

BLASTING-POWDER

For Democrats and Conservatives.

THE FLOWERS COLLECTION

A WEEKLY CAMPAIGN PAPER FOR THE PEOPLE.

NO.

RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA, JUNE 19, 1872.

3.

BLASTING-POWDER

FOR DEMOCRATS AND CONSERVATIVES.

JOHN SPELMAN, Editor.

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(During the August campaign.)

ADVERTISEMENTS.
A limited number of advertisements will be inserted at \$1.50 per inch deep for first insertion, and 75c for each subsequent insertion. Special terms for lengthy advertisements.

STATE DEMOCRATIC-CONSERVATIVE TICKET.

FOR GOVERNOR:
Hon. A. S. MERRIMON, of Buncombe.

FOR LIEUT.-GOVERNOR:
Maj. JOHN HUGHES, of Craven.

FOR ATTORNEY GENERAL:
Hon. W. M. SHIPP of Mecklenburgh.

FOR TREASURER:
Maj. J. W. GRAHAM, of Orange.

FOR SECRETARY OF STATE:
JOHN A. WOMACK, of Chatham.

FOR AUDITOR:
Gen. C. LEVENTHORPE, of Caldwell.

FOR SUPT. OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION:
NEREUS MENDEHALL, of Guilford.

FOR SUPT. PUBLIC WORKS:
JOSEPH H. SEPARK, of Wake.

OUR CONGRESSIONAL TICKET.

1st Dis.—Col. D. M. Carter, Beaufort county.
2d “ —W. H. Kitchen, Halifax county.
3d “ —Hon. A. M. Waddell, New Hanover.
4th “ —Hon. S. H. Rogers, Wake county.
5th “ —Hon. J. M. Leach, Davidson county.
6th “ —Hon. Thos. S. Ashe, Anson county.
7th “ —Maj. W. M. Robbins, Rowan county.
8th “ —Gen. R. B. Vance, Buncombe.

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS.

1st Dis.—O. J. Cooke, of Chowan county.
2d “ —Swift Galloway, of Greene county.
3d “ —T. C. Fuller, of Cumberland county.
4th “ —H. A. London, of Chatham county.
5th “ —W. L. Steele, of Richmond county.
6th “ —F. B. McDowell, of Iradell county.
7th “ —Thomas Johnson, of Buncombe.

PUBLIC SPEAKING.

JUDGE MERRIMON and JUDGE SHEPP will address the people at the following places:
Danes, Gaston county, Thursday, 20th inst., 2d.
Shelby, Cleveland, Saturday, 22d.
Rutherfordton, Rutherford, Monday, 24th.
Columbus, Polk, Tuesday, 25th.
Hendersville, Henderson, Thursday, 27th.

MAJ. JOHN HUGHES and MAJ. JOHN W. GRAHAM will speak as follows:
Wentworth, Rockingham county, June 25th.
Danbury, Stokes county, June 27th.
Winston, Forsyth county, June 29th.
Mocksville, Davie county, July 2d.
Statesville, Davie county, July 2d.
Morganton, Burke county, July 6th.
Tarboro', Edgecombe county, June 15th.
Greenville, Pitt county, June 18th.
Jacksonville, Onslow county, June 22d.

JOHN MARSHALL, MY BOY.

[When Virginia was under martial law in 1862, and Canby was king of that District, James Randolph, author of that well-known poem, "I'm a Good Old Rebel," composed the lines below, on the occasion of placing the statue of Chief Justice Marshall on the Washington Monument in Richmond. They are very applicable to the present time: We are glad to see you, John Marshall, my boy,
So fresh from the chisel of Rogers
To take your stand on the monument there,
Along with the other old codgers:
With Washington, Jefferson, Mason and such,
Who sinned with a great transgression,
In their old-fashioned notions of freedom and right,
And their hatred of wrong and oppression.
But you have come rather late to your pedestal, John;
Things have much changed since you've been here,
For the volume you hold is no longer the law;
And this is no longer Virginia.
The old Marshall L. W. you expounded of yore
Is no longer at all to the purpose;
And the Martial Law of the new Brigadier
Is stronger than Habeas Corpus.
So shut up the volume you hold with such care,
For the days of the Law are over,
And it takes all your brass to be holding it there,
With "Justice" inscribed on the cover.
Could life awaken the limb of bronze,
And blaze in the hunched eye,
What would you do with a moment of life,
Ye men of the days gone by?
Would Jefferson tear up the scroll he holds,
That time has proven a lie?
Would Marshall shut up the volume of law
And lay it down with a sigh?
Would Mason roll up the Bill of Rights
From a race untried to scan it?
Would Henry throw down the patriot's sword
And clang it against the granite?
And Washington, seated in massy strength
On his charger that paws the air,
Could he see his sons in their deep disgrace,
Would he ride so proudly there?
He would let him down from his big brass horse
And cover his face with shame;
For the land of his birth is now "District One!"
Virginia was once the name.

