The Weekly Carolina Era,

MARCUS ERWIN, Editor.

Office, in the "Standard" building, East side of Fayetteville Street.

RALEIGH, JULY 13th, 1871.

"NO CONVENTION."

WAKE COUNTY TICKET:
HON. SAMUEL F. PHILLIPS,
WILLIE D. JONES, Esq.
R. S. PERRY, Esq.
JAMES H. HARRIS, Esq.

KEEP IT BEFORE THE PEOPLE.

CONVENTION ELECTION THE FIRST THURSDAY IN AUGUST.

Be sure to vote "No Convention," and also to vote for the candidates that oppose this Revolutionary, injudicious and expensive attempt to bring trouble upon our people, and to sacrifice their Homesteads for the sole purpose of controlling and administering the few offices now held by Republicans in this State.

SENATOR POOL'S ADDRESS.

We publish to-day an address to the people of North Carolina from Hon. John Pool. We have only space to call the attention of our readers to this able address.

GET YOUR TICKETS READY.

Be sure and send in the names of your candidates in every county in the State, that tickets may be circulated in time. Send in orders. "No Convention" Tickets furnished at 50 cents per 1,000 candidates tickets $1 per thousand.

VOTE IN YOUR TOWNSHIPS.

Remember the last Legislature passed an act intended to cheat the poor negro out of his vote, requiring every one to vote in his township. So be sure to be in the township where you have resided ninety days prior to the 3rd August next. Register, and vote "No Convention."

CONSERVATIVES AND THE STATE DEBT.

Conservatives in the Legislature pretend that they want a Convention to enable them to reduce the State debt. They say that the present Constitution providing for its payment weighs heavily on their *consciences*.

Now, it so happens, that the Constitution of the United States imposes the same "constitutional difficulty," and forbids them passing any law "impairing the obligation of contracts." How do they propose to get over *that?*

The truth is, this is all pretence. They don't want a Convention for any such thing. They want it for purposes of *Revolution*. They use the State debt, as a *pretext*. Let a Convention be called, and the people will soon see for what purposes it is to be used. Remember, "*peaceable secession*."

THEY BACK DOWN—AFRAID OF THE PEOPLE.

The Revolutionary Convention candidates of this county have backed completely down. They refuse to meet the No Convention candidates on the stump. What do the people think of such conduct as this? We tell the people that the Conservative leaders and the Conservative candidates are *afraid* of a full discussion before the people without regard to party. They know that they have *all* to *lose* and nothing to gain by a joint canvass with the No Convention candidates. Their object is Revolution, War, Bloodshed, and they know if the Convention is fairly discussed in a joint canvass, that the Convention will be voted down by a large majority. They should be made to back down in every county as they have done in Wake county.

VOTE AT THE RIGHT PLACE.

Let the people remember that the last Conservative Legislature passed a law which prohibits any one from voting anywhere in the county except in his own Township, and he must be registered in his Township before he can vote there. He must vote for or against a Convention on a separate ticket, and he must also vote for the candidate or candidates of his choice on a separate ticket. The poll holders must prepare distinct boxes for the different tickets. All the votes for or against Convention are to be put in the same box; all the votes for the candidates must be put in another box. Be sure to see that your tickets are put in the right boxes. No doubt attempts will be made to deceive you. If you cannot read yourself, take some friend with you to the polls who can read, and who will see that you are not cheated out of your vote by its being put in the wrong box.

RESIST.

The *Sentinel*, of the 18th inst., in an article headed "State Sovreignty," hints at the propriety of Speakers Warren and Jarvis disregarding the injunction placed upon them by Judge Bond, of the United States Circuit Court. It is understood that the editor of the *Sentinel* is one of the appointees of Messrs. Warren and Jarvis, and that the injunction has been served upon him as well as upon them. Will *he do* what he advises *them* to do? Will he disregard the injunction on the ground that Judge Bond has no jurisdiction over the matter? Will he resist "this radical trick to cheat and swindle the State out of its property?" Surely *he* is not afraid to do what he advises *others* to do! We await his action in the matter with anxiety and much solicitude, predicting, however, that he will yield as meekly as an innocent lamb.

THE CONVENTION QUESTION—A CANDID VIEW FOR PLAIN PEOPLE.

