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Ex-Office Holder's Convention.

The Liberal Republicans of North Carolina are moving. "Large bodies move slowly"—therefore this body does not move slowly. We feared at one time there were not enough of Liberal Republicans in this State to officer a ward meeting, and to guard against such a catastrophe a brother editor suggested that Mr. Hardie Hogan Helper be entered for three chances, thus: Mr. Hardie 1; Mr. Hogan 1; and Mr. Helper 1. As soon as the suggestion reached Salisbury Mr. Helper procured a tall candle and formed himself into a torch-light procession in his honor. For once he was happy. Happy, Helper. The happy suggestion threw more light on his mind than anything since the publication of Helper's "Noon-day Exigencies." After perambulating the streets of Salisbury, he resolved himself into a mass meeting. Mr. Hardie took the chair and requested Mr. Hogan to act as Secretary, while Mr. Helper was appointed a Committee of three on resolutions. Mr. Hardie explained the object of the meeting, after which the Committee resolutions retired for a few minutes and agreed on the following:

Resolved, That we will cheerfully support any body for President who will appoint us to office, and to this end we in the name of the Hardie, Hogan and Helper families of North America, individually and collectively pledge our lives, our fortunes and our sacred honor.

Resolved, That the Chairman appoint delegates to an ex-office-holders Convention, to be held in Raleigh on Thursday, April 25th, 1872.

Resolved, That these proceedings be published in the Holden Record and the Tribune.

Under the third resolution Mr. Hardie appointed the following delegates to the ex-office-holders Convention: Hardie Hogan Helper late Assessor of Internal Revenue, for sixth Congressional District; H. Hogan Helper, late Post-Master at Salisbury, for Rowan county; H. H. Helper, late editor of the Holden Record, for the State at large.

D. R. Goodloe, of Washington City, late United States Marshal. W. S. Mason, of Wake Court House, late U. S. Attorney. Lewis Hanes late outside member of Congress. Alexander McIver, of Orange, late candidate for Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Henry J. Menninger, of Craven, late candidate for Secretary of State. Albert Higgins Dowell, of Washington City, late disappointed applicant for first position on Joint High Commission.

The meeting then adjourned with nine cheers—three for Hardie, three for Hogan and three for Helper.

The Contrast. Gov. Caldwell is a Republican. He has made every effort in his power to bring those persons charged with misappropriation of State property to justice. His efforts have been seconded by the entire Republican party of the State.

W. M. Tweed is a Democrat. He is charged with swindling the city of New York out of millions of dollars. After the charges were preferred against him, he attended the State Convention of New York, and controlled all the nominations. More than this, he was nominated for Senator and elected by the Democracy. This action of the Democracy, is nothing more or less than an endorsement of swindling and the prince of swindlers. It is saying publicly to the world, "we do not consider it anything amiss for a Democrat to swindle."

The people see quite a contrast between the course of the Republican party and that of the Democratic party in this as well as in other matters, and will turn up their noses at Democratic newspapers which presume to prate about corruption and swindlers.

Intolerance—Proscription.

Rev. James Reid, Republican candidate for Superintendent of Public Instruction, is one of the oldest ministers in North Carolina. He is beloved not only by the Methodist denomination, to which he belongs, but by the whole People, without regard to religious faith. This venerable gentleman accepted a unanimous nomination on the Republican State ticket, and because he did so, The Sentinel attempts to ridicule him. He is said to be in his dotage, has softening of the brain, or hardening of the conscience. If all this be so, he has yet to be charged with robbing the State by the letter "m."

The pious saint (God save the mark), who presides over the Ku Klux organ of this city, did not ridicule Rev. B. Craven, who was the Democratic candidate for Superintendent of Public Instruction in 1868. It was all right in Dr. Craven to be a candidate on the Ku Klux ticket, but any minister who accepts a nomination from the Republican party, is in his dotage, or softening of the brain, or hardening of the conscience.

Once for all, The Sentinel and the Ku Klux Democracy are informed, that proscription and ostracism have ceased to deter men from expressing their political opinions. There are no slaves in this State. Men no longer fear the proscription and ostracism of men whose hands are dyed in the blood of Outlaw, Puryear, Stephens, and other victims of the Ku Klux Democracy. Republicans know their rights and they dare maintain them.