The Swebson & Caldwell Matter.

NEW DEVELOPMENTS!

"Swebson, I'm afraid they've got us."

Mr. Editor: Much has been said about Judge Merrimon's connection with Swebson, in fact so much we deem it necessary to say something as to what we know of this matter in Burke, Gov. Caldwell's own county. Now we will not presume to enter the higher circles of financial administration of which we, as common people, know nothing.—We simply wish to state what came under our own observation, in the town of Morganton, in the year 1868.

The Legislature passed a bill at that time appropriating a certain amount of money to the W. N. C. Railroad, provided that the Company accepted certain amendments to the charter of said road. The stockholders, or at least some of them, were anxious for the completion of the road, in fact so much so that they were willing to agree to almost any terms to accomplish the same. Notice was given that there was to be a meeting of the stockholders of said Company to consider the proposed amendments, the meeting to be held at Morganton.

Some two or three days before the meeting Swebson and Littlefield arrived at Morganton, bringing with them a keg of choice whisky. Immediately after their arrival, we noticed His Accidental Honor, the immaculate and unquestionably honest incumbent of the Executive chair, Tod R. Caldwell, on his way to Swebson and Littlefield's rooms at the Mountain House. He was closeted with them up to the day of the meeting.

take his meals. This of course created some suspicion, but Gov. Caldwell's reputation for honesty and integrity (how acquired I scarcely know) allayed it all.

On the day of the meeting this whole matter was explained by Gov. Vance and that terribly corrupt ally of Swebson, Judge Merrimon. The remarks of these gentlemen on that occasion were prophetic. They told the stockholders this whole affair was likely to prove a huge swindle.

When these gentlemen saw that the passage of the amendment was a foregone conclusion if a meeting was held, they determined, if possible, to prevent a meeting by withdrawing. Gov. Vance said, "To your tents, O' Israel," and he was followed by a large majority of the stockholders. When they commenced leaving, Gov. Caldwell put his arm around Swebson's neck and whispered something. It has since transpired what that whisper was. We do not pretend to interpret it, but we want every man from Currituck to Cherokee to hear it. It was this:

"Swebson, I'm afraid they've got us."

Now we have good authority for the correctness of this statement. The bolters from the Swebson movement then held an informal meeting, of which Col. T. G. Walton was chairman, and D. C. Pearson secretary. The Swebson faction then found they had a quorum of stock, (Caldwell or Littlefield, it matters not which, having the State proxy,) but they did not have enough stockholders (60 required I believe.) The swindlers then determined to overcome this difficulty by creating a bogus lot of stockholders. Now who would suppose that these twenty-five bogus stockholders comprised all the prominent radical politicians of Burke county, every one of them being from this county? We believe they could all be successfully prosecuted before an honest judiciary as conspirators against the State. We propose that the people should know the names of these men, and we further propose

to append a slight biographical sketch of some of them. We would not do this had these men not denounced Judge Merrimon as concerned with Swebson, abusing him like a pickpocket, etc., on every street corner. They may deny the charge of being stockholders in this villainous concern, like Dr. Collett, son-in-law of the Governor. He would not be convinced, that his name was amongst them, till I showed him G. M. Roberts' evidence in the "Fraud Commission," and then he said 'twas done without his consent:

1st. J. A. Campbell, late Radical County Jailor, who allowed all his prisoners to escape.

J. G. C. Grove, carpet-bagger, recent mayor of Morganton brother of the sheriff of Lenoir. Providence has summoned him to answer for his sins at the great tribunal.

Ashby Mull, revenue defrauder. Christopher Happoldt, has repented of his sins.

J. W. Berry, Allen Berry. W. A. Collett, son-in-law of Gov. Caldwell.

L. M. Duckworth, late radical Deputy Sheriff.

D. B. Mooney, right where he belongs. James I. Beach, Deputy Marshal, concerned in a grocery and light on revenue matters, candidate for sheriff on the radical ticket.