The plainest mind can understand that where there is a Constitution and Government whether good or bad, there are but two ways to change or abolish them, one way is to pursue the plan pointed out in the Constitution itself, if there be a way pointed out, and the other way is, Revolution.

Is there a Government here?

Yes.

Is there a Constitution?

Yes.

Does the Constitution point out the way in which it may be changed?

Yes.

Is it proposed to pursue that way?

No.

It follows that the way proposed is Revolutionary.

It is precisely the same trouble we had in 1860. We had a Government and Constitution, and the Constitution contained the plan by which it might be changed. Some said it was a bad Government. Some of the Southern statesmen said they had a right lawfully and peacefully to change the Government otherwise than as pointed out in the Constitution; others admitted they had the right, but insisted that it was only a Revolutionary right. The attempt was made, a war followed, and we know now, to our sorrow, which was right. Are the plain people of the State, who have to bear burdens when burdens come, prepared for another Revolution? We do not ask whether the politicians are—of course they are, but are the people prepared? It is to be peaceful we are told, all to be done by the people themselves at the ballot box! Just so it was in 1860. The politicians would not do the deed until by political trickery, they made the people authorize them to do it. They submitted it to the people to call a Convention and the people voted it down, and in two months they submitted it again, and they stormed the people into it by a very small vote, and the Convention met and the deed was done. So it is to be again; the people are to be made the cats-paw for the politicians. They are to be pursuaded, threatened, abused, deceived, and when they have been used, and the trouble comes, then they are to be put in the front. Now as in 1860, every thing is to be done peaceably! There will not be blood enough to stain a pocket-handkerchief! And there are those who will believe all this, although they know that there never has been a bloodless Revolution in the world.

Let us reduce the question to something practical. Let us suppose the Convention is called and meets to-morrow: abolishes all the offices, turns out the officers and elects new ones. What comes next? If the Convention is a lawful body, of course every officer goes out, and there is the end. But if it be an unlawful body, then no officer can go out, even if he desire to do so. Every officer who has taken an oath would violate his oath, and every officer, down to Clerks and Sheriffs who has given a bond, would forfeit his bond. What will the Governor do? He has already declared that the Convention will be an unlawful body. What will the Judges do? They have declared the same. If the Treasurer of the State turn over the funds to another, his bond will be forfeited, and so with every Sheriff, Clerk, Constable, &c.

If these questions can be settled by the Courts, what a harvest for the lawyers! But is it proposed to settle them by the Courts? The Judges have already declared the Convention unlawful. What is the use of the expense? But they do not mean to settle it by the Courts. They mean force. In the last Presidential campaign they declared the present State Government unlawful, and if necessary, to be broken up at the point of the bayonet. The Presidential election comes on next year again. It is their platform still. President Davis has taken the stump, and declared that "nothing has been settled by the war." Vice President Stephens has become Editor, and declared that what has been done is void. And every where the Government is denounced and hated.

There are three departments of our Government. (1) The Legislative. The Legislature called the Convention by a majority vote and therefore we have the judgement of a majority of the Legislature that the Convention will be constitutional. But then we have their judgement that it will be unconstitutional; for, they first tried to pass a bill which declared upon its face that a two-thirds vote was necessary. Failing in that they passed the present bill by only a majority. Make the most of it then, and the Legislature is divided. (2) The Executive Department. The Governor has declared it unconstitutional, and refused to execute it. (3) The Judiciary. The Judges of the Supreme Court have declared it unconstitutional. How stands the case then? One of the Departments doubtful and divided, and the other two Departments unanimous in the opinion that the Convention will be an unlawful and Revolutionary body. There has been one case like it in the State of Rhode Island. The United States Government interfered and settled the dispute in favor of the old Government. Is it possible that the people are prepared to be led into a measure so plainly Revolutionary? Supposing the Constitution to be bad, there would be some excuse for this Revolutionary mode of changing it, if there was no other way. But there is another, better than this, besides the way of calling a Convention by a two-thirds vote. The Legislature can propose a change in any particular, and submit the change to a vote of the people. If, for instance, they want to abolish the Supreme Court or alter tax matters, the Legislature can pass a bill to that effect, and submit it to a vote of the people. Indeed, there are so many ways, and it is so easy to do right, that it is very suspicious when they propose to do wrong. It means something.

