DANIEL R. GOODLOE, Editor.

SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 1868.

OFFICE-In the City Hall over the Mark

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THE RECONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE

The Reconstruction Committee is com of Messrs. Stevens, of Pennsylvania (chairman); Boutwell, of Massachusetts; Bingham, of Ohio; Farnsworth, of Illinois; Hulburd, of New York; Beaman, of Michigan; Paine, of Wisconsin, republicans; Brooks of New York, and Beck, of Kentucky democrats-seven to two.

NORFOLK.

Norfolk is destined to be a great city .-Nothing on this earth but the presence of slavery in Virginia, from the foundation of the colony until the close of the late civil war, prevented it from taking rank with New York, as a commercial emporium. Its unrivalled natural advantages lay bound by the fetters of slavery from the year 1620, until the surrender of the Confederate army in April, 1865. With the peculiar institution as its nursing mother for the space of 245 years, it rose to be a town of twelve or fifteen thousand inhabitants. It has been emancipated less than three years, under circumstances of a most depressing character. The old system of labor has been destroyed, the laborers demoralized, the civil government over-thrown, everybody uneasy and uncertain in regard to the future; society turned up-side down; and subject to the tyranny and caprice of military rule; the such as their fathers never dreamed of; yet under all those difficulties, Norfolk has built more houses in these three years of freedom, than has been reared for the ten years preceeding the war; or during any other ten years of its existence. Though Adam Smith should rise from the dead, he could not bear such convincing testimony as this fact does to the economical evils of slavery.

We learn from a merchant of Norfolk that one hundred and twenty-five houses were erected last year, including a number of stores, and a hotel, which would reflect credit on any city in the Union. Packet lines of steamers to Europe and to the North have been established, and business intercourse by Railroad has been opened with the Southwest. An important Railroad, called the Great Western, has been projected, which will run parallel and near to the Southern border of the State, and connect with the Kentucky roads at Cumberland Gap. Half a dozen counties along the line have already subscribed nearly twelve hundred thousand dollars to the enterprise; while the county courts in others have submittted to the vote of the people propositions to subscribe about eighteen hundred thousand more. In a few years we shall see this important road built; while in all directions the trade of the city will be extending. The merchants and business men of Norfolk seem to be at last fully awake to the advantages of their position. But the truth is that the unwonted prosperitv of the city is due to the fact that capital can no longer be unproductively invested in slaves. Every dollar saved, goes into there is a point beyond which forbearance some profitable enterprise. Every succeeding year will demonstrate the vital energies of freedom in the South, and reconcile the people to the loss of slavery. Owing to the demoralization of black labor, there will be a falling off of the crops; but the towns will nevertheless, thrive; and their prosperity will eventually re-act upon the country. If the negroes will not labor, white men from the North and from Europe will take their place, and in ten years, the South will be richer than it was at the beginning of the

Virginia and North Carolina are deeply interested in the prosperity of Norfolk-the latter almost as much as the former. No narrow and short-sighted spirit of jealousy, which economical science and common experience alike condemn, should cause our people to withhold their warm sympathies the energetic people of Norfolk.

THE DEMAND OF THE GENERAL GOVERNMENT.

We have all along held, in common with others, that it is impracticable to reconstruct the State of North Carolina, creditably and well, without the aid of men who are under the ban of proscription. The Northern people and Congress, have turned a deaf ear to our appeals, and have demanded that none but men who can take the "Iron Clad" Test Oath shall be elected to office. Recently some disposition to relax has been manifested; but no single man has vet been released from disabilities. It is conceded on all hands, that it is expedient to select men against whom nothing can be tory. said, as it regards loyalty, as far as is practicable. We cannot organize a respectable judiciary by taking only Iron Clads. We must go back to the old Bench, and to the old Bar, for materials out of which to construct the Courts. Otherwise, and especially through the instrumentality of popular elections, we shall have a Bench composed of to him that some delegates were determined men, some of whom would not do credit to to do all in their power to keep the people the Jury; while we shall be lucky if we from getting any relief at all-every time elect none whose proper place would be the prisoner's box.