Thos. Seals, late radical register of deeds.

J. M. Smith, at home. R. W. Brittain, a tenant of the Governor, principal shoulder or bully hitter for the party.

Jeremiah Smith, the property of Mars. Tod.

S. E. Poter, a member of the same.

Hoffman. William Roper, who curses all politicians as dishonest whenever he can get anybody to listen to him.

Joseph Benfield, who bought stolen property from negroes in old times, and whose son stole a mule during the war.

Joel Cloud, elected sheriff on the radical ticket and could not file his bond.

Thos. Neal, once an elder in the Presbyterian Church—has not been in a church since he went over, I understand.

F. D. Irvin, radical Probate Judge, a natural born agrarian, a waiting boy of Mars. Tod, mentally and physically the little end of nothing whittled out to a point.

John Tyler Patterson, a native of Virginia, has belonged to all parties for office' sake, went over from the Conservatives for office of sheriff, now the radical candidate for the Legislature, has Caldwell's speech about the war and appeal to the negro by heart and repeats it on all occasions, was himself a home-guard officer during the war, and arrested deserters instead of going to the front, where, according to his age he properly belonged, claims to be a representative of poor men, yet has made enough money to buy a fine plantation, once the property of a man who was killed in the war, is said to be a defaulter to the county for \$1,500, fifteen hundred dollars.

L. A. Taylor, late Chairman of the Board of Co'ty Commissioners, has been a candidate for almost every office, is now the keeper of a jackass, between whom and his charge there is constant warfare on the question of mental superiority. They are all from Burke, and all radicals. I defy any one to prove one allegation false.

In conclusion let me say one word. The Radical Press of N. Y., say of Mayor Hall, if he knew of those fraudulent transactions going on under his very nose, he is a corrupt man, if not, his capacity for being deceived renders him unfit to

be the Mayor of that great city. We agree with them in toto, but we want the same rule to apply to Gov. Caldwell of North Carolina. If he was not deceived he was corrupted, if he was deceived he is unfit to be the Governor of the great State of North Carolina. "Swebson! Swebson! I'm afraid they've got us!" Respectfully,

NATHAN.
Papers friendly to the cause will please publish.

JUDGE MERRIMON ON THE HOMESTEAD.

We reproduce a card from Judge Merrimon that appeared in the *Telegram* of July 18th, 1871. We invite the attention of the reader to it. It will be seen that he is, and has been always, in favor of a homestead policy, and bases his support upon the broad ground of soundness and wisdom. Read what he says:

Messrs. Editors:—My attention has just been called to the editorial columns of your paper of yesterday, in which, by suggestion rather than positive assertion, you give the public to understand I am opposed to the Homestead provisions of the present constitution of the state. In this you do not only me injustice, (about which I would not trouble myself,) but you also do the public prejudice, to the extent that my opinion in reference to the matter may have weight and influence in the approaching election; and I trust you will correct any erroneous impression you have made by publishing this paper.

The suggestion you make to the above effect is entirely groundless. On the contrary, I am and have been uniformly in favor of a homestead policy, and if I could interfere with that provided in the constitution, I would do so only to make it more definite, certain and secure.

I base my support of a homestead provision in the constitution on the high and broad ground of sound public policy as well as the further grounds that it is wise, just and humane and promotes and illustrates a higher state civilization.

The homestead policy has a direct and important interest in the rearing of every child in the land—to see that it is educated in a sound morality and fitted for useful citizenship. It is manifest this cannot be well or liberally done if the parents are homeless wanderers. Every family ought to have a home, however humble, in which they are secure. It promotes domestic happiness, stimulates efforts to self-education, moral and religious improvement, and it gives permanency to character and fixedness to citizenship—indeed, it is emphatically essential to the latter.

The convention act expressly prohibits the proposed convention from interfering in any way with the present homestead provision in the constitution, but I regret to find yourselves and others seeking groundlessly to excite the fears of our impoverished people by suggesting that the convention, if called, might and would establish a new supreme court, and provide for the election of new judges, who might decide this homestead provision inoperative under the constitution of the United States, as to "old debts."

Now no one has any authority to say that the present supreme court will be abolished, but suppose that it shall be, how does it follow that new judges will decide as you suggest? What ground have you, or any one else, for suggestions? If new judges shall be elected, they will be North Carolinians, and in sympathy with the people as much as the present judges. Will they not be so? What motive could they have to injure the poor and helpless, especially when our whole people are more or less impoverished? Do you reply, they would so decide because the law is otherwise? Then, would you have them make a dishonest and corrupt decision? You will hardly say so.