Why want to get a Convention of politicans together in these dangerous times without telling the people beforehand what they are going to do instead of passing a bill making the necessary changes and submitting them to the people? There are dangers ahead, and we will proceed to point out some of them.

It is insisted that a Convention ought to be called, because the Constitution inflicts upon the people burdens which they cannot bear. And here is where they deceive the people. We admit that the people are burdened. The people feel that, and we feel it. But is it owing to the Constitution—that is the question? The Constitution was adopted in 1868. Were there no burdens in 1867, 1866, and 1865? Answer us, were there no burdens then? What caused them? So in 1864, 1863, and 1862. Were there no burdens then? What caused them? politicians, politicians, politicians caused them! Do you not remember how between their dainty fingers, they dangled their snow-white handkerchiefs at you in 1860, with which they would wipe up your blood if spilt.

Truly a child's hippin would have staunched the blood which many of them shed, but how was it with the people's blood? And believe me the politicans are as deceitful, and as designing now as then. They know that you have burdens, and they know that they brought them upon you, and they seek to divert your displeasure from them to the Constitution which you have framed. Let us examine a few of the burdens and see whence they came and whether a Convention can relieve you.

1. Taxes are heavy.

Yes, they are heavy and they will continue to be heavy under any party, and the more Convention and Legislatures we have, the heavier they will be. What makes the taxes heavy? Why, before the war we had a large fund invested for common schools, and the interest supported the schools. So the State had large stock in the Banks, and the dividends supported the Institutions. All these were lost by the war, and now, the Schools and the Asylums, and the whole Government has to be supported by direct taxes.

In addition to that, one half our population were governed upon the plantations; now all go into the Courts. Again, our public debt was large before the war, the interest increased during the war, and it has been increased since the war. To meet all this we are very poor, made so, not by the Constitution, but by the war. How can a Convention help us? Can it restore the lost school fund, or the bank stock, or pay the public debt? No. Will it repudiate the debt? If that is what is desired, the Legislature can repudiate it just as well. Can it compromise the debt? So can the Legislature. Just here they seek to deceive the people with a scarecrow. They say the Constitution commands the Legislature to lay a tax promptly and yearly to pay the interest on the public debt, and that every member who fails to vote for it, is foresworn! Well it has been three years, and we have had two Legislatures, and not a dollar of tax has been laid yet. If their consciences held out so long, it may be that they can hold out a little longer. We would not speak lightly of such a subject, if it were not a pretense of theirs.

A mother gave her child some plums, and after it had eaten them, it ran to its mother and said, now mother I've eaten the plums, and if you don't give me a sixpence, I'll swallow the stones. These politicians are as cunning as the child, and their pretense is just as shallow. If you do not give them a Convention, they will tax you to death, say they. Well, let them try it. The truth is that the Constitution imposes upon the Legislature no duty in regard to the public debt which would not be, if the Constitution had not mentioned the debt. So far from the Constitution imposing heavy taxes, it does what no Constitution has done before.

It forbids the Legislature to lay a tax more than two dollars on three hundred dollars' worth of property, except for special purposes.

(II.) Another objection to the Constitution is the judicial system.

Give us back the old system, say they. Yes, the child cries for the bird in the air, and will get it before you get the old things back again.

