

The People Moving.

Read the very important preamble and resolutions adopted by the Republican meeting at the Court House on Saturday. These have the ring of the true metal, and will receive the hearty endorsement, not only of all good Republicans but, of many honest Democrats and Conservatives also.

Law and Order.

Read an article printed on this page, from The Nashville Banner, headed "Law and Order." "Down with Ruffianism in the South." We warmly endorse all the editor says, and wish to exclaim, down with ruffianism in the South.

The above is from The True Georgian, a paper in the interest of the Democratic party of that State. The article from The Nashville Banner, to which it alludes, will be found in this issue of THE ERA.

Why should the strife and ill feeling of the last few years longer continue? Have we not had enough of bitterness and too much? Is not the whole question of reconstruction, which gave rise to much of it, settled finally?

THE FAIR AT HENDERSON.—We attended the Fair at Henderson on Thursday, and were very much pleased. The articles on exhibition were not as numerous and varied as they might have been, but were highly creditable.

The annual address before the Society was delivered by our worthy and gifted townsman, Hon. Sion H. Rogers. It was a production eminently suited to the occasion, and deserves to be commended for its brevity.

The Press was well represented on the occasion. Besides The Sentinel and THE ERA of this city, The Roanoke News, Lenoir County Courier and Battleboro Advance were represented by their worthy and respective editors.

It is due to the Central Agricultural Society to say that it is the only Society in the State that has held its Fair every year since the war. Such enterprise and perseverance under very discouraging circumstances deserves, and will ultimately meet with, the most abundant success.

We have been promised a full account by a correspondent, and, therefore, shall not attempt anything of the kind ourselves.

The Editors of the Era, whom we have heretofore regarded as gentlemen, seem to have become very forgetful of the courtesy of the profession in admitting to their columns a dirty scurrilous attack upon a brother Editor from a still more dirty negro. Their conversion to Radicalism appears to have sadly marred their sense of gentlemanly propriety.

The "attack" in question was not sent the editors as a communication to be inserted in "their columns," but to the business manager, Mr. Brown, as an advertisement, accompanied with the cash to pay for the same.

For the future we oppose the admission of such an article, even in the advertising columns.

Editorial Correspondence.

ASHEVILLE, Oct. 13, 1871.

The correspondence which we have seen published, between Ex-Gov. Bragg, Gen. Ransom and other prominent Conservative lawyers and politicians, and Judge Bond of the U. S. Circuit Court in relation to the postponement of the trials of the Ku Klux cases pending in that Court deserves some notice.

It is remarkable, upon the part of those who addressed Judge Bond, for certain statements which it made, and for certain other statements which it does not make.

It is not so remarkable for the persons who signed it as it is for those who omitted to sign it.

Without questioning the sincerity of the gentlemen who addressed Judge Bond in their declaration of their determination to use their influence to put down any further Ku Klux outrages, it can hardly be controverted that such a correspondence by them is calculated if not intended to repair the damage done the Conservative cause, by the developments made, at the recent Term of the United States Court, quite as much as to promote the restoration of order and the suppression of crime.

It is not worthy, therefore, that the letter to Judge Bond is signed by the official head of the Conservative party in North Carolina, viz: Ex-Gov. Thomas Bragg, Chairman of the Central State Executive Committee of that party.

It is further to be remarked that this letter is signed by the leading Counsel, who appeared in defence of the Ku Klux assassins who were lately convicted at Raleigh, and that these gentlemen must have had from their professional connection with these cases, if not otherwise, better opportunities to know and emphatically weigh the evidence than persons not so related to these cases possibly could have had.

It is further to be remarked that the Attorney General of the State, a political opponent of the Government, who had occasion in his official capacity, before the recent trials at Raleigh, to examine some of the evidence, and who no doubt, has carefully and patiently read and considered all the evidence adduced upon those trials, also signs the letter to Judge Bond.

