians and other mineral waters, and we think all that is needed to render the Alum water of North Carolina equally noted and efficacious is a full and fair trial. And further we think it would be well for the owners of the Alum wells in North Carolina to have some one to analyze the water and compare it with the Alum water in Va.—Communicated to the N. C. Presbyterian.

As a fishman, whose wife was sick, called a physician. The M. D. was willing to give medical attention, but desired pay in advance, or a formal agreement to be made to pay when his services were no longer needed. "An't it kill or cure for twenty dollars?" said Pat. "Yes." "Pat was satisfied, and entered into the contract. The woman died, and in due time the doctor presented his bill. "An' did yez cur her?" "No," answered the physician. "An' did yez kill her?" "This was a poser. The bill, at last accounts, had not been settled."

THE CROPS.—We are glad to observe from our exchanges that the intelligence from the great North west is to the effect that the appearance of the grain promises an unusually large crop this year. There is still some danger from frost, but it is every day diminishing. The opening of spring with assurance of abundance is seldom followed by disappointment in the summer.

We sincerely hope that good crops may gladden the heart of the husbandman in every section of our country. Nothing will contribute so largely to the return of prosperity of the South as the production of a large crop every year. Last year, by prudent management, we did well, and we trust that favorable seasons and the same good sense this year that governed the movements of our farmers in 1808 will make 1869 a year long to be remembered with pleasure by the whole people of the South.—Wil. Star.

SETTLE WHILE YOU ARE YOUNG.—Think of this, my young friend, and as you have kind affections to make some good thing for yourself in life while you are young, and lay up, by so doing, a stock of domestic happiness against age or bodily decay. There are many good things in life, whatever satirists and misanthropes may say to the contrary; but probably the best of all, next to a conscience void of offense, (but without which, by the by, they can hardly exist) are the quiet exercise and enjoyment of the social feelings, in which we are at once happy in ourselves and the cause of happiness to those who are dearest to us.—Scott.

AN ACT TO ALLOW THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE TOWN OF BUTLERFORD TO LEVY TAXES AND IMPROVE THEIR STREET. SECTION 1. The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact, That the Commissioners of the Town of Butlerford shall have the power to levy and collect from all subjects of taxation within the corporate limits of said Town, a sufficient amount in their judgment to make such repairs on the public streets and sidewalks, as will best promote the interests of said Town.

SECTION 2. This Act to be in force from and after its passage.

OWN A HOME.—All heads of families—and especially laboring men whose business requires them to reside in or near the city should strive to get homes of their own. When such men make it a point to buy and pay for a home and lot, and allow no circumstance that human effort can overcome, to discourage the pursuit of the object, they almost invariably succeed. Opey beyond the landlord's grasp, too frequently unrelenting and oppressive, the owner of a home, never wants a second experience at renting. Fifty dollars a year saved in rent will in a very few years pay for a home, and the money, it costs to move and shift about will without any loss of furniture and time, pay the interest of a five hundred dollar judgment against the property until it can gradually be reduced to nothing. This can be done. The effort only, with ordinary prudence and industry, is necessary to success. If the man who tries it fails, he is no worse off, if he succeeds, as any careful man is sure to do, he has made a home and established a credit, neither of which he owned as a renter.

THE LAW LICENSE BILL. A BILL TO ALLOW CITIZENS OF NORTH CAROLINA TO PRACTICE LAW IN THE COURTS OF THE STATE. SECTION 1. The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact: That any citizen of this State by establishing a good moral character and paying a license tax of Twenty Dollars shall be allowed to practice law in the Courts of North Carolina.

SECTION 2. All taxes arising under this act shall be paid over to the Sheriff or Tax Collector of the County in which the applicant for such license shall reside, for the benefit of the County.

SECTION 3. That it shall be the duty of the Judge of the Superior Court of the District in which application is made to him to practice law in the Courts of this State, to grant the same, when the foregoing provisions of this act shall be complied with.

CECEL.—A man was dying. He had a friend—an author. This friend came to him. To comfort him? No! To read a manuscript. He produced a packet, and drew his chair to the bedside of the dying man. "Only a few chapters," he said, insinuatingly. "But, my dear friend," urged the departing one, "I've only an hour to live." What was the reply? "Yes, yes, I know all that, but this will only take you twenty minutes."