They want the old County Courts, and all that, and don't want negro commissioners and negro jurors, &c. And would there not be negro magistrates on the bench, and negro jurors, all the same? We have an entirely different population in the Courts from what we used to have; and is it not indispensable to have a Judge on the bench to hold the Courts? But then we have more Judges and worse ones than formerly, say they! We have fewer now than most of the States, and we have more people and more suits than formerly. As to bad Judges, no government and no times have been free from them. We have twelve Circuit Judges. Six of them go out of office next year, and the other six, four years hence, or six years, as some say. It may be conceded that some of them are objectionable; one was decidedly so, and has resigned, and another put in his place who gives great satisfaction. Much objection is made to another, because he is what is called a carpet-bagger. His four years will be out next year. And so there may be faults with others; but many of them are excellent Judges, and some of them are old Judges, and elected by both parties. And this further is to be said: that they were elected soon after the war, when many of our best men were disqualified from holding offices; and certainly the Constitution did not make them good nor bad; nor did the fact that they were elected by the people. Some of the worst Judges that ever sat in this State were under the old system. We do not mention it to the discredit of the Governor or the Judge, for it was probably the best that could be done under the circumstances, but it is true that Governor Worth appointed a man Judge who had not been in the State a year, who came here in the United States army, and had just got his license. He made another appointment whose bad habits *on the bench* compelled him to leave his circuit and another Judge had to go and take his place. The conduct of another Judge on the bench during the war, was too marked to have been forgotten, and longer back another was charged, we hope unjustly, of a crime at which human nature revolts. The Supreme Court Judges, too have been ruthlessly assailed. Yet two of them were of the old Court, and are as good now as then, and were elected by both parties. The others have all filled high positions in their professions and in the public counsels, in former times. There never has been a time when the Supreme Court bench was filled by abler lawyers and better men. Slanders have been heaped upon them it is true, but what Judge has ever been free from them. Ruffin, Gaston, and Daniel are held up as the models with which the present judes are to be compared; and yet those Judges were charged with judicial murder in the case of Madison Johnson, by him who justly stood at the head of the bar, on account of their supposed prejudices against him. But in those better times, that was set down, not to the corruption of the Judges, for they were not corrupt, nor yet to the malignity of the lawyer, for he was not malignant, but to the incautious zeal of the advocate. In those days, if Judges were assailed unjustly, they found a shield in every man's heart who loved the honor of the State, and even their frailties were shaded, and spoken of in whispers, and the bar stood around them as their aid and friend. But the present Judges have presided in the greatest trials through which the Government has ever passed, and grappled with the gravest questions of State. They needed, and were entitled to, the aid of the bar, and support of the press; but both have been hostile. Yet the Court has stood like a stone-wall, and the billows have broken against it. And so it will stand; and so its decisions will stand, as the ablest and wisest to be found in the reports.

But suppose it is true that there are objections to the Constitution, who knows that a Convention will make it better? It is easy enough for a man to sit down at home and think of something he would like to have amended, but, silly man: the amendment he wants may never be thought of, and one that he does not want may be made. Who can tell the "rings" that may be formed. All the Swepson's and Littlefield's are not dead yet. Who can tell, for instance, what combinations and "rings" may be formed by capitalists and lawyers against the Homestead? The lawyers are the most influential class in any public body, and capitalists next. Every body knows that these classes will break up the present Homestead law as soon as they can. Men will go for their interests. There are millions of old debts against principals and sureties, now hanging over the Homesteads. Every capitalist and lawyer is interested in breaking up the Homestead. The capitalist to make his money, and the lawyer to make fees. Yet there is not one of them now, that will tell you that he is opposed to the Homestead. They will tell you they are in favor of it. But do you believe them? A capitalist in favor of a measure that keeps him out of his debt! A lawyer in favor of a measure that is starving him to death! No; they will break it up if they can, and you who have your little homes may tell your wives and children so. How long have these capitalists and lawyers been in favor of the Homestead? Judge Reade, in an opinion delivered upon the stay law, six months before the Homestead decision was made, intimated that the Court would sustain the Homestead law, and such a howl was never raised before against any action of the Court. The bar, the press, and the capitalists all united to denounce the Court as corrupt, and to ridicule the opinion, and to deter the Court from making the decision. But the time come, and the Court with a firmness which did it honor, and with ability and learning, which has never been answered, did sustain the Homestead.

What has changed the lawyers, the capitalists and the press since then? What is the matter? They are not changed. They were vanquished by the decision of the Court, and they have drawn off their forces in ambush. They sally forth whenever they can do mischief. They have already got the U. S. Court in North Carolina to overule the Homestead, and some of the capitalists have pretended to go and settle in other States in order to bring suit in the U. S. Court. They only feign to be dead, as a viper may, to get a chance to strike. Do not be deceived when they tell you they are in favor of the Homestead. They do not mean our Homestead for *old* debts as well as new, but only for *new* debts. There is no need to alter the Constitution to destroy the Homestead. Change the Supreme Court, that will do it. You will have the present Judges put off and better ones put on! But are you sure you will get the better ones? Who will they be? B. F. Moore, is set down as the "father of the bar," and they have used him so much that he must be put upon the bench, and then she will wear her dimpled smile. Judge Manly was beaten by the Legislature, and by the popular vote 20,000 majority, and he must be reinstated; and then vigor and strength will have their repose! And Mr. Merrimon was also defeated by the popular vote, and he must have a place, and then brass will sit in the seat of gold, and pretension wear the robe of wisdom. A change for the better, say you?