When the unexpected triumph of the Democracy in 1870 put them in possession of the State government, they had but one cherished, fell purpose—that was to destroy the charter of the People's Rights and authority—the State Constitution of 1868. There is no doubt about this, as all the action of the party since August 1870, shows. The General Assembly, in its majority, was made up of instruments fitted for an unrelenting war upon the State Constitution. Deadly hatred to the United States Government—relentless bitterness toward the enfranchised negro—contempt and fear of the working man—steeped in the prejudice of caste and influenced with Ku Klux madness—these were the men for the work and for the hour. The Senate was made ready by the violent and unfair ousting of Maj. W. A. Smith and Mr. Lassiter. Governor Holden was impeached and exiled. Thus far all seemed clear. The masses were intimidated. Ku Klux were rampant—their friends were in power—the way was open—and the Democracy marched forward in solid column to overthrow the palladium of the People's Liberty—the Constitution. Everything was in readiness! The nefarious Convention bill was passed. The Republican party was disheartened and demoralized. It was a dark hour. It seemed like the days of 1861. Good men wept and prayed. The faint-hearted were in tears and ready to leave the land of their birth. Who, under the Almighty, stepped into the breach and turned the tide—saved the Homestead—stilled revolution—maintained the Constitution and preserved liberty? The answer is easy: The Supreme Court of Gov. Caldwell. The veto message of the Governor sent dismay into the Ku Klux camp. The General Assembly was astounded, disconcerted—in its treasonable attempt against human liberty and the welfare of our People. Backed by the Supreme Court, Gov. Caldwell did this noble deed. At the same time weaker men wept, and the Governor knew that his refusal to execute the so-called Convention Act, would be followed by an attempt to impeach him. That was the hour of our extremity, and Republican Liberty in North Carolina owes the Supreme Court and Gov. Caldwell an eternal debt of gratitude. To that Court and the Governor, the colored man is indebted for his right to vote, and thousands are indebted for the homes they occupy to-day. To the Supreme Court and Gov. Caldwell we owe our flattering prospects for triumphant victories in August and November next. Who is more worthy to be our standard bearer in this campaign against Ku Klux, Democrats, Conservatives, and those who steal by the letter "m"? Who so worthy to be our leader as the man who failed not in the hour of our need? The Convention paid a proper respect to honest courage when it selected Tod R. Caldwell as the Republican candidate for Governor.

A Washington dispatch to The News, says Gen. M. W. Ransom was seated as Senator for this State on Wednesday last. The Senate has been exceedingly tardy, and we are glad the matter is at an end.

Has it Come to this?

Two years ago the organ of the Ku Klux Democracy in this city constantly charged that all the house burning and lawlessness could be traced to ignorant negroes, instigated by loyal Union Leaguers which was reiterated by Gov. Vance a few days ago: "If there had been no Union Leagues there would have been no Ku Klux." How stands the case to-day? Ku Klux have been made to flee the State to escape justice, while not a few have found their abode in Albany Penitentiary. No evidence has come to our knowledge where a Union Leaguer has committed an offence against the law by and through the instrumentality of the Union Leagues; but how many offences against the laws of God, humanity, civilization and our common country, have been perpetrated upon helpless, inoffensive, good citizens to gratify a few ambitious, reckless, unprincipled politicians? No longer ago than last Sunday night, the 21st inst., Mr. Wm. E. Thompson, of Orange county, North Carolina, had his tobacco barn, together with about one thousand dollars' worth of tobacco, burned by an unknown person, supposed to be a Ku Klux. It is well known in Orange county that Mr. Thompson is the only Republican officer in that county. He having been prompt in the discharge of his official duties and active in his efforts to subdue lawlessness, he therefore had placed in his hands a number of warrants against Ku Klux, issued by the officers of the law. Now, what is the natural conclusion of any disinterested person? It is that the Ku Klux have signally failed in going masked, and driven to desperation have resorted to the torch in order to intimidate Mr. Thompson and other leading Republicans in the lawful discharge of their duty, to make an example of all prominent Republicans in the vain hope of keeping away from the polls all weak-kneed Conservatives and Republicans, so that the Klan shall marshal all their strength and carry the August election.