DON'T CULTIVATE ORDINARY LAND. WITHOUT MANURE.—Recollect, in costs you, on our average soils, ten dollars, or more to make an acre of corn with hired labor, and fifteen or more to make and gather an acre of cotton. If you do not look closely after your hands, it will cost you a great deal more than that.

Now, every acre cultivated, that will not yield crops worth at least the above amounts, will not only be no profit, but run you in debt. Larger crops still are required to obtain a profit a hired labor. Lands, then, which will not yield such crops we must let rest, or manure them sufficiently, or we lose money. At least half of our poorest soils, hitherto devoted to corn and cotton, should be thrown out to rest, and the balance enriched.

How long will it take us to exhaust what little capital we have left, if for every acre on which we can make a profit of ten dollars we continue to cultivate five which lack from three to ten dollars each of meeting the actual cost of cultivation. There are few lands which will not yield a profit if commercial manures are judiciously applied.—Southern Cultivator.

A THEATRICAL ANECDOTE.—Tom Cook tells a story of an occurrence at a provincial theatre in Ireland, where Macready was personating Virginius. In preparing for the scene in which the body of Denatus is brought on the stage, the manager called to Pat, his property-man, for the bier. Pat being of a "heavy" temperament, responded to the call by saying that he would fetch it "immediately." Pat next made his appearance with a full foaming pot of the right sort, and was received with a thousand curses for his stupidity. "The bier, you blockhead!" thundered the manager. "And isn't it here?" exclaimed Pat, presenting the mug. "Not that, you Jackass!" means the barrow for Denatus. "Then, why don't you call things by their right names?" muttered Pat—"who would suppose you meant the barrow when you called for the beer?"

IF HIS TAIL COMES OUT.—The following is an old joke but it comes in a new dress, we think it will bear preserving: Two darkies in the West went out to hunt coppers, and by accident found a large cave, with quite a small entrance. Peeping in, they discovered three young bears whelps in the interior. "Look hear Sam," said one; "while I go in dar, and gets out the bars, you just watch heigh for the ole bar," "Sam got asleep in the sun, when, opening his eyes, he saw the old bear scourg'ing her way into the cave. Quick as a wink he caught her by the tail, and held on like blazes. "Hello, dar, Sam, what dark the hole dar?" "Lord bless you Jumbo; says yourself honey; if this tail come out, you'll find out what plank the hole.

Gen. Grant, it seems, refuses to ride with President Johnson, according to custom, in the procession on Inauguration Day; and thereupon we are treated to homilies concerning the alleged incivility. Perhaps if Grant had been fewer years a soldier and more a politician, he might have been more ready to recall the convenient maxim that the respect in such ceremonies is paid to the office and not to the office-holder. But Mr. Johnson once undertook to convict him of falsehood; and the American people are not likely to blame him much for remembering and respecting the attempt.—Standard.

READ AN HOUR A DAY.—A lad of fourteen, was apprenticed to a soap-boiler. One of his resolutions was to read one hour a day, at least at that rate, and he timed himself by an old silver watch left him by his uncle. He stayed seven years with his master and when he was twenty-one he was as much as the young squire did. Now let us see how much time he had to read in seven years, at the rate of one hour each day. It would be 2555 hours, at the rate of eight reading hours per day, would be equal to 319 days equal to 55 weeks; equal to 11 months—nearly a year's reading.

When Abraham Lincoln was a lawyer in Illinois, he and the Judge once got to bantering one another about trading horses, and it was agreed that the next morning at 9 o'clock, they should make a trade, the horses to be unseen up to that hour, and no backing out under a forfeit of twenty-five dollars. At the hour appointed the Judge came up, leading the sorriest looking horse ever seen in these parts. In a few minutes, Mr. Lincoln was seen approaching with a wooden saw horse on his shoulder. Great were the shouts and laughter of the crowd and both were greatly increased, when Mr. Lincoln, on surveying the Judge's animals, set down his saw horse, and exclaimed: "Well, Judge, this is the first time I ever got the worst of it in a horse trade."