But the people of North Carolina have it in their power to elect a loval Governor "to the manor born" a life long resident; and they ought to do so, if they desire imme-

elect one of their most intelligent and respectable citizens who answers to this condi tion. ISRAEL G. LASH, of Forsyth, is in many respects, the fittest man in the State for the office of Governor. He is one of the most enlighted men in the State. He is an able financier, and if he were in the Gubernatorial chair, he would do more to elevat the credit of North Carolina than a dozen crafty partizan managers. He is firm as rock in the maintenance of his principles.

He is a life-long Union man. When Mr. Holden was urging the people in 1856, to resist the inauguration of Fremont, in the event of his election, Mr. LASH stood firm; when Holden made the same threats in 1860, regarding Mr. Lincoln's election, Mr. LASH never flinched; when in 1861, Holden and Vance joined hands in the work of pulling down the National Flag, Mr. Lash scorned to unite with them, but stood out resolutely to the end. Why did not the late sc-called Republican Convention nominate Mr. LASH? Why were his claims entirely over-looked? Was it because he never bowed the knee to Secession and Rebellion? Or was it because that caucus was selected mainly from a dozen counties, with the view to the nomination

If the West had been fairly represented Mr. Lasu's name would have been a power in the "Convention." But it was the 42 delegates from Wake, the 25 from Franklin, the 24 from Craven, and the volunteers from various parts of the State, and from other States, who controlled everything by the prependerance of numbers, without the slightest regard to the wishes of whole coun-

Is the party which claims to be exclusively loyal, unwilling to nominate a man who has always been loyal?

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CONVENTION.

Below we give the personal explanation

made by Mr. Heaton yesterday: Mr. Heaton said: For the first time in my people oppressed with a load of taxation life, I have arisen to a personal explanation. So far as I am concerned, I do not care, but in deference to some warm and enthusiastic friends, who have put me in nomination for a high position, I will notice the vile and infamous calumnies of a low paper published in the city, called the North Carolinian. On the 2d instant, that sheet made an attack upon me, and a gentleman from Newbern. present in this city, a life-long Democrat, who read it, pronounced the base charge s slander and a lie. I have seen but few copies of that paper, but what I have seen leads me to believe that its whole corps of editors are liars. Personally I brand the

man that wrote that article as a liar. I believe that the editor of the Conservative paper in Newbern will not and has not descended to such low attacks on me. M associations have been in that city among gentlemen of the Conservative as well as the

Republican party. Millions have passed through my hands and I defy any man to taint my reputation. So soon as I came to this city at the beginning of this session, one of the leading secessionists here began to make disreputable insinuations against me. A leading Southern gentleman, a member of the bar, finding that such insinuations were made, waited upon this secessionist and intimated that he must retract. I have in my pocket now a direct apology and retraction. But it is not necessary for me to go into detail. Yet I will say that it is time for these scoundrels and desperadoes to cease their slanders upon gentlemen. I warn the scoundrels that will cease to be exercised by any of us.

EVENING SESSION.

FRIDAY, March 6. The Convention was called to order at 74

President Cowles in the chair.

The roll was called and 91 members answered to their names.

SPECIAL ORDER. The special order being the 3d reading of the Homestead Bill, it was taken up, and the

discussion resumed by Mr. Jones, of Caldwell, the chairman of the committee. After brief remarks, Mr, J. moved an amendment to the first section, making the

homestead prospective. Mr. Hood opposed the amendment, and a retrospective homestead, and have it to accord with the Constitution of the United States. Now he was just as anxious as any member on the floor for the people to pay their debts, but did not want to make paupers of them. He would ask if the bill as it stood did not prevent a person who had no

homestead, from getting one. Mr. Trogden was in favor of the amendment and said he would like for a homestead law to be passed, but not one that was retrospective. He had consulted men of legal talent, and the opinion of all were that if a retrospective homestead was put in the Constitution, it would be destructive to the adoption of that instrument. He regarded a retrospective homestead as repudia-

Mr. Rodman said he would state that he had heretofore supported every measure of relief that had come before the Convention. He was in favor of a retrospective homestead, and hoped the members would stand by him in adopting one.

