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The Carolina Era.

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THE CONVENTION QUESTION—A CANDID VIEW FOR PLAIN PEOPLE.

The plainest mind can understand that 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

(2) The Executive Department. The Governor has declared it unconstitutional, and refused to execute it.

ment 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.

Why want to get a Convention of politicians 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.

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.

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.

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.

(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.

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.

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.

"Birds of a feather will flock together." The Democrats insist that the Ku Klux Klan is not a party organization.

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!

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

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.

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.

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.

"Birds of a feather will flock together." The Democrats insist that the Ku Klux Klan is not a party organization.

The spirit of revolution has not only wrecked our fortunes, but has seriously damaged all of our ideas of justice, morality and christianity. The people can put down this terrible spirit, and we believe that the vote in August will be as decisive and fatal to the Ku Klux revolution as Gettysburg was to the rebellion.

"I tell you that our party is gone up and this State will go for the Republicans in the Presidential election."

WHAT IMPEACHMENT COST—A RARE AND EXPENSIVE BOOK.

The Books of the Auditor's and Treasurer's offices show that the Impeachment Trial cost the people of the State the enormous sum of sixty-one thousand five hundred and forty-eight dollars and fifty-five cents.

Table listing expenses: Three extra lawyers, 44 days, \$3,000.00; Reporting, 1 man and staff 44 days, 4,375.00; Printing and stitching, 5,815.50; Paper, 2,840.40; Pay of witnesses, 5,555.20; Pay of members, 170 at \$5 per day, 37,400.00; Pay of clerks, door-keepers, &c., 2,464.00; Fuel and oil lights \$24.00, 41 cords woods \$165.00, 200.00.

Gov. Graham, Gov. Bragg and Judge Merrimon received at the rate of \$22.75 per day each for their services to help seven other leading Conservative lawyers, appointed by the House, to prosecute Gov. Holden.

Twelve thousand nine hundred and ninety dollars for making a book of the proceedings and speeches in the case, which the people will never see, unless they buy it from the Conservative Public Printer.

USELESS OFFICERS UNDER THE OLD CONSTITUTION, DISPENSED WITH BY THE NEW.

Under the old Constitution there were several thousand more office-holders than there are under the present.

There were 90 County Court clerks who received annually from the people on an average not less than \$1,000 each, and an annual extra allowance of \$100, making \$99,000.

There were ninety county Solicitors, who received at least \$600 in each of the counties, where there were four jury terms of the County Court, and \$100 extra annual allowance—in all \$83,000.

Under the new system there are 12 Solicitors against 98 State and county Solicitors under the old Constitution. These 12 Solicitors are paid by the State \$20 for a two weeks' Court twice a year in each county—which costs to the State, for these 12 Solicitors, per annum, \$3,600.

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.

REVOLUTIONS.

"Revolutions never go backward." The history of the world shows the truth of this proverb, and the events of the last ten years make it peculiarly significant to the people of the South.

In 1860 secession was to be peaceful, and yet it resulted in a terrible war that desolated the land, and subjugated our people. Secession was necessary and yet it secured in the emancipation of the slaves and made them the political equals of their former masters.

In 1860 cotton was the king that was to control the commerce of the world, and make the Northern people our suppliers; and now the Northern people have more than doubled their wealth; cotton is the fickle plaything of commerce, and the South is but a plantation of Northern capital.

The Conservative Democracy of North Carolina have been a lion in the path of progress, of Union, harmony, peace and prosperity, since the close of the war.

Peace and quiet, obedience to law and loyalty to the government, and harmony and industry among our people, can alone restore prosperity, happiness and independence to the State.

The letter of this distinguished gentleman, which we reprint to-day, will attract attention, especially in the West where he is so well and favorably known.

General Barringer was true, unswervingly true, as honorable wounds attest, to the Confederate cause while the great struggle lasted. He is equally true to the National Government now, and falters in no double sense with a feigned acceptance of the situation.

We are informed that the Convention candidates in Rowan refuse to divide time with the No Convention candidates. What a commentary on a party that claims to represent the people.

OPINION OF THE SUPREME COURT in the Case of John C. Poe vs. R. W. Hardie, Sheriff, from Cumberland.

By Dick, J. The execution in the hands of the Sheriff was issued to satisfy a judgment obtained on the 17th day of March, 1871, upon a debt contracted previous to the adoption of our Constitution.

The Sheriff failed to levy upon, and sell the reversionary interest in a homestead which had been assigned to the defendant in the execution; and a motion was made to annul the Sheriff for his failure to perform an official duty.

The Act of the 25th day of March, 1870, is not only constitutional, but it carries out the wise and beneficent policy of the Constitution of the State, in securing a home to a homestead holder and his family beyond the reach of legal process on the part of creditors.

SEVERAL Conservative organs are republishing mutilated and garbled extracts from the Western address to show the inconsistency of the position of leading Republicans then and now.

This Address asked for: 1. Equal representation according to population, and not according to wealth and taxes. The Constitution of 1868 ordains it.

2. The ad valorem tax. The Constitution of 1868 ordains it. 3. Universal suffrage. The Constitution of 1868 ordains it.

4. Eligibility of all men to office. The Constitution of 1868 ordains it. 5. Abolition of property qualifications for office. The Constitution of 1868 ordains it.

A Washington dispatch, says the N. Y. Tribune, reports that the Democrats of Kentucky are being much exercised at a prospective failure of the sinews of war in the coming State canvass.