Republicans, be not afraid. Maintain your own opinions, condemn lawlessness, publicly and privately, and vote for men who prefer peace, law and order, to men who are seeking to overthrow the laws of God and man, and to substitute a reign of terror in our beloved State.

Apology for Ku Klux—Waddell—Vance—Reverdy Johnson.

A. M. Waddell, by virtue of a split in the Republican ranks, misrepresents the 3d Congressional District of this State. Recently he made a speech in Congress in which he apologized for the Ku Klux after this fashion: "If there had been no secret societies, such as the 'Red Strings,' 'Heroes of America,' and 'Union Leagues,' whose members committed murders and rapes, burned barns, and intimidated voters by threats and scourings, and then escaped punishment, there never would have been any Ku Klux."

If white women and children had found that protection and safety, which they ought ever to find in Christian communities, you would have seen no misguided young men goaded by desperation, to commit horrible outrages by night or day. If there had been no demagogue union leagues, there would have been no damnable Ku Klux. Continued applause.—Z. B. Vance at Statesville.

I have listened with unmitigated horror to some of the testimony which has been brought before you. The outrages proved are shocking to humanity; they admit of neither excuse or justification; they violate every obligation which law and nature imposes upon men; they show that the parties engaged were brutal, insensible to the obligations of humanity and religion. The day will come, however, if it has not already arrived, when they will deeply lament it. Even if justice shall not overtake them, there is one tribunal from which there is no hope. It is their own judgment—that tribunal which sits in the breast of every living man—that soul, still voice that throbs through the heart—the seat of the mind, and as it speaks, gives happiness or torture—the voice of conscience, the voice of God. If it has not already spoken to them in tones which have started them to the enormity of their conduct, I trust, in the mercy of Heaven, that that voice will speak before they shall be called above to account for the transactions of this world. That it will so speak as to make them penitent, and that trusting in the dispensations of Heaven, whose justice is dispensed with mercy, when they shall be brought before the bar of their great tribunal, so to speak, that incomprehensible tribunal, there will be found in the fact of their penitence, or in their previous lives, some grounds upon which God may say—PARDON.—Speech of Hon. Reverdy Johnson, in Ku Klux trials, December 18th.

Secretary Boutwell has made a gratifying exhibit of the workings of the Treasury Department from March 1, 1869, to April 1, 1872—three years and one month—during which period the National Debt (less cash in the Treasury) has been reduced from a total of \$2,491,399,904 to \$2,174,374,288, or by no less a sum than \$317,025,606. The annual interest or burden of the Debt which, at the date of Gen. Grant's inauguration as President, was \$125,289,550, is now \$105,904,998—a reduction in thirty-seven months of \$20,484,552.

Democracy in a New Role.

The Ku Klux having been pretty well broken up among the deluded followers of the old Hard-Shell Democracy, the stupid leaders of the cross-road Klans have turned their attention to a new role. Combinations have been formed all over the country to make and circulate counterfeit money. At the North and West, such villainy is confined to a few bold, desperate and artful characters; but here at the South the idea seems to have gotten abroad, under the teachings of the Secession Democracy, that it is right to assail and injure the government and its friends in every conceivable form.

At Salisbury, before U. S. Commissioner W. H. Howerton, several cases have lately occurred, showing a formidable conspiracy in the counties of Cabarrus and Stanly, to carry on the trade and circulation of spurious coin. And what is singular, the families of some of the best citizens seem to be involved in this nefarious business. Some years ago, a young man of good family, by the name of Lipe, went into the business openly and above board. Lately a family by the name of Ridenhour, entertained a straggling fellow calling himself Speers, who had "seven hundred dollars of the spurious coin, and offered to sell it for forty cents in the dollar." This was no way condemned by the family, and in due time a son, E. D. Ridenhour, bought a large supply and organized a company to circulate it among "negroes and Radicals." In a short while they found it equally as profitable to pass it on their own party followers and leaders; hence the discovery and exposure. Previous to this, it was a capital joke to cheat "d-d Radicals and Unionists with their own money."