But as to the signers of this letter to Judge Bond, it is much more significant that not one single one of them can be regarded as the representative of the views or purposes of the radical, extreme wing of the conservative party, and they cannot therefore, be reasonably supposed to have any influence in bringing that wing of their party to an abandonment of their connection with the Invisible Empire or their open and avowed sympathy with and palliation of its crimes.

That the press or the leaders, in control of the Conservative party, have expressed the opinion that the evidence in the recent Ku Klux trials at Raleigh manifested the "fact that a secret unlawful organization called the Ku Klux or Invisible Empire exists in certain parts of the State," and that they cannot "deny the crimes committed by these organizations" we have yet to see. If any such admission of only half the truth elicited on these trials has been made, other than that now under review, it has been so grudgingly done, and has been so overlaid with every form of unwarranted accusation and denunciation of the officers of the Government connected with these trials, that its moral effect has been entirely destroyed.

If some other persons occupying prominent positions in the Conservative party had joined Gov. Bragg and Gen'l Ransom in their very creditable assurance to Judge Bond that before the next November Term of the Court that they believed the "Invisible Empire" would be "effectually suppressed," it might have been a subject of sincere congratulation to men of all parties interested in the preservation of law and order in the State.

That Gov. Bragg and Gen'l Ransom, and those who join them in writing to Judge Bond, none of whom have been suspected of belonging to the Invisible Empire, should assure him of their belief that the order would soon be effectually suppressed, amounts to nothing more than the expression of their praiseworthy wish that it may be done.

While the Conservative party has in its ranks so many men who are known to have recently had or who now have a direct association and connection with this "unlawful organization," at various points in the State, it would have been better that they should have come forward and announced their renunciation of this unlawful combination, and expressed not only their belief, but their determination, that the Invisible Empire, by the authority which their official control of it gives them, should be "effectually suppressed."

This would have been business, and business of some account and of the right sort, in the present emergency. But none of the known or suspected members of the Invisible Empire join in the correspondence with Judge Bond. If therefore has no official sanction. Its writers promise to do what they have no ability to perform, unless, as a part of the governing men of the Conservative party, must, of necessity, control one of the essential elements of its organization and operation, the Ku Klux Klan. Perhaps upon this idea they may do something in the direction of

their present aim—in no other way can we see how they can even hope to accomplish what they so confidently promise to do. They must labor among the sinners and the lawless of their own political faith and make them, of high and low degree, renounce their allegiance to the Invisible Empire, and submit to the laws of the land.

It is not worth while for them to waste their time and eloquence "to enlist all law loving citizens" and "all right minded men" in aid of their laudable effort to break up the Ku Klux. All such citizens are already enlisted in that endeavor. They are already on the side of the Government in the vigorous attempt which it is making and will continue to make for the effectual suppression of the Ku Klux throughout the State.

It is a gratifying vindication of the Acts of Congress and the conduct of the officers of the Government, in the prosecutions which have arisen under these laws, that so many eminent men of the opposite party, some of them prominently and officially connected with the late trials, have been brought to admit the irrefragable truth that "a secret unlawful organization called the Ku Klux or Invisible Empire exists in certain parts of the State;" that no "right minded" men can "palliate or deny the crimes committed by these organizations;" that they are "dangerous to good government;" and that these gentlemen declare that "the people of North Carolina will unite in arresting and forever obliterating an evil which brings nothing but calamity."

Under the head of "The Spirit of the Conservative Press" we publish elsewhere an article from The Battleboro Advance. One of the sentiments of The Advance will receive the approval of all good men. They will be glad to learn that it "condemns all kinds of lawlessness by whomsoever committed," and that it thinks its perpetrators should have been punished long ago. But how can the Courts successfully deal with and break up this powerful secret organization unless the people are taught to have confidence in, and respect for, them? The thing is simply impossible. Therefore, in its unjust attacks upon the Court, The Advance is doing all in its power to destroy the moral effect of the late trials and convictions for the suppression of the lawlessness which it condemns.