One of the civil engineers on the Central Pacific Railroad thus describes a pond of warm water in what seems to be the crater of an extinct volcano near the North Fork of the Humboldt river, in Nevada: "I must tell you about one remarkable natural curiosity we capped near—a curious hot spring. It is situated in a crater about two hundred feet in diameter, on the top of a knoll which rises about fifty feet above the river. In the bottom of the crater is a long elliptical pool, perhaps one hundred and fifty feet long in one direction, and seventy, five in the other a mammoth bath-tub in shape. The depth of the water is unknown, no lines brought here having been long enough to reach the bottom. In one part the water is just hot enough to enable the hand to be held in it, and the remainder of the pool varies from this to luke-warmness. The walls are nearly vertical, and you can imagine the luxury of a plunge into it, with no fear of striking bottom. Just think, too of swimming about, on a cold November day with the rising steam deposited in frost upon the rocks, in water which is of a temperature perfectly luxurious. When I went in I had so severe a cold as to be unable to speak aloud and it cured me almost entirely. The water tastes slightly of sulphur, iron and lime."

Gen. Grant's Purposes. It is not usual, we believe, for a President elect to make any other than a formal response to the official notification that his election is complete; but Gen. Grant, having something to say, took this occasion to say it. A good many curious and some interested persons had begun to wonder why he did not announce the names of those he had determined to call into his Cabinet; so he improved this opportunity to state: 1. That he had made up his mind in the premises; 2. That he had not imparted his choice to any one; 3. That he fully purposed not to inform any one—not even the persons whom he fully intends to call around him as Cabinet Ministers—till within a day or two of his inauguration; 4. That he has a reason for this resolve, which we will set forth in his own words, viz: "After consideration, I have come to the conclusion that there is not a man in the country who could be invited to a place in the Cabinet without friends of some other gentleman making an effort to secure the position; not that there would be any objection to the party named, but that there would be dangers whom they had set their hearts upon having in the place. I can tell that from the great number of requests which come to me, in writing and otherwise, for this particular person or that one, from different sets and delegations. If announced in advance, efforts would be made to change my determination; and therefore I have come to the conclusion not to announce whom I am going to invite to seats in the Cabinet until I send in their names to the Senate for confirmation."

In other words: having made up his mind as to those whom he wants in his Cabinet, Gen. Grant does not propose to aid those who may wish to impose others upon him instead, by publishing the names of his chosen counselors, and thus inviting combinations of the disappointed and sore-headed to overbear his choice. This is frank, straightforward, business-like. If objections shall exist to any of Gen. Grant's nominees for Cabinet positions, let them be made and considered in the Senate, where they will be pertinent and in order. It is not the duty of the President-elect to give those objections and the objectors' fictions consequences and power through premature publicity.

We do not know how the impression became prevalent that it is the custom of our incoming Presidents to announce their Cabinets a month or so in advance of their own inauguration, but it is certainly an error. In two or three instances, it may have become generally known, that A. B. or C. would be invited to a seat in the Cabinet as it was known soon after Mr. Lincoln's election that Gov. Seward would be his Secretary of State; yet, even in that case, it was not till after Mr. L. was inaugurated and in full possession of the White House, that his selections for Cabinet Ministers were fully made known.

But the choice of persons to aid him in administering the Government holds a secondary place in the mind of the President-elect. His first thought is given to the principles and ends which are to be his guide and theirs. He commences his reply to the remarks of Senator Morton as follows: "I can promise the committee that it will be my endeavor to call around me as assistants, such men only as I think will carry out the principles which you have said the country desires to see successful—economy, retrenchment, faithful collection of the revenue, and payment of the Public Debt. If I should fail in my first choice, I shall not at any time hesitate to make a second, or even a third trial, with the concurrence of the Senate, who have the confirming power, and should just as soon remove one of my own appointees as the appointee of my predecessor. It would make no difference."