Who are they that want a Convention? One-third of our population are colored—they do not want it. Another third are plain, small farmers and laboring men—they do not want it. All they want is to be let alone, and to have peace. Another portion were the wealthier classes, who lost all and are desperate, and they want—they do not know what they want; they don't want to work, that is certain, and many of them want a Convention, or anything else that will make a change. A large class are politicians, out of office. Tthey would have some change!—"Any body, Lord! any body!"

We earnestly warn the people to look around them. "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty."

Put the politicians down, and then if there are defects in your government, take time, and take the proper means to correct them. Every change is not for the best.

WHAT THE PEOPLE SAY.

A friend writing us from Cumberland says:

"I have been out in the county convassing. I am delighted at the prospect. At present, I claim Cumberland by 300 against Convention."

Another from Robeson says:

"We are very sanguine of success in this county. Your paper is a tower of strength. Mr. Phillips' address contains the "seeds of things." Even the most common-place intellect, if saturated with its able principles and teachings, cannot help being eloquent against a Convention."

Another writing from Warren says:

"I send you nine subscribers to the *Era*. I will not retain these to secure a larger list, but forward them at once. Even one man should not be without your paper one day."

From Wayne a gallant Unionist and old line Democrat writes:

"We are well pleased with the *Era*. The Republicans here are a unit against Convention, and many old line Democrats will vote against Convention. I am no Republican, but I cannot go with my Conservative friends in favor of this unconstitutional measure."

A correspondent writing us from Johnston county tells how twenty-four "soreheads" met in Smithfield on the 1st inst., to take into consideration the most feasible way whereby they might abolish all law and order. The two dozen were addressed by Col. Claude B. Saunders, (a lawyer,) who probably spilt more blood, &c., during the late war, than any other man in the State, except Lt. Col. J. Madison Leach, of the 21st volunteers.

Mr. B. R. Hinnant replied to Saunders' ravings in a manner which he will long remember. Our correspondent closes as follows:

"The people of Johnston are honest, plain, working people. They don't want any more Conventions. They are satisfied with the present Constitution, which allows them a homestead. They are afraid of this new-fangled scheme concocted by lawyers and lawyers alone. They wish to retain what little has been left them by the war brought on by such men as C. B. Saunders."

A correspondent from Rocky Mount, under date of July 5th, 1871, writes as follows:

"An enthusiastic meeting of the people from Nash, Edgecombe and Wilson counties, was held at Sharp's Store, in Nash county, on the 4th inst.

"The meeting was addressed by J. J. Sharp, the anti-Convention candidate in Nash county, in opposition to Convention. G. W. Stanton, of Wilson county, and David Williams, of Nash county, and others, made telling speeches against calling a Convention under the present mode."

A friend writing from South Mills, Camden county, July 3d, 1871, says:

"I have been an old line Whig all my life, and have voted with the Conservative party ever since the war. I am still an old line Whig, and for that reason, I shall oppose Convention with all my strength and influence. When you hear from old Camden after the first Thursday in August next, you will find that she has gone no Convention by at *least* one hundred majority. We cannot and will not support the *new Revolution* of the Conservative party."

VICTORY CERTAIN.

We have reliable information from every quarter of the State, and the news is most glorious. We confidently believe that the majority against Convention will exceed 20,000. The Republicans throughout the State, with the exception of a few unfledged disciples, who are under calico influence, are a unit against Convention, while thousands of honest old Democrats are manfully co-operating with them to save the country from the horrors of another conflict with the United States government.

Friends of constitutional liberty buckle on your armor and march to the polls on the 3d of August and vote "No Convention." If you do not, you may again be forced to shoulder your muskets and march into the tented field to fight through another war waged for the benefit of office-seekers. Choose you this day which you will do.

