

Newbern Weekly Times.

TUESDAY MORNING, SEPT. 4, 1866.

COMING EVENTS OFTEN CAST THEIR SHADOWS BEFORE.

Those who observe closely the tendencies of men and things, are apt to get a sufficient insight into the future to enable them to determine, with some degree of certainty, what will be the type and cast of coming events, at least in the political world, and we hardly think a forward, close thinker and examiner, who scans critically the varying shades and complicated movements of Northern sentiment on the political topics of the day, will fail to get a glimpse into the character of the next Congress.

Northern sentiment is being thoroughly sifted, weighed and measured, and ere the approaching elections, that sentiment will be thoroughly matured and prepared to meet the emergencies of the occasion, and extremists in both sections will be alike disappointed, by the election of Republicans who will maintain, intact, the Republican organization, and still meet, fully, the demands of the Northern people on this subject of reconstruction.

The New York Post is published by men who do not suffer themselves to become so blinded by party prejudice and passion as to lose sight of the throbbings of the great popular heart, and that paper indulges in the following language:

The Congressional Nominations. We hear from the West that the Republican Congressional Conventions are nominating, for the most part, candidates who favor the immediate admission to Congress of members from all the States, subject to the constitutional decision of each House. We hope that the Republican nominating conventions in this and other Eastern States will do the same.

At one time we thought of this but little importance, because we believed that the present Congress, as soon as it reassembled in December, would dismiss the Joint Committee on Reconstruction, and admit to their seats all claimants who could take the established oath. We have found reason to believe since then, however, that the vindictive obstinate men who have gained the control of the Republican majority in Congress are fully determined to carry out their designs at all hazards, and that they will refuse to admit the States. They have ruled so despotically in this Congress that they may have the influence to rule that body during the remainder of its existence; and therefore the question, whether or no the Southern States, lately in rebellion, shall be represented in Congress is forced upon the people.

On that question we believe the majority of the Northern people do not hold with Messrs. Stevens and Sumner. They are tired of a method of "reconstruction" which appears endless, and which after eight months has reconstructed nothing. They want something done, and they are conscious that Congress has not done, but only obstructed everything. They believe that Congress has supreme authority in the matter under the Constitution; and they would, we believe, have supported Congress, had it last December, as soon as it met, condemned the whole reconstruction acts of the President, and proceeded to a regular and constitutional reorganization of government in the Southern States—provided this had been speedy. But it is now too late.

But Congress chose to do nothing of the kind. As Governor Morton and other recognized Republican leaders declare, accepted the President's acts of reconstruction; it does not mean, as these gentlemen tell us, and as the action of Congress proves, to disturb what the President has done. It only means to do something more; and that something is so arranged that it virtually puts off the reconstruction, and condemns the present disorganized state of the country indefinitely.

Now, we shall not argue the right of Congress to do this; we only say that it is not good policy; that it injures the country; that it keeps open and inflames old wounds; that it perpetuates a mischievous strife; that it strengthens prejudices and hatreds on both sides; that it affords great opportunities for wicked and ambitious men to raise false issues in our politics; and finally, that it continues the country in what is actually a state of war and revolution, a condition in which whether the Executive observe the laws or not, whether it respects the Constitution or violates it is a matter to be decided by its good will and judgment alone.

There is no safety—nothing but the most terrible danger—to the country in such a state of things. Daily this danger increases. We are threatened now with the gravest misfortune that can happen to a country. Congress leaves us in a revolutionary state; how far off is anarchy? Political society is held together, this day, in America, by the mere good sense and forbearance of citizens; but how long will this endure? It is perilous or wise to strain everything in this way? Our only safety lies in the quickest possible return to strict constitutional forms. There may be risks in that, as some well meaning men assume, but the risks we are now running are infinitely greater. Under the Constitution, with all the parts of our complex government working with regularity, we may hope to gain all that is desirable by the safe course of argument and discussion. We cannot gain it in any other way securely. We cannot establish the Millennium by a military general order; we cannot put off upon the general government the work which citizens must do. We cannot achieve in Mississippi, by bayonet, a reform of public opinion which was effected in Massachusetts, and New York and Ohio, only by long, patient and persistent argument.