We get the main facts of these operations from The Salisbury Watchman, which has devoted a whole column to the trial of a single case. But the Editor failed to state the fact that all the parties figuring in these infamous proceedings and crimes, are wool-dyed Democrats, as we learn. Lipe, Ridenhour, Petroy, Harkey, Spears, Shimpock and Sides, are all active Democrats, who hate the government and think it no wrong to counterfeit its coin and currency. In truth, it is a popular thing in certain quarters to do so. The Watchman has no idea that this crime is the result in a great measure of the teachings of its party leaders, especially that class represented by D. H. Hill, of The Southern Home. As "Hannibal" is fond of prading the infirmities of Radicals before the public, regardless of the feelings of others, we commend to his notice the exploits of his friends of the "New Departure," as given by our unsuspecting brother of The Watchman.

What They Care About Schools.

The Report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction made to the Legislature in November last has not been printed. What is the use of a Superintendent of Public Instruction if his Report is not read by either members of the General Assembly or the people? The Report of the Fraud Commission, made by three Democrats, covering nearly six hundred pages, was not completed until late in the session, and yet that huge document has been printed, bound and circulated months ago, while the Report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, made at the beginning of the session, and which will probably not make one hundred pages, is not yet printed.

Why is this? Simply because one is a political campaign document in the interest of the Democratic party, and the other is a Report of what is being done towards educating the poor children of the State.

Democrats always care more for party than they do for education, or the interests of the poor.

The Democracy and our Nominations.

The Democratic Editors are hard pressed for something to say against the Republican nominations. Amongst other things, The Wilmington Journal and The Charlotte Dispatch, make their admissions: "But it is not for the Democrats to complain at anything of this kind, for manifestly Tod R. Caldwell can poll five thousand more votes than any man of his party in North Carolina, and only in the event of the success of that party could the Democrats of the State regret the choice; for whatever else may be said, Tod Caldwell is honest."

General Curtis H. Brocken, late of the militia, has long been a wheel horse in North Carolina politics, in old times a Democrat of the most stringent sect, and recently as a Radical of the darkest hue. For more than a quarter of a century he has been on the winning side.

The Constitution of Virginia guarantees a Homestead of two thousand dollars. The question of its constitutionality is now before the court of Appeals of that State. The Richmond Whig is anxious on the subject, and says the court cannot decide that it is unconstitutional without ignoring itself and deciding that the Judges of the court are usurpers.

CAMPAIGN OPENED.

Gov. Caldwell's Oxford Speech.

Gen. Cox Allowed to Reply.

COL. YOUNG AND GEN. JONES FOLLOW.

OXFORD, N. C., April 24, 1872.

MR. EDITOR:—On yesterday it was our great fortune to hear, for the first time, our great standard bearer in the coming campaign. Previous notice having been given that Gen. Caldwell and Col. L. Young would address the people of Oxford on yesterday, perhaps the largest collection that ever attended a political speech in Granville were present. Our people had never had the pleasure of hearing the champion of South America on the plains of Texas, the fertility of the Nile in the fields of Alabama and Mississippi and Louisiana, a generous hospitality in the homes of the genial Georgians, the beauty of an English meadow in the pine groves of Georgia, the hearty cultivation of a kindly race in the unconquerable Carolinian, the more mellowing influence of an older civilization upon the quiet farms of Maryland, the mighty movements of modern engines in the magnificent development of Missouri. It embraces every variety of climate from the soft and delicious atmosphere of Florida to the cool and bracing air of Virginia. It affords every species of bird and beast and fish and fowl that can tempt the skill of the sportsman or the work of the epicure. Its rivers are running reservoirs of perennial richness, upon whose broad bosoms are borne the bread to bless the distant nations, or carries the cotton to clothe the continent. From its flowers float a fragrance that fills to fullness the romantic air, while their gorgeous garbs give a graceful glory to the green woods. The soft and silken splendors of its summer skies speak sweetly to the soul of him who is taught by the quiet beauty of nature.