And there is quite as little ground for the charge that the jury "was most corruptly packed." The jury was summoned by the Marshal just as all the juries have been summoned in the Federal Courts in this State since the war. The fact that there was four Conservatives on the jury that tried most, if not all, the cases is proof that it was not so "packed." It is true that Hon. Samuel F. Phillips told the Marshal, when asked what kind of a jury he should summon, to summon "a mixed jury," composed of men. But he said not a word to him about the politics of the jurors.

We heard a prominent Democratic lawyer say that the advice given by Mr. Phillips to the Marshal "was eminently right and proper." It is deeply to be regretted that a gentleman so much inclined, from his nature and disposition, to do right, as the editor of The Advance is known to be, should have allowed himself, incautiously, as we believe, to have taken the course he has in relation to this important matter. We give him credit for perfect sincerity in his expressions of condemnation of the Ku Klux and their deeds of horror, and invoke his aid in assistance of the distinguished men of all parties who have pledged themselves to suppress these organizations, and the lawlessness which they have been committing for so many months. The time has come when all should labor in the interests of peace, law, order and humanity.

This will be one of the chief aims and ends of this paper, while under its present management. Of all things it desires most to see the present bitterness give way to an era of peace and good feeling, when parties can engage in controversy upon the merits of the principles and measures which they respectively advocate.

If our friend of The Salem Press will read the oath of the K. K. organization, as it was brought out in the late trials, he will cease to doubt that its character was political, that its object was to "put up" the Conservative party and "put down" the "Radical" party. That is precisely what the members of the regular organization were proven by undoubted testimony to have sworn to do. If this does not constitute it a political organization we do not know what would, notwithstanding the fact that a few men who claimed the Republicans swore they were members of it.

If we are not greatly mistaken in the character of our information, developments will be made at the next term of the Circuit Court that will remove all doubts about the matter, even from the mind of our friend of the Press.

The Carolina "Ku Klux."

The eight unfortunate victims of packed jury and radical malignity in North Carolina, the citizens who were sentenced by the federal court of that State to enormous fines and imprisonment for alleged Ku Klux outrages, came down on the Seaboard road on Thursday night en route to the Auburn penitentiary, New York. The prisoners were in the custody of a detachment of federal soldiers, commanded by a lieutenant. The poor fellows looked dejected enough, and no wonder, for their terms of imprisonment extend from six months to six years, together with fines so excessive that they can never hope to get relief unless their friends interpose to aid them.

The above extract contains a statement utterly without foundation in fact. Yet it is copied into the conservative organ of this State without a word of comment. The eight convicts referred to are no more "the victims of packed jury and radical malignity in North Carolina" than are the most innocent and unsuspected persons in the world. The evidence given on the trial of Shotwell and others, for the inhuman raid on Mr. Justice, convinced every man who heard it of their guilt beyond a doubt. This has been shown by the publication in the Northern papers of a correspondence between ten of the leading Democrats and Conservatives of this City and State and Judge Bond, during the recent term of the Circuit Court here. The ten distinguished gentlemen referred to say that "the fact that a secret unlawful organization, called the Ku Klux or Invisible Empire, exists in certain parts of this State has been manifested in the recent trials before the Court over which you preside. We condemn, without reservation, all such organizations. We denounce them as dangerous to good government, and we regard it the eminent duty of all good citizens to suppress them."

Yet in the face of all this it is asserted that Shotwell and his confederates in crime are "the victims of packed jury and radical malignity," and that they have been sentenced to enormous fines and imprisonment for alleged Ku Klux outrages. Why such unfounded assertions should be made, unless to assure the Klans that they have friends and sympathizers among the conservative press, who will ever be found ready to palliate and excuse, if not defend, their horrid deeds, is incomprehensible.