We have the right of free discussion—let it be used. The men who, with Congress, propose to keep the States out, and thus keep the country in disorder, decline to use or exercise this right. They assert that it would be dangerous—and thus they try to make it dangerous, perhaps. And that is the only way to reform the Southern States—by through, persistent, continued, irrepressible, discussion. Every Southern State should be "stamped" this fall and winter by the ablest Republican speakers and lecturers; a grand National Mass Convention of Republicans should be held in a Southern city as soon as possible; leading Southern men should be called to speak in the North, while leading Northern men speak all over the South.

So long as the Republican party refuses to be organized as a sectional party. So long as it depends on Congress, or on the military arm, and not on the force of argument, so long will it go towards ruin. The people of this country want things done; they wanted the war "put through,"—to use a popular phrase; and they quietly brushed away McClellan and Buell, and all the other mere obstructionists who, whatever their merits, had

not the one merit of getting ahead. So they want constitutional government restored, they want to see the country safely back under the old safeguards and forms, with all the machinery working; and they will brush aside all mere obstructionists. They do not care whether a scheme of reconstruction is ingenious or the reverse—what they demand is something that will work, and work at once. McClellan's plans were correct and full of science no doubt, but they did not beat the enemy, therefore he was displaced. Grant's plans, West Pointers used to tell us, had very little merit—but Grant did the work—and he is rightfully General.

We hope the Republicans everywhere will put in nomination good men, lovers of lawful liberty; and we hope that for Congress they will nominate only men who see the importance, first of all, of admitting all the States to representation, and thus bringing the country back under the safeguards of the Constitution; and rescuing it from its present revolutionary condition.

We have invariably contended that certain politicians in this State are so warped by party and sectional prejudice that they cannot see treason or treachery in any except those who are guilty of infidelity to the Confederacy, and the Raleigh Sentinel corroborates our statements. That paper, in speaking of the approaching Convention to assemble at Independence Hall, in Philadelphia, on the 3rd of September, calls it "the traitors' Convention." Traitors to what? Why, to the Confederacy, of course. Then according to the Sentinel, it is disgraceful to be a traitor to the Confederacy which according to its present theory, never was a government, but an illegal, unauthorized mob, in rebellion against the United States. We say, "according to its own theory," for it endorses ANDY JOHNSON'S theory, and certainly that is his theory. The President says that the States were never out of the Union, but that those who fought against the United States Governments were traitors and guilty of treason—this is the foundation stone of the President's reconstruction policy—and yet the Sentinel says he endorses the President's policy, out and out. Then how does the Sentinel make it out that those men who stood firm to the United States Government throughout the fight are traitors, and now deserve the odium of the people. How will the Sentinel explain this? Does not that paper see that it is either a hypocrite or a slanderer? If these men who are to meet in Philadelphia are traitors, then the President is a traitor too. The Sentinel should be more cautious how it speaks, and constantly bear in mind that it never can restore this country to peace and quiet by the indulgence of such vituperation.

THE NEW ORLEANS RIOT. We surrender a large portion of our space to-day, to the official dispatches which passed between the authorities at Washington and New Orleans, during the late riot at the latter place. Nearly every paper in the country, has first or last, indulged in extensive comments upon this unfortunate affair, and many of them very foolishly, as we have thought; but we have refrained, and shall continue to refrain. We have waited patiently for the official proceedings in the case, and having received them in full, we hasten to give them to the public, and beg that they will make their own comments.

Question and Answer. To the Editors of the Evening Post: The Evening Post continues to press upon the Republican party the importance of holding a convention in the South; and of sending Republican speakers through the South. Does not the Evening Post know that the life of every such "invader" would probably be sacrificed? Boston, August 21, 1866.

The Evening Post knows nothing of the kind. We are amazed to find that so sensible a person as our correspondent believes any such nonsense. We urge that the Republican party shall hold as soon as possible a national convention in some Southern city. Does our correspondent believe that such a convention would be molested or unlawfully interfered with? We urge that a Republican party shall be organized in every Southern State, and that the best speakers from the North should be sent down to help lay the Republican doctrine before the Southern people. Does our correspondent pretend to believe such men would "probably be sacrificed." So long as the Republican party of the North gives the cold shoulder to Southern loyalists, it is probable they will be treated with bitterness and contempt by ex-rebels, who now taunt them with the desertion of their Republican friends.—New York Post.