It was one link absent in the chain of indisputable testimony as to the executive ability, inherent honesty and high character of the man with which Governor Tod R. Caldwell has discharged the duties of his office, the abuse—bitter, unqualified, and vindictive—which he receives daily from Democratic Ku Klux press of the State, would be proof, if not conclusive evidence as to his worth and usefulness. With the functions of his office crippled to the last extremity of Legislative malice, and himself hampered by every device that partisan malignity and personal spite could conceive, he has, with a few unshorn reserves, administered the affairs of the State with an ingenuity and boldness that startles his enemies and challenges the admiration of his friends.

Does it excite surprise then, that a man of his high and noble character, not by the rights of a free people, should be vilified by a party and press who denied the existence of, and to-day apologise for the dark, deep and damning deeds of a band of disguised midnight murderers? Asheville Pioneer.

OUR NOMINEES.—The ticket presented to the Republicans of this State for their ratification, is one against which there can be nothing said truthfully, and one that will receive the hearty and energetic support of all true Republicans. Our opponents attempt to be pleased, and say it is a cast in the teeth of the Government, and a strict interpretation of the Constitution and the laws, and stamped his administration with the seal of genuine Republicanism.

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Just as it was dark and all the respectable and orderly people had gone home, and only a few who had imbibed too freely were left, Joe Turner (who his own party had not invited to speak, and who had been hanging around all day trying to post his friend Gen. Cox) was called for in low, inaudible, and croaking voices. Joe seized the occasion and commenced at 7 o'clock to harangue about 30 persons of the 1500 who were left. Joe put the "m" in "Gen." first. Told them what "good friends he and the Democratic party was to them. He told them that the Republicans stole vast quantities of bonds. About that time Squire Dick Jones, of Oak Hill, followed a lead, and said: "Tell us how much you stole." All over the crowd you could hear—"What about the letter 'm'?" Other voices said—"Oh hush, Turner only took \$3300." Turner said the State still owed him "on a settlement. But that crowd insisted that it was not true, and that even a Democratic committee had said he took wrongfully the people's money.

Altogether, Mr. Editor, it was most humiliating sight to see poor Joe at 7 in the evening, after everybody had spoken and nearly every decent person gone home, before a motley group depending himself from the charges that the Governor had made against him. For once Joseph was on the defensive.

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Our Beautiful South.

It will not be long before the tourist seeking to enjoy the beauties of nature and the pleasures of travel will learn that within the limits of the Southern States he can find all that the most exacting taste can demand or the most enthusiastic devotee of beauty can desire. All that is necessary is that the increase of traveling facilities should continue for the next few years as they have during the past year, and the entire country will be covered by a complete network of railroads. Should he take pleasure in the grandeur of mountain scenery, in the western portions of Virginia and North Carolina and East Tennessee he can find it as rough and grand as in the most romantic regions of the old world. Should he prefer the pleasing pictures of woods and flowers, of rivers and lakes, the balmy breezes of Florida will woo him to their soft embrace. He can find the jungles of India in the wilds of Arkansas, the palm-trees of South America on the plains of Texas, the fertility of the Nile in the fields of Alabama and Mississippi and Louisiana, a generous hospitality in the homes of the genial Georgians, the beauty of an English meadow in the pine groves of Georgia, the hearty cultivation of a kindly race in the unconquerable Carolinian, the more mellowing influence of an older civilization upon the quiet farms of Maryland, the mighty movements of modern engines in the magnificent development of Missouri. It embraces every variety of climate from the soft and delicious atmosphere of Florida to the cool and bracing air of Virginia. It affords every species of bird and beast and fish and fowl that can tempt the skill of the sportsman or the work of the epicure. Its rivers are running reservoirs of perennial richness, upon whose broad bosoms are borne the bread to bless the distant nations, or carries the cotton to clothe the continent. From its flowers float a fragrance that fills to fullness the romantic air, while their gorgeous garbs give a graceful glory to the green woods. The soft and silken splendors of its summer skies speak sweetly to the soul of him who is taught by the quiet beauty of nature.

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State Republican Convention.