But there is not the slightest ground for this suggestion, for a homestead policy is a sound and highly important public policy—it is rapidly becoming an American policy as well as the fixed purpose of our people. This of itself will have some weight with any court. Then, it has been held by the highest and very respectable judicial tribunals in several other states than our own, that the homestead provision has a retro operative effect, and these decisions are authority and will have weight with any intelligent judge or any supreme court that may ever sit in this or any other state. But further still, our own supreme court has decided likewise, and this decision is binding in a very high degree on any subsequent court in the state. Now, in view of the manifest policy of the state, the decision in other states and the express decision in our own state, would any conscientious judge, even if he had legal doubts of his own, undertake to over-ride and reverse these decisions, and especially while

the supreme court of the United States has made no decision to the contrary? No reasonable person can so believe for one moment. So that it appears that any future judge would have every motive to support the homestead policy of the state, and would have the authority to do so of the highest judicial power in this state and other states as well; and so it further appears, that your suggestion to the fears of the people is idle and groundless.

But there is a positive provision in the present constitution that places in the most imminent peril every household in the state. It is provided in section two of article ten of the constitution, that "no property shall be exempt from sale for taxes," and this clause in the very section that provides for the homestead.

Now if the legislature shall levy from the people the taxes they are sworn and bound by the present constitution to levy, such taxes will in a short while swallow up every household in the state. I am prepared to show by the most indubitable facts and statistics, that the people of the state, under the existing constitution, will have to pay into the treasury of the state, annually, over fifty per cent. of their income, and the balance of it will be engulphed by federal and county taxes. This result is inevitable under the existing constitution, as I show daily, to the sad conviction of hundreds who are honestly seeking after information to control their action at the approaching election. The man who has but a homestead is generally the least able to pay oppressive taxes, when these come, the homestead will certainly go by express provision of the constitution, as it stands.

The unfriendly suggestion that I, at any time, solicited contributions of money from friends to present a test case about the homestead provision to the supreme court of the United States, is utterly groundless and scandalous.

And there is not the slightest ground for the further suggestion, that many leading lawyers, and lawyers generally, are opposed to homesteads. Can you assign any reason why they should be? There is no class of men as a class more in warm sympathy with the people than lawyers—they are linked to the people by the strongest ties of interest as well as good fellowship, and I may add, there is no class of people as a whole, more deeply interested in homesteads!

Very respectfully,
A. S. MERRIMON.
Raleigh, July 17, 1871.

The Washington District Conference meets at Tarboro' this week.

Ex-Judge E. W. Jones died at his home at Plymouth on the 10th inst.

Greensboro' Female College is at a stand still at present.

Greensboro' is to have another spoke and handle factory.

The crops about Wilson are not in a promising condition.

Rev. Dr. Moran, of Wilmington, has left home for Ohio, on a visit to his father.

Wilmington young men are trying to form a boat club.

Excursions to the mountains are all the rage in Western N. C.

Col. W. H. Knight is a candidate for the sheriff of Edgecombe county.

Judge Carpenter, of South Carolina, addressed a Conservative gathering in Charlotte on Wednesday.

The Conservatives of Columbus will hold a Convention at Whiteville on 6th of July, to nominate candidates.

The Salisbury *Watchman* says the Tribune, Mr. Helper's campaign paper will make its appearance in a day or two.

Mr. H. H. Helper has purchased the *Examiner* office at Salisbury for the purpose of publishing his campaign paper.

Mr. J. J. Stewart, editor of the Salisbury *Examiner* has connected himself with the *Watchman* as associate editor.

Cotton crop in Eastern Carolina has been injured by cold weather, rain and hail. It is not as good as it was last year.

In demand—the report of Judge Merrimon's speech at Newbern, that appeared in Newbern *Journal of Commerce*. A second edition has appeared.

Col. A. M. Waddell, democratic candidate for Congress, was serenaded on Friday night. He made a speech and like Capt. Rice "gave a treat."

Wm. R. Smith, Esq., one of the most estimable citizens of Halifax county, died on last Wednesday evening, at his home near Clarksville, in the Scotland Neck section, aged 73.

Miss Bettie Vaughan, daughter of Col. U. Vaughan, of Murfreesboro', was married at her father's residence, on the 12th inst., to Judge David A. Barnes, of Northampton county, Rev. P. F. August officiated.