The correspondence referred to between certain distinguished gentlemen of this city and Judge Bond appears in another column. Will the Conservative press of the State let their readers see it also? Will they aid their eminent friends in their declared purpose to suppress these secret organizations by ceasing to excuse or palliate their deeds of darkness and of crime? For in said correspondence their friends and party leaders declare to Judge Bond that "no right minded men in North Carolina can palliate or deny the crimes committed by these organizations."

Since the above was written we see that The Sentinel has published the correspondence referred to. The most awful and fearful conflagration ever known on this continent visited Chicago, Ill., on the 7th, 8th and 9th of the present month. The fire first broke out in a planing mill in the vicinity of a large number of wooden buildings. The wind was blowing a high gale at the time, and the flames swept over the city with unexampled rapidity. Many blocks of buildings, including all the printing offices in the city, except that of The Tribune, were destroyed. The area of the city which had been laid in ashes at the last accounts was three miles and a half in length with the fire still raging. It is impossible to estimate the value of the property destroyed or the number of lives that have been lost.

The Washington Star of Monday evening has the following in relation to this terrible disaster: "The Chicago calamity is doubtless the most terrible in the history of the country; 'the great fire in New York' in 1835, which involved a loss of \$20,000,000, being insignificant in comparison with the destruction occasioned by the appalling conflagration now in progress in the former city. The prevalence of a severe drought in the Northwest, and the facts that there were eighty-five miles of wharf front in Chicago for the storing of lumber and other combustible materials; that many of the streets of the city were paved with wood, and many of the houses are frame structures, and that the connections with the water-works were destroyed, were circumstances unfavorable to the quenching of the flames by the usual agencies. One-half of the city, embracing ten thousand houses, has been reduced to ashes, and at least 50,000 persons rendered homeless and homeless. We know the American character too well to believe for a moment that these unfortunate people will not be succored in their dire distress. As a people we are seldom found to hesitate in responding to appeals for aid under similar circumstances, and we therefore confidently believe that our citizens of all classes will come forward promptly and do all in their power to relieve the Chicago sufferers. The President of the United States has already taken measures to give them temporary relief by furnishing from the public stores supplies of clothing and food, an act which will be warmly approved by every one."

We acknowledge the receipt of a complimentary ticket to the Fair of the Carolinas, to be held at Charlotte, commencing Oct. the 24th and continuing for four days. We would like to be present on the occasion, and will, if we can. There is little doubt that it will be a complete success.

The Secret Rebellion Called Ku Kluxism.

It has been found in practice, that the permanent measures of policy, which have been enunciated, did not fully meet the necessities of the political situation in the South. The vindictive intolerance of a portion of the whites, refused to accede to the laws establishing equality of right and privilege. This spirit has taken the name of Ku Kluxism. It manifests itself in different forms according to class and locality. Among the wealthy and influential it took, at a very early day, the form of social ostracism against all who should embrace, in our portion of the Union, the measures of catholic justice, and the principles of political equality embodied in the Republican platform. This is the most refined form of Ku Kluxism, and the most cowardly. It is that timid method which wealthy and influential malcontents adopt, of perpetuating the war of sections after brave armies have left the field, and honorable warriors have sheathed the sword.

The above is from the able and excellent address of the Republican State Committee to the people of Virginia. The truths which it proclaims are palpable. Though the civil war ended on the battle field between contending armies more than six years ago, peace has not yet been restored as it should be. The smouldering embers of the strife still remain and bad men are constantly striving to fan them to a flame. Men are socially ostracized for no other reason than honest difference of political sentiment. Social ostracism has been proclaimed as a cardinal virtue in the creed of one of the political parties of the South by many embittered politicians. Verily this is "the most refined form of Ku Kluxism and the most cowardly." It is as anti-republican as it is wicked and unchristian. It must cease before we can have a complete restoration of peace, law and order in the South. It is a pleasing fact that it is not now as prevalent as it has been. A better feeling is beginning to prevail in some localities, but there is still a degree of political bitterness that nothing can justify or even excuse. This must cease for the common good of all, and for the honor of the holy religion which our people profess. And its ministers and votaries owe it to themselves, in vindication of their calling and professions, to do all in their power to allay it. Can it be that an appeal to them would be in vain? It is not believed.

