

RATES OF SUBSCRIPTION: DAILY—One year in advance, \$1.00; Six months in advance, 60 cents; Three months in advance, 40 cents; One month in advance, 15 cents; WEEKLY—One year in advance, 1.00.

One Dollar.] Independent on all Questions—Neutral on None. Per Annum. VOL. 1. RALEIGH, N. C., SATURDAY, JULY 22, 1871. NO. 17.

RATES OF ADVERTISING: One Square, one day, 1.00; Two days, 1.50; Three days, 2.00; Four days, 2.50; Five days, 3.00; One week, 3.50; A Square is the width of a Column, and 1/4 inches deep.

The Long Ago. BY A. P. SPERRY. Every heart has its long ago. To which it will wander back. To breathe the sweets of the flowers that blow on its almost worn out track.

Upon the question of amending the Constitution in the Convention of 1835, Judge Gaston said: "This was one of the most important questions that had come before the Convention; for, whatever benefits we may have promised ourselves from our labors in the body, in laying the foundation of our Constitution on equitable and fair principles, if we put it in the power of bare legislative majorities to upset them all, then indeed have we toiled in vain.

"If nothing more is needed for the purpose of government than this brief maxim, let the majority govern, what becomes of all our checks on majorities? Why have two branches in our Legislature? Why judicial establishments? Why trial by jury? If we adopt this unfettered principle, why any of these establishments?"

"He would rather live under the most despotic government on earth, than under an unlimited government of numbers. He might escape the notice of one Tyrant, but there could be no escape from a multitude of Tyrants."

"Nichols and Gorman are with us.—W. W. Holden.—Sentinel." "Josiah Turner Jr. is the King of the Ku Klux."—W. W. Holden.

"Nichols and Gorman are with us.—W. W. Holden.—Sentinel." "But they were not with Wm. W. Holden and Josiah Turner, Jr. in disgracing North Carolina before the world, in '64, by actively opposing the struggle of the South, encouraging desertions from the army, and protecting deserters."

[PUBLISHED BY REQUEST.] From the Greensboro Republican. LAUREL VALLEY, June 20th, 1871.

Mr. Editor:—Will you permit a correspondent from this memorable place a few words in your paper concerning a certain A. S. Merrimon, Esq., who was called from the obscurity of the mountains by W. W. Holden when Military Governor and made a Judge and who grew fat and kicked his friend. I see from recent acts of Judge Merrimon that he is one of the most bitter conservatives at the Capital and most abusive of the Union men of the State. In a speech made on Saturday evening in the Court House in Raleigh, before the late incapable General Assembly met when he was a candidate for the United States Senatorship, he denounced all the Republicans (accepting Jo Turner's amendment) as a set of thieves, scoundrels and rascals. On the impeachment trial of the man that made him Judge in the examination of Mr. Rollins of the Pioneer he was terribly severe on that gentleman and denounced Col. Kirk in most bitter terms.

They Bite Themselves. An attempt has been made to weaken our influence by appealing to the prejudices of the people against our Union record during the war. We, too, might have made some capital against the Convention party by appealing to the prejudices of the old Whig and Union elements against the convention nominees on the ground that they were both taken from the old secession and Democratic parties. We seemed to do any thing of the kind. On the contrary we announced their nomination with such notice of them as we thought their personal character deserved and entitled them to. We have been all the time, and still are for peace and good feeling.

P. H. Winston on the Convention Question. In 1854, when the bill was before the House of Commons proposing to call a Convention precisely as the present law proposes to do, Mr. Winston made an argument against the bill which has never been answered. Mr. Winston said: "If this proposition be tenable, it is time that the people of the State were informed of it. I heard the conjecture that not one man in a thousand ever heard of it before. And that it is wrong, I think I can show beyond all doubt. Speaking of the Constitution being amended except by the two modes provided in that instrument Mr. Winston said: 'I undertake to say that when this part of the act is seen and properly understood the principle that there is still another mode of amending the Constitution, besides the two provided by the Constitution, vanishes into thin air.' Mr. Winston further said: 'That the Supreme Court of North Carolina would decide that a Convention called by a majority of the people under an act passed by a majority of the Legislature would be unconstitutional.' In the same great argument, Mr. Winston further said: 'Read the proceedings of the Convention and you will find that if there is any sentiment settled in the minds of the members it was that the Constitution which they were then settling should not be altered by a mere majority. So much for the old doctrine; a doctrine which goes a bow-shot beyond anything we have ever heard of before; a doctrine which abolishes the Constitution which our Fathers left us; a doctrine which will, in my opinion, meet the decided condemnation of the people of North Carolina.'

THE DEMOCRACY OF THE STATE IS NOT AT THE "TOP OF THE POT" IN THIS CONVENTION MEASURE. It is the pet scheme of the old Whig party in North Carolina, and has been kept alive and steadily in view by such gentlemen as have said, "before I will own myself a Democrat, I will join the Radical party."

"Nichols and Gorman are with us.—W. W. Holden.—Sentinel." "But they were not with Holden and Turner when the clanging doors of Castle Thunder, at Richmond, opened to receive Josiah Turner, Jr. for treason against the South."