The Post is right in saying that discussion should be free, and we believe with it, that free discussion is the only way to break down the sectional prejudices of our country. We believe in free discussion and our uniform course has been to publish the arguments of both sides and what is the result? We have been denounced as a Radical for so doing from one end of the State to the other by such papers as the Raleigh Sentinel; and should Republican speakers come down among us to address the people, the masses would not have independence enough to go to hear them for fear of being denounced in the same way by these same time servers. Their audiences would be very small—this is our opinion.

THE CHICAGO EXCURSION.

The President left the Capital yesterday, accompanied by the General of the United States Army, the Admiral of the Navy, several members of his Cabinet and their families and other distinguished personages, to be present at the laying of the corner stone of the Douglas monument at Chicago, in his native State. Great preparations are making at New York city and other points along the route for grand ovations and splendid displays.

This movement has more of politics in it than recreation to the President and his distinguished attendants. Happening, as it does, just upon the eve of the elections, the occasion will be seized upon, by politicians and wire pullers, to draw out a full elucidation of the faith and creed of the great American Chief and his satellites.

Grand receptions and pompous ovations are almost exclusively relied upon these days to give cast and direction to public sentiment, and this occasion will be turned to good account. Every cross road politician between Washington city and the great commercial mart of the West, will try to get a glimpse of the President and hear a word from his lips, that they may have something out of which to manufacture capital for self and "the party."

By the way, it is a good time for all hands to keep a sharp lookout, for the "President's policy" will be fully elaborated during the voyage, and if any are in doubt as to what it is touching, any given point of political doctrine, they may be fully enlightened by keeping an eye to the papers. The President will be called out at all the prominent points, and he will have to make speeches, and it must be borne in mind that GOVERNOR and other telegraphers and reporters accompany the party. Then, if the wavering and doubting want light all they have to do is to read the papers.

We suppose of course, the Cleveland Soldier and Sailor Convention will be taken in the programme, and the scene at that city, will be very different from what it was when we visited it in the spring of last year. Then the city was draped in mourning from one end to the other, and hundreds of thousands of people wept over the mortal remains of ABRAHAM LINCOLN, as his lifeless body was born slowly along to its last resting place. Then the people mourned over a dead Chieftain; now they will rejoice over the full bust of a live President, and gaily and hilarity will be the order of the day.

We are getting impatient with Presidents and big men generally. Why don't they come down South some times? Always, when they are going to get on a bust and have a great excursion and big time generally, they go out North, East or West, and we little folks down South never get to see them. BUCHANAN did condescend to come to North Carolina once during his term, but he lost all his greatness afterwards, and we do not now feel the effects of the distinction thus conferred upon us. Why don't some of our great men die so that we could have a monument-raising and get up a great reception for our distinguished rulers? Truly, America is great and Americans are great people.

F. F. V. PLAYING OUT.

We clip the following from the Norfolk Day Book, and would invite the special attention of our readers to it. The time has nearly passed when blood alone can set a man forward in society—merit and money will be the test of worth—and he who is without them will have to take a lower seat here, as well as in Virginia:

The Mechanic Arts. Our people here in Norfolk do not seem to realize the change in their social condition. In nothing is this more plainly seen than in the fact that so very few of the youth have embraced mechanical pursuits. The time was when these occupations were not looked down upon in Virginia, and we could point out many families in this city of the very highest social standing, whose fathers were mechanics, and yet of the same enviable position as their descendants.

We will not attempt in this place to account for the very absurd prejudice which now exists against employing our hands for the purpose for which they were made. Suffice it to say, that foolish as it is, it is of very modern growth, and unknown to our forefathers; we trust that it will be equally unknown to our descendants. Our people do not reflect that such a convolution has occurred that it has revolutionized everything, not only political, but social also. The leaders of our cities will, in future times, be not exclusively our professional men, but our manufacturers and mechanics. In all communities, hereafter, money will be the supreme ruler, and the best chance for making money will be excellence in the mechanic arts.