"Payment of the Public Debt," mind you!—not merely faithful and prompt liquidation of the accruing interest, but payment of the Debt itself. This is just what the people desire and the gold gamblers will defeat if possible: The Debt, which to the masses is a burden, is to the stock-jobbers a mine of wealth, as advantageous as his balancing-pole to the rope walker. We ought to pay of principal Fifty Millions per annum at the very least, and thence run up to One Hundred and Fifty Millions after a few years of peaceful progress, so as to wipe out the last vestige of the Debt within twenty years. Were it morally certain that this would be done, our bonds would rise rapidly to specie par and above it, and our Five-Tags might very soon be funded in a non-taxable four per cent, saving from Thirty to Forty Millions per annum that we are now paying in excessive rates of interest—rates that deprive the poor man of any opportunity to borrow save at excessive rates, because the capitalist can do better by investing in Government bonds. We must change this and save the Thirty or Forty Millions per annum to reduce the principal of our Debt; and this should take precedence of any further investments of the National Credit in Railroads; they are needed, and will yet be constructed; but let us first reestablish our National solvency and reduce the interest on our National Debt. Until these ends are secured, the Railroads must wait.

How He Said Granda.—A man being on a tramp to Canada says that a certain farm-house in the back woods, where he had occasion to stop, the following rich scene took place: The family were about to partake of their breakfast, and sat down for that purpose. The old man being a lover of squirrels, and that being the principal dish of the morning's repast, had his particular piece laid on the side of the dish next to him. The old man commenced saying grace as follows: "Oh, Lord, we thank thee for the blessing though has set before us; do thou guide and direct us through life"—here, raising his eyes, he perceived his son Gideon laying his hands on his choice piece of squirrel, and then in a hurried manner ended the grace—"deliver us from evil, for the Lord's sake amen," by golly, God, that's my piece hand it hegs."

The Income Tax.—In a case from California, where coin is the currency in common use, the Supreme Court of the United States has decided that a return of income in coin must be reduced to its value in currency, and the tax collected on that value. It was also decided that tax incomes is not contrary to the Constitution, and is therefore within the power of Congress to impose and exact.

New Advertisement.

A CARD To Wholesale Buyers.

Thanking our numerous friends who in the past so lavishly bestowed their favors upon us, and thereby placing us among the First of the Merchants of Charlotte.

Fair Dealing and Extraordinary Inducements.

MR. RINTELS, has already left for Northern markets (much earlier than usual) here, by his well known energy and good judgment, in the selection of goods suitable for this market, we hope to be able by the

25th of this Month

to present the first and largest stock of goods ever brought to this State by any house, which we respectfully invite our numerous customers and all others who wish to visit this market to purchase. Very Respectfully, W. L. MITCHELL & CO.

The Last Call!

All persons indebted to MITCHELL, MILLER & CO., or W. L. MITCHELL, will please call and pay one tenth, which the law allows me to collect, and save cost. W. L. MITCHELL. Feb. 27, 18.

A Card.

WISH to employ Agents to procure subscribers to Second Edition of "Prison Poets and Poets of the South," an active canvasser and average, for himself, from \$10 to \$15 per day. References required.

Proprietors of newspapers, by giving the two or three insertions, with a line or two of editorial, editing attention to the same, will be entitled to a copy of the work as soon as published. Address B. H. JONES, Lewinsburg, W. Va. Feb. 29, 18.

A NEW Southern Novel.

E. J. HALK & SONS, 16 Murray St., New York will publish in a few days, "Miser Place, A Tale of Southern Home Life," by a lady of Tennessee, a native of Alabama. 1 Vol. 12 Mo. Price \$1.50.

Orders solicited. Sent by mail, post paid, on receipt of the price. *A copy of the book will be sent to any Editor who will publish the above, together with this notice, and forward a marked copy of the paper to the Publishers. Feb. 29, 18.

BLANKS! BLANKS! BLANKS!!!

We have printed, and for sale, a splendid lot of Blanks for County officers—such as FOR SHERIFFS.—Appearance Bonds, Capias Bonds, Tax Receipts, Deeds, &c.

FOR CLERKS AND JUDGES OF PROBATE.—Summons, Capias Subpoenas, Administration and Guardian Bonds, Letters Testamentary, Guardianship and Administration Acknowledgment and Private Examination of Married Women, Justification of Bail, Executions, Ven. Ex's, &c.

FOR MAGISTRATES.—Summons, States Warrant, Executions, Subpoenas, &c. *Any Blanks not on hand will be printed on order. Texas, One Dollar per quire, sent post paid. Address CARPENTER & LOGAN.