The press of the State has already proclaimed that the Republican Convention will be held in Raleigh. It has hitherto had no parallel in the State. Numbers and intelligence, respectability, sobriety, and orderly behavior characterized the meeting throughout. We were there from Monday until Friday morning, during which time we do not recollect having seen a drunk man, and but one single case of slight indulgence. We have looked into our exchanges from The N. Y. Herald, down to our next door neighbors, and we are pleased to perceive, that the assemblage in Raleigh, has had an effect so salutary, which a kind heavenly spirit has blessed the National government, as—if they do lieat all—to exhibit their penchant for lying rather awkwardly. By next August we hope to see the respectability of the Conservative party, rank themselves under our Republican banner, and help us to ally the full spirit of national confidence, and in supporting of our great national standard bearer Grant, of whose economical administration, and financial management, we have already had such specimens of ability. We are encouraged to hope, and trust, that our people will see the necessity of getting into accord, with the government, encourage immigration, and the investment of capital, in turning to account the natural advantages of our State, so that we may hope to enjoy that peace and happiness, which a kind heavenly parent has prepared our good old State to afford to all her children. For this consummation let every patriot work energetically from now till next August, when we hope to see the fountains of discord put down so effectually as to give no more trouble for the future. Caldwell's News.

The American Case upon the Alabama and other claims, England's counter case, and America's counter case, are all before the Geneva tribunal for arbitration. England holds that claims for indirect damages, do not come within the scope of the Treaty of Washington. The United States refuses to withdraw the claim which has been presented for indirect damages. What will be the result of this disagreement is difficult to tell. The United States will maintain its present position, and insist upon a decision. She cannot do otherwise. Whether England will withdraw from the board, and thus break the Treaty, which will leave the matter in worse shape than ever before, remains to be seen.

GOOD ADVICE.—All that is needed now to give us again the re-election of Monroe and his "era of good feeling" in the re-election of Grant, is the quiet dissolution of the exhausted Democratic party, for let it be the other candidates of the two epochs all the same? But here this Cincinnati Convention is interposed as a stepping-stone to the Democracy from their "new departure" into the Republican fold. It would be much better for them to follow the good example of the old Democratic party, when there was nothing for them to do as a party, by quietly disbanding and merging their forces in the great body of the people. For are we not now all Democratic Republicans and Republican Democrats? N. Y. Herald.

LET JUSTICE BE DONE.—Governor Caldwell, without doubt, is the "best abused man in the State," by those, too, who elected him Governor. Those who made T. R. Caldwell Governor, did so with their eyes open, and he should be the last man to abuse him for his official acts. He was elected Lieutenant-Governor by the Republicans, but made Governor by a Democratic-Conservative Legislature—hoping that he, for that consideration, would renounce his principles. Because he would not, he is now abused. If Gov. Caldwell has erred, and that is human, those who know him best, believe that he has an honest heart.—Statesville American.

Outrages of a gross and atrocious nature reported on the Texas frontier, and proof of the land pirates which are being constantly perpetrated has been laid before the cabinet at Washington. Aside from highway robberies and murders, it is estimated that at least 425,000 cattle, valued at \$2,000,000, have been stolen and driven to Mexico, while the general lawlessness between the Rio Grande and Mexico is demonstrated to be frightful, indeed.

A few weeks ago we published a ticket suggesting the names of Gov. T. R. Caldwell and Hon. Josiah Turner, Jr., as the proper candidates of their respective parties to run for the office of Governor. Gov. Caldwell had received the nomination of his party, and if now remains to be seen if Mr. Turner will be nominated by his party, or will the position be tendered to another? We shall see. Who bids, and how much? If Mr. Turner is not to be the man.—Statesville American.

The hostilities in Mexico seem to have been at a standstill for a week or so past. The insurgents have made no demonstration against Matamoros as yet, and nothing of consequence has been attempted on either side. Mr. William Cullen Bryant has just returned from the city of Mexico, and he represents the Government as confident of its ability to bring the contest to a speedy close.

New Hanover county was represented at the State Convention by Messrs. Owen Burney, Geo. L. Mabson, H. E. Scott, as delegates, and Geo. W. Frigate, Jr., Allen Rutherford, Denard Runley, Edwin B. Brink, Edgar Miller, James A. Lowery, and several others.

Honest old line Whigs are being deflected with the cold and hard hands of the old Democratic party. There is no fellow feeling—no congeniality and it is not surprising to learn that hundreds of these are naturally gravitating into the Republican party.—North Carolina.

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