Hon. O. H. Dockery is doing yeoman service against Convention in the Cape Fear country. Gen. Alfred Dockery is a candidate against Convention in Richmond county. The Third Congressional District will go largely against Convention.

THE NEXT PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN.

There never has been a doubt in the Republican party, that General Grant would be its leader in the next Presidential campaign. If his eminent services to the country did not constitute a sufficient reason for this, the hatred and fear with which he is regarded by the party of Revolution and disorder, would. The Democratic papers however, conspicuous among which is the New York *World*, have been flattering themselves that some men might be found who could distract at least a portion of the Republicans from their great chieftain. But the *World*, in a note worthy article of 3d July, headed "The Key of the Battlefield," admits that he will be re-nominated without rivalry or opposition. If this were all, it would be a very small matter. But the same article concedes the election of Grant, *unless* the Democrats can withdraw from his support and unite in opposition to him, 1st, the German Republicans of the West; 2d, the free trade Republicans; 3d, the States rights Republicans. We consider this a clear confession of a despair of success. As to the Germans of the West we know nothing, but we presume that they had some reasons for becoming Republican, and that they have as much perstency in their opinions as other people. But why in the name of common sense should any free trade or States rights Republican at the South, or any where else become a Conservative in favor of those ideas. We know that at least, and probably throughout the South, that party is controlled by those who in former days were the most bitter enemies of both, and who then denounced the friends of either, as rudely as they now do Republicans. That party at the South has never committed itself to either doctrine. The truth is, the *World* may manufacture very politic plans for the Southern wing of its party, but it mistakes the character of its associates in every particular. The intelligent and educated property-holders of the South have been forced to see in the Republican party its only safety against anarchy and revolution, just as the masses see in it their only safeguard for personal liberty. The Democratic party of the South is under the control of chiefs who are either the fossilized relics of the past, who can never be made to understand that the world has moved in the last ten years, and who are respectable from their simplicity; or of men of stormy passions, whose vital element is confusion and disorder, incapable by the turn of their minds from living by productive industry. Taking advantage of the feeling naturally engendered by the late war, they have persuaded a good many of the honest middle class, to believe in their silly rant. But their influence is well nigh gone. The success of the Republican party is assured for years to come.

A CONFLICT WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT INEVITABLE IF THE MAJORITY PLAN IS CARRIED.

Suppose the Convention is called and all the Executive and Judicial officers of the State do not resist, but even acquiese in their removal by the Convention, or Legislature. Suppose farther, that under the new regime, a man is convicted of murder, and is in prison or a debtor openly attempts to leave the State, with his property, and he is arrested and imprisoned? In either case then, suppose application is made to a Federal Judge, that the party is restrained of his liberty in violation of the Constitution, and states in his application by whom he was imprisoned, and that it was what the lawyers call *coram non judice*, does any man in the State doubt that the Federal Judge would release him upon the grounds that the State Judge had no power, that in fact he was a usurper. Here then a direct conflict is presented! what then? Shall we offer resistance to the Federal authorities? We tried that, and a "burnt child dreads the fire." The Federal Judges assumed jurisdiction that Kirk had no lawful rights as a militia man. They have enjoined our Treasurer from receiving certain monies, the Legislature directed him to receive. They have enjoined Speaker Jarvis, and President Warren, from enforcing an act of the Legislature. Much more then will they interfere where the life, or liberty of the citizen is imperilled, and that too by mere usurpers of authority.

It requires but little foresight to see whither we are drifting. An illegal Convention can, and will bring on a conflict with the Federal government. Are we prepared for it? Secession was to be peaceable. The government is to be overturned, and its advocates say it will also be peaceable.

Surely our people do not want, and certainly cannot stand, another revolution.

LOOK OUT—POOR MEN BEWARE.

The *North Carolinian*, published at Elizabeth City, says that it is reported that certain advocates of Convention in different parts of the State are quietly buying the reversionary interests against individuals claiming Homesteads. What does this mean? They tell the people that the Convention will not interfere with the Homestead. They are not sincere in this, or why so anxious to buy up these claims? Suppose, however, the Convention don't meddle with the Homestead, it is not denied that one of its objects is to get rid of the present Supreme Court. Now it is well known that the present Court has decided that the Homestead exemption is Constitutional, while the men proposed to be put in their place hold the opposite opinion. Let the poormen of North Carolina—white and colored—take a note of these facts.