A Word to the Democracy.

The Louisville Courier-Journal gives the following sound advice to the Democracy. A part of it sounds very much as if it had come from a Republican source:

The slavery question is dead. Let us bury the remains of the negro question with it. Let the two old lines that parted so long ago—the two old Demos that have been in the hands of the other's blood—come back to the shadow of that blessed and benign roof-tree shade whence they got their free inspirations. There is the declaration of the independence of us all. There is the spirit of that free-born, God-given instrument of freedom to warm each one of us, black and white alike all free, all equal before the law of the land, all threatened by despotism and corruption. Let us cease to quarrel over the negro. He is poor and ignorant, and whatever provocation he has given us has arisen out of his ignorance, which is his misfortune and not his fault. He needs protection. Let us give it to him, and give it to him cheerfully, not doing it out grudgingly, not having it wrested from us all. Let us give it to him in a better sense and better nature to preserve both him and ourselves. This is the road to domestic peace. This is the way to unification. This, this, and none other. We have urged it against time and misconception and obloquy. We urge it now. We urge it upon the Southern people. We urge it upon Kentucky. It is the voice of wisdom, the voice of God, the voice of that divinity which placed these blacks among us for some wise purpose, and has scourged us through them—which bids us turn about, whilst it is time, and look to them, not in a spirit of bitterness or wrath, but in a tolerant, a patient, a Christian spirit. This is Democracy, pure and simple—the Democracy of fathers—the Democracy of Jefferson—the Young Democracy, having old blue blood in its veins, and the fresh new life of hope in its eyes, chastened through misfortune and taught by experience. This is the "new departure."

Hon. S. F. Phillips.

The abuse heaped upon this distinguished gentleman by the Conservative Organ would surpass belief if we did not see it every day. Finding nothing in the conduct of his whole life and the high character he has ever sustained, nor in the manner in which he has discharged his public duties, as a salient point of attack it heaps upon him all kinds of opprobrious epithets and reproaches. But they cannot hurt him whom they are aimed—they will recoil upon the head of those who utter them.

In all the relations of life, whether public or private, Mr. Phillips is above reproach and irreproachable. Second to no man in North Carolina in learning and abilities, equal to any in public and private virtues—a christian gentleman in every sense of the word—he is regarded with pride by the people of his native State as one of her most distinguished sons and brightest ornaments. Such a man needs no eulogy from our pen—it can add nothing to his reputation or character.

RESIGNED.—R. S. Ledbetter, Senator from the 28th District, composed of the counties of Richmond and Moore, has resigned. Gov. Caldwell has ordered a special election to fill the vacancy on Thursday the 16th of November. With a proper effort the Republican can carry the District, and they are urged to make such effort.

Law and Order.

Down with Ruffianism in the South.

We cannot find language strong enough to express our horror at the fearful tragedy enacted at and near Winchester on Wednesday night by disguised outlaws, nor words sufficient to express our indignation at the denunciation. We cannot but believe there is a respectability in Franklin but we share with us this feeling of indignation. It is useless to discuss the mere political consequences of such performances. The utter demoralization and reckless contempt of law which such deeds indicate are far more alarming in their tendencies to our State or section by the mailed hand of any centralized despotism. It is full time that decent citizens, having a regard for the protection of their lives and those of their families, and yet respecting under the delusive security of laws inefficiently executed, should most flagrant and abused, should be looking to their hearts' stones. These acts of disguised murderers are so appalling, we marvel that the entire Commonwealth does not rise up as our compass to turn them down, with an our march to the body-thirsty and dastardly beasts be driven from the soil of the South, never till now suffered to endure the stain of such foul dishonor. It is a reproach to our manhood—a disgrace to our civilization, a degradation and a fearful degradation of long insulted justice, that such offenses should go unpunished longer.