"Nichols and Gorman are with us.—W. W. Holden.—Sentinel." "But they were not with Wm. W. Holden and Josiah Turner, Jr. in disgracing North Carolina before the world, in '64, by actively opposing the struggle of the South, encouraging desertions from the army, and protecting deserters."

THE CONVENTION PARTY HAD BETTER REPLY UPON THE TRUTH OF THEIR CAUSE, AND STICK TO THE DISCUSSION OF ITS CONSTITUTIONAL MERITS, THAN TRUST TO THE BARE NECESSITY OF THE MEASURE, AND THE HATRED ALL GOOD MEN FEEL FOR THE PARTY EXCESSES, POLITICAL CRIMES AND MILITARY OUTRAGES OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY.

THE MONSTER, RADICALISM, SHOWS ITS HEAD THIS YEAR, IN NORTH CAROLINA, IN THE CONVENTION MEASURE OF THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY. As the people last year put it down when it manifested itself in the persons of Holden and Kirk, and took the shape of a military invasion, let them now put it down when it comes in the equally dangerous form of Convention by a bare majority.

THE PEOPLE OF NORTH CAROLINA PAY TAXES TO SUPPORT AND SUSTAIN A NEWSPAPER ESTABLISHMENT, IN THE INTEREST OF THE LEADERS OF THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY, AND YET THAT PARTY IS NOT SATISFIED. It demands that the Railroads shall all be run in its political interest; and it even had a "haunter" last winter after the "noble charities of the State," the Insane Asylum and the Institutions for the Deaf and Dumb and the Blind.

LET THE PEOPLE REMEMBER THAT JUDGE MERRIMON, AND OTHER LEADING LAWYERS OF THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY HAVE BEEN TRYING TO GET A TEST CASE BEFORE THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES, TO OVERTHROW THE HOMESTEAD LAWS OF NORTH CAROLINA.

ALL THE STATE OFFICIALS ARE ELECTED BY THE VOTES OF 80,000 NEGROES, WHO ARE NOT ALLOWED TO VOTE FOR A WHITE MAN UNLESS HE BELONGS TO THE RADICAL PARTY.

IF THEY HAD A PARTICLE OF MANLINESS, INSTEAD OF ENCOURAGING THE IDEA THAT THE EDITOR OF THE TELEGRAM IS IN SYMPATHY WITH THE REPUBLICAN PARTY, BECAUSE OF HIS OPPOSITION TO THE CONVENTION, THE CONSERVATIVE EDITORS OF NORTH CAROLINA WOULD DISCUSS THE PRINCIPLES OF HIS POSITION, AND ACCORD HIM THE RIGHT OF HONEST OPINION, FOR THEY KNOW HE STANDS WHERE HE DID IN OPPOSITION TO THE UNCONSTITUTIONAL, REVOLUTIONARY RECONSTRUCTION CONVENTION OF '67; THAT IN OPPOSITION TO THIS CONVENTION HE DEFENDS THE VERY SAME CONSTITUTIONAL PRINCIPLES OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY THAT HE DEFENDED THEN—PRINCIPLES WHICH THEY KNOW AND FEEL THEY HAVE, LIKE COWARDS AND PARTISAN POLITROONS, BASELY SURRENDERED, IN THE HOPE OF OFFICIAL REWARD, AND THE PECUNIARY PROFITS OF PARTY SPOILS.

THE NEGRO LEAGUERS OF ROBESON COUNTY HAVE BEEN IN A STATE OF INSURRECTION FOR THREE YEARS OR MORE.—Sentinel.

OUR CANVASSERS IN THE WEST SHOULD NOT FAIL TO DWELL ON THE NEGRO-RIDDEN CONDITION OF THE WHITE MEN OF THE EAST.—Sentinel.

DEAR SIR:—The number of candidates for Convention before the people of Wake and the time required to discuss the questions involved, render it impracticable to have a joint canvass of all the candidates favoring and opposing the call of a Convention. Nevertheless, we would be glad to have yourself join us in our discussions before the people from day to day, and invite you to do so. If you think proper, we will cheerfully and gladly make an arrangement as to division of time, so that you may have ample opportunity to be heard as well as ourselves.

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THAT IS A PRETTY CONFLICT OF AUTHORITY IN THE MATTER OF THE ATLANTIC AND NORTH CAROLINA, AND THE NORTH CAROLINA RAILROADS. What will the sober second-thinking people of the State—the real working material men of the country—say to this insane, unwarranted political movement on the part of the Conservatives in the Legislature, who would thus introduce party politics into every work of public interest?

Under the management of Smith, the North Carolina road did better even than in the prosperous times before the war. Stanley's management of the same road as good as that of any of his predecessors. What then was the object of Party merely? Vote for Convention and secure the Homestead from sale for taxes.—Sentinel.

WHEN HOLDEN ANNOUNCED IN HIS INAUGURAL ADDRESS "THREE YEARS AGO," THAT ONLY REPUBLICANS WOULD HAVE PART IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT, AND THAT DEMOCRATS AND CONSERVATIVES MUST TAKE BACK SEATS, HE MADE THE FATAL MISTAKE OF SUPPOSING THAT THE POLITICAL POWER OF THE RADICAL PARTY WAS PERPETUAL, AND THAT MAJORITIES OF A FEW THOUSAND WERE UNCHANGEABLE.

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