LOOK BEFORE YOU LEAP.

"Look before you leap." This is a good rule of conduct in all the affairs of life. Many men have been involved in difficulties and misfortunes because they have not observed the teachings of this homely proverb. Urged on by passion and prejudice men often plunge into trouble and find out when it is too late that they *leaped* before they looked at the serious consequences of their actions.

In February, 1861, a large majority of the people of North Carolina were devoted to the Union. In April Fort Sumter was fired upon by some wild revolutionist. In May a Convention assembled, the Secessionists had a majority, and the State was precipitated into the bloody vortex of rebellion. We have all felt the terrible consequences, and every unprejudiced man must now say that *we did not look before we leaped*.

Another revolutionary Convention has been called. The same old revolutionists appeal to our passions and prejudices and urge us again to leap into Revolution, and without looking, risk the consequences. We have already lost nearly all our property by Conventions and Revolution, and shall we follow the example of the desperate gambler, who, when he has lost most of his fortune by the uncertain chances of the dice box, risks on a last throw, the home of his wife and children.

We should think that our people are carried away by blindness, folly and madness if they trust the peace and prosperity of the State, and the homes of their wives and children to the uncertain results of a Revolutionary Convention.

PROVERBS.

"An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

If Gov. Ellis and the Supreme Court in 1861, had thrown their moral influence against the spirit of Revolution which then threatened the overthrow of the Government, the *terrible rebellion* might have been prevented. The people were for peace and the Union, but the Convention leaders were bold, unscrupulous and reckless, and did all they could to stir up passion and prejudice, and allay the apprehensions of the people as to the consequences of rebellion.

"An ounce of prevention" then might have saved thousands of lives—and kept off our sorrows, misfortunes, and bankruptcy.

Gov. Caldwell and the Supreme Court have given their moral influence, and held up the "laws of the land" as a safe-guard against the same wild, unscrupulous and reckless spirit of Revolution, which again threatens the overthrow of the Government, and the peace and security of the people.

If "this ounce of prevention" does not avail, and the people forget or neglect their duty, and the Revolution swamps over us again, then ten thousand *pounds of cure* may not save the State and people from ruin and disgrace.

BATTLE FOR YOUR HOMESTEADS.

The artillery of the friends of Convention are all cocked and primed and heavily shotted with grape and canister and leveled against the Homestead. On the third day of August the match is to be applied, and a deadly assault will be then made upon the poor men of the State. Homestead men! are you ready for the onset? If you are not, prepare now; organize at once; no time is to be lost; the crisis is upon you; if you suffer yourselves to be defeated you will have no one to blame but yourselves. You can win a glorious victory if you will only turn out to the polls and assert your rights. If you fail to do this you will hereafter hear the agonizing cries of your poor wives and your houseless and homeless children when they shall be turned out of doors and made to endure the pitiless storm by your heartless creditors. Save your wives and your children then, while you have the power in your own hands to do so.

CANVASS TOGETHER.

The candidates who are opposed to Convention should not fail to challenge the Convention candidates to a free, full, and fair discussion of the Convention question. Meetings should be called in each Township in every county. There is everything to be gained and nothing lost by canvassing together. The people will, in this way, hear both sides of the question discussed. The masses of the people in all ages and in all countries, have been and are still, competent to take care of themselves, if not fooled by demagogues and political tricksters. We say then, that a thorough, vigorous canvass will defeat Convention by a handsome majority. Will the opponents of Convention in each county see to it that a thorough canvass is made in the different counties.

JUDGE MITCHELL.

We have the best authority for saying that Judge Mitchell entertains the opinion that the present law, providing for a call of a Convention under which an election is to be held on the 3rd day of August, *is unconstitutional*. We have as good authority for saying farther, that when the *Statesville American*, a short time ago, represented Judge Mitchell as saying that said law "is constitutional" and that he is in favor of it, the Judge informed the Editor that he misrepresented him, and that he entertains the same opinions now which he held in 1861, when he opposed Governor Graham's Convention scheme. Why has not the *American* set Judge Mitchell right? Do tell!