Let it be distinctly understood that we are uttering no warning nor, for mere political effects, beyond the limits of our own State. We say, our insistence upon the public safety demands that the law in its majesty be maintained, if it cost the life of every citizen of the State in the performance. No matter what the crime of the prisoners in the Winchester jail who were shot and are already in jail awaiting trial. But suppose they had been at large, what authority had this band of disguised murderers to anticipate the ends of justice by taking the law into their own hands, and why should they be distinguished at all. If a gang of self-constituted regulators could be so prompt, and systematic in the punishment of these prisoners for alleged offenses against the laws, why, we ask, may not the law-abiding people of the county of Franklin be just as prompt in their own defense, and why should they be in the order, race or politics—no matter what the incentive to take their lives—the hanging and shooting of these three men was as cruel, deliberate and cold-blooded a murder as ever shocked the moral sense of even the lowest grade of modern civilization. The prisoners were already in jail awaiting trial. But suppose they had been at large, what authority had this band of disguised murderers to anticipate the ends of justice by taking the law into their own hands, and why should they be distinguished at all. If a gang of self-constituted regulators could be so prompt, and systematic in the punishment of these prisoners for alleged offenses against the laws, why, we ask, may not the law-abiding people of the county of Franklin be just as prompt in their own defense, and why should they be in the order, race or politics—no matter what the incentive to take their lives—the hanging and shooting of these three men was as cruel, deliberate and cold-blooded a murder as ever shocked the moral sense of even the lowest grade of modern civilization.

Resolved, that we, a portion of the free citizens of Wake county, respectfully and earnestly petition to our present General Assembly, to investigate these accusations, thus publicly made by witnesses in our Courts of Justice, and to remove any member of either House of the General Assembly be found to belong to this secret and mischievous organization, or who in any manner has been connected with the perpetration of the murders, scourging and other devilish cruelties, which has brought reproach upon the good name of our State, and which is a disgrace and dishonor to the age, that such officers and members be at once expelled, as bad and wicked men and unworthy to participate in the legislation of our country.

Resolved, that a copy of these Resolutions be laid before the Legislature upon its assembling in November next, and that a copy be also sent to the Executive, to be published in the State in favor of suppressing this organization, and of securing the law, and to be read in every school to the same, in order that all good and honorable citizens may solemnly protest against these violations of law and of justice, and make an energetic and effectual effort for the restoration of peace, good order, and obedience to the laws of the land in every community in our State.

Col. I. J. Young, and others addressed the meeting in short, forcible speeches, tending to excite the indignation of the portion of our citizens to the President of the United States, for his aid in protecting the rights of all our citizens, and his successful efforts in arresting and punishing the violators of the law.

Spirit of the Conservative Press.

From the Battleboro Advance. THE KU KLUX TRIAL MOCKERY.—As acts of civil justice we believe the Ku Klux trials just concluded at Raleigh to have been farces of the first order.

We do not say this because of any partiality for a secret order, whose deeds have again and again brought a tinge of shame to the cheeks of law-loving and peaceful citizens. We have no sympathy for the Ku Klux. We think they ought to have been punished for their lawlessness long ago, along with members of the Union League, that other abomination, without which the Ku Klux would never have been organized.

But while we feel bound to condemn every manner of lawlessness by whomsoever committed, we must remember that there are proper legal forms to be observed in the trial and conviction of criminals, and that, bad as they are and inimical as their acts may be to society and the State, they have some rights, which the law is bound to observe, even in inflicting merited chastisement for crimes and misdemeanors. When a court of justice exceeds its powers in such trials, it ceases to be a court of justice and becomes a star chamber, the acts are usurpatory, its dignity and character as a court of a free government are, by such an action, gone. It becomes an instrument of oppression.

We hold that such exceeding of powers, such wicked usurpation, characterized the Ku Klux trials.