Mr. McDonald of Chatham, said it seemed that subject was brooched members got up with the cry of repudiation and unconstitutional. All this he considered as absolutely unnecessary. The people were demanding relief and why not give it to them ! In the Accepted. event the Constitution was framed to suit the

received, and they would ask the courts no vor of 40 to 60.

ment, and said gentlemen talked a great deal about relief. He did not believe there was a member on the floor who would not favor some measure of substantial relief, had native-yeas, 62; nays, 30. no doubt but that before the Convention adionrned it would adopt some measure of relief. He would vote for the amendment. because he did not think a homestead retroactive was just and proper. The amendment was destined to show that the homestead was not re-troactive but prospective, presing invasion or insurrection, unless i and this, he claimed, would settle the mat-

Mr. Abbott desired the matter left as it stood, if it was unconstitutional it would go to the Courts for settlement, and if it was in aid of any person, association or corporaconstitutional, then it was that much the better. He did not deem the Government stern and tyranical but kind and parental.

Mr. King, of Lenoir, was opposed to repudiation, but was in favor of a retrospective homestead. He hoped the matter would be ry interest, unless the subject be submitted to a

leave it to the courts. Mr. Hodnett thought a retrospective vote thereon. homestead repudiative.

Mr. Mayo would call the attention of those delegates who are clamoring so much about repudiation to the case of the rich man and Lazarus, mentioned in the Bible. Could not see how delegates could be opposed to doing all they could for those people who are in need. He compared such to the rich man and the poor people who were in so much need to Lazarus, and he would warn them to be on their guard lest they should awake from their gross negligence to find themselves occupying the place the rich man did when he appealed to Abraham from the burning pit, for water.

Mr. Pool said he would be glad to see retrospective homestead established and the people relieved from their embarrassment. Mr. Jones' amendment, after further de-

Mr. Tourgee then moved to insert, "and is hereby" before the word exempted in last

line. Carried. The section was then adopted, after having the word "on" substituted for "or" be fore the word "execution."

The second section was amended by having the word "exempt" stricken out in the 8th line, and the words "and is hereby exempted" substituted; \$2000 for \$1000 in lines 3 and 8, and then adopted.

Section 8 was amended by having all stricken out from the word "debt in 3d line to the word "during" and then adopted. Sections 4, 5, 6 7 were adopted without

On motion of Mr. Tourgee the vote on the 6th section was reconsidered and amended by having the words "after the adoption of

this Constitution" stricken out. The report, as a whole, was then adopted by a vote of 63 to 18.

Mr. King of Lenoir, gave notice that he would move to rescind the vote by which the resolution limiting debate of all members, except chairman of Committees, was adopted.

The Convention then adjourned.

SATURDAY, March 7. The Convention was called to order at 10

Prayer by Rev. Mr. Lennon, of the Con-Roll was called and 101 members present.

Journal of yesterday read and approved. mechanics lien.

Mr. Tourgee, a resolution empowering the Committee on Revision and Arrangement to secure parchment, for the purpose of having those pertions of the Constitution that have been adopted, brought before the Convention to receive the signatures of delegates. The rules were suspended and the resolu-

UNFINISHED BUSINESS. Mr. King of Lenoir, moved to rescind the

tion adopted.

vote by which the resolution limiting debate was adopted on yesterday. Lost. Mr. Asheley called up the report of the Committee on Printing.

The report was taken up and adopted. It provides for the election of Public Prin-

The election of Printer to the Convention said the cry was that they could not make a being before the House, Mr. McDonald, of of suffering humanity, send free to all who need Chatham. put in nemination Mr. Jos. W. it, the receipe and directions for making the sim-Helden; and Mr Durham put in nomination Mr. John W. Dunham, of the North Caro-

The vote was taken, and resulted in favor of Mr. Holden, as follows: J. W. Holden -88.

John W. Dunham-5.

Mr. Tourgee then called up the report on Towns, Counties, &c. The report was then put upon its 3rd reading