Let parents think of the social position of their sons when they shall be required to perform their parts on the great stage of human life, and qualify them for it, by having them taught trades. Think it not debasing to your pretty boy to see him in a red flannel shirt, with his face all begrimed with smut. It is the sign that he will, in after days, keep up the social standing of his forefathers, for by slinging vigorously his sledge

hammer, or driving his saw, he will make money; but if he does not get money in some honest way, he must sink in the social scale. Ten years from this time such will have been the change, that family connections and aristocratic blood will go but a very small way towards keeping a man's head above water; these corals will be torn from the young swimmer, and, in most instances, if he has not strong arms he must sink.

We say nothing against the professions, as they are called. If a lad has decided, natural bent for law or medicine, let him pursue it by all means. All we mean to assert is, as but very few succeed in these lines of life, and as the majority of those who try the various branches of merchandises find them precarious, we should devote our children to those pursuits in life which are the most certain in their results, which give the most remuneration to exertion and natural talent, and which are sure, in the times to come, to confer high social position and influence on all who excel in them.

What should be our demeanor towards our recent enemies? This question arises over the length and breadth of the land; but perhaps at no place nor time with great interest and importance than at the present moment, and in the city of Newbern.

This is evident to the most stupid. The wayfaring man, tho' a fool, can see that harmony and co-operation are absolutely necessary to enable us to recover from our losses by the war; and it is no difficult matter to foresee that unless such a course is pursued by our leading citizens, as will bring about this co-operation, there is but little hope of soon regaining our former peace and prosperity.

We do not now propose to treat of this subject in the manner laid down by the golden rule. A great deal may be said in that view of it; but we are free to say, we suspect the practical and politic side of the question will have most weight with a majority of those we wish to address. What then is the best policy to observe in our intercourse with our recent enemies? Our yankee contemporaries would answer the question by asking another. They would ask what was most essential to our rapid recovery from the ruin and loss of the war? And when we had answered that capital, energy, and increase of population were the requisites, they would tell us to foster that class of people which to the greatest extent combines these essentials.

True this is "Yankee" advice—but is it not perfectly true, and the most politic course we can adopt?

Let us strip the question of all personal and revengeful feelings. Let us realize that the war is over, and that the situation of our affairs, both socially, politically, and in every other way have been changed. The entire system of our life and labor has been altered. We are now compelled per force to relinquish the idea of continuing a great agricultural people, and must henceforth develop our mineral, commercial and manufacturing resources as means of support. We can no longer gaze at labor from a far off, for it has taken the wings of the morning or some other conveyance, and departed in the immediate rear of SHERMAN'S army.

We are now compelled to go to work ourselves. But the white man cannot work in the cotton-field—says one. He must then depend upon hired labor, and his hands must be paid.

We are aware that some old fogey will ask, where is the money to come from to pay for this hired labor, and this is the very question most wanted to answer. Let the land-holders in these Southern States, and particularly in this portion of North Carolina, but sell off their surplus lands at a fair price, and the country will at once be flooded with greenbacks in sufficient quantities for this, as well as all other needful purposes. Harmony and concert should be the watch-words of all who expect to rise and prosper in the future.

These thoughts were suggested by reading the following extract from the pen of Gen. D. H. HILL, in his "The Land we Love":

We have been asked by a lady friend how we ought to treat "our late enemies." As her letter is without a signature, we suspect that there may be some tenderness in the inquiry, and will therefore deal tenderly with the subject. It is a safe rule to recognize the gentleman and man of honor wherever found, of whatever creed, sect, or nation. We cannot understand how men, who have fought each other squarely and bravely, can continue to hate each other after hostilities have ceased.

THE RURAL GENTLEMEN.

The second number of this handsome periodical is on our table, filled with a great variety of rich, instructive and pleasing lessons of real country life and agricultural happiness and prosperity. ONE DOLLAR sent to J. B. ROBINSON & Co., No. 2, North Eutaw street, Baltimore, will insure a copy of this valuable work for one year, and no farmer should be without it. Then why not send and get it?