It cannot be successfully denied that the jury was most corruptly "packed" in the interest of the prosecution. The Marshal, Samuel T. Carrow, consulted with and was advised by Samuel F. Phillips, prosecuting counsel, as to the kind of men to put on that jury. The Phillips openly confessed in court, "O sham! where is thy blush?"

Then, the charge to the jury and the sentence were concluded in language bitterly partisan. More than this: The people of North Carolina, who abominate the order and violence, and whose reputation as a people of law-abiding citizens, has never been called in question in any responsible quarter, are malignantly assailed as encouraging the recent disorders in Rutherford and elsewhere. This foul slander should have passed the tongue of the judicial partisan who so unblushingly gave utterance to it.

Public Meeting—The Invisible Empire.

On Saturday evening last, a large and respectable meeting of Republicans was held in the Court House, over which Gen. Willie D. Jones presided. A Committee appointed for the purpose, reported the following preamble and resolutions, which were adopted unanimously, to wit:

"Whereas, The fact that a secret, unlawful and dangerous organization, known as the 'Invisible Empire,' or the 'Ku-Klux-Klan,' composed of many thousands of members, led and directed by unscrupulous and designing demagogues, has been shown to exist in several Counties of our State, by the evidence heretofore taken by the Judges of our Supreme Court, in their investigation of the Caswell and Almon cases, and as also by the evidence introduced upon the impeachment trial of Gov. Holden, and that taken before the Joint Select Committee of Congress and especially by the evidence produced upon the recent trials in the U. S. Circuit Court in this City, and in the examinations had from time to time by the U. S. Commissioners and which fact has been publicly acknowledged by the Hon. Thos. Bragg, Attorney-General Shipp, and other prominent lawyers and law-abiding citizens of the State.

And whereas, it has been manifested by the evidences before mentioned, that the members of this organization, instigated by their wicked and cowardly leaders, are engaged in secret and seditious activities and property of good and peaceable citizens, have brutally murdered many persons innocent of any crime, and in disguise the laws of the land, and have, in disguise in the night time, entered by crowds into peaceable and humble dwellings and committed upon the persons of men, women and children, cruel and devilish outrages, shocking to humanity and without a parallel in a Christian country.

And whereas, the members of this organization, by secret and unlawful oaths, obligating each and every one to stand by and protect each other from the penalties of the law, and by the use of violence, inspiring terror among their victims, and others cognizant of their deeds, have set at defiance all State laws and civil authority, and thus compelled the Government to be obliged to give that protection, which is guaranteed to every citizen by the Constitution and laws!

And whereas, by the evidences heretofore mentioned, and which are now before the country, prominent officers and members of this General Assembly are implicated as members of this secret, dangerous and unlawful organization, and as such members, have taken oaths contrary to their obligations to the Constitution of the United States and of this State, and as such members, in the order, race or politics—no matter what the incentive to take their lives—the hanging and shooting of these three men was as cruel, deliberate and cold-blooded a murder as ever shocked the moral sense of even the lowest grade of modern civilization.

Resolved, that we, a portion of the free citizens of Wake county, respectfully and earnestly petition to our present General Assembly, to investigate these accusations, thus publicly made by witnesses in our Courts of Justice, and to remove any member of either House of the General Assembly be found to belong to this secret and mischievous organization, or who in any manner has been connected with the perpetration of the murders, scourging and other devilish cruelties, which has brought reproach upon the good name of our State, and which is a disgrace and dishonor to the age, that such officers and members be at once expelled, as bad and wicked men and unworthy to participate in the legislation of our country.

Resolved, that a copy of these Resolutions be laid before the Legislature upon its assembling in November next, and that a copy be also sent to the Executive, to be published in the State in favor of suppressing this organization, and of securing the law, and to be read in every school to the same, in order that all good and honorable citizens may solemnly protest against these violations of law and of justice, and make an energetic and effectual effort for the restoration of peace, good order, and obedience to the laws of the land in every community in our State.

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