THE SOLDIERS CONVENTION.

Whatever may be said of the address and principles set forth by the Philadelphia Convention, it is now settled, beyond controversy, that the general tendency of the influence exerted by that body was for good rather than evil. Already has it done much to soften the asperities and enmity engendered by the recent civil war, and the indications are that the principles and platform enunciated by it, will give more general satisfaction, and be more unanimously adopted by the good and pure men of the country than any document which has emanated from a political body since the revolution.

One of the earliest fruits of this convocation, and perhaps an offspring which will prove greater in importance and interest than its progenitor, is the Soldiers Convention which is to be held in Cleveland on the 17th of September.

Our dispatches of yesterday give a very promising aspect to this projected assemblage. A large number of Federal officers, from all quarters of the North, have already subscribed to the call, and hundreds of others are daily joining in the movement. Among these we note many names of the most brilliant record during the war, and it is no mere conjecture to say that Gen. GRANT will head the list himself.

We shall then, in all probability, have something like a party organization in support of the President. These plain, straight-forward soldiers have learned obedience to the constitution and the laws of the land, by hard knocks in the field. They recognize the duty of yielding what is due to the constituted authorities and the Executive, into whose guidance the affairs of the country have been placed; and in the future, as in the past, they will prove their devotion to principle, truth and right with an unanimity which will lift the National Union Party as far above the cess pool of demagogical "Copperheadism" as Heaven is separated from the gulf of iniquity.

The ostensible object of this Convention is to indorse the President and his policy. But we shrewdly suspect a platform of principles will be set forth which will leave the President far behind in the work of restoration. It will differ from the Philadelphia Convention and the Presidential policy in this particular, that it will be a more certain index of popular sentiment North than either of them. The one might be the creature of personal or partisan feelings, and the other the creation of circumstance and party. But the soldiers in council will do more to convince the South and the country at large of the true state of sentiment in the North than all the addresses and speeches that can be made between this and the next Presidential election.

We shall await the assembling of this Convention with great interest.

The following table shows the date of the arrival of the first bale of cotton in each of the twenty years named:

Table with 2 columns: Year and Date. 1842... Aug. 14, 1843... Aug. 14, 1844... Aug. 22, 1845... July 1, 1846... July 5, 1847... Aug. 18, 1848... Aug. 19, 1849... Aug. 7, 1850... Aug. 16, 1851... Aug. 11, 1852... Aug. 7, 1853... Aug. 19, 1854... Aug. 7, 1855... Aug. 7, 1856... Aug. 9, 1857... Aug. 9, 1858... Aug. 22, 1859... Aug. 4, 1860... Aug. 11, 1861... July 22.

The average date, it will be found, is August 9. The first bale this year arrived on the 13th.

Hon. E. Barksdale's plantations are in Rankin county, Miss., where he has about four hundred acres in cotton, and all very promising. His laboring force consists almost exclusively of his former slaves, whose freedom he recognizes to the full extent established by the fortunes of war, and "the statutes in such cases made and provided." They are all working as faithfully as formerly; but if there is any extra diligence and industry displayed it is on the part of those whose compensation is to be a certain portion of the crop. Mr. Barksdale intends adopting this system exclusively in his planting operations next year.—Commonwealth.

DISCOURAGING.—The editor of the Old North State has just returned to his post, after an absence of some days. He says:

"In traveling through the whole length of Davidson county we did not see a single field which will yield a half crop of corn the coming fall—they are literally burned up by the drought. And many other counties, we learn, are suffering quite as badly. The wheat crop, upon being threshed has turned out much worse than we expected—less than a half crop being realized. Really it looks as if we were on the eve of a famine. We can see no relief ahead of us for the people of this section of the State for the next year, but rather a constant increase of the present hard times.

APPOINTMENTS for the Newbern district in part. Kinston circuit—Cypress creek, Sept. 1 and 2. Snow Hill circuit—Auman's chapel, 8th and 9th Sept. Trent circuit—15th and 16th Sept. JAMES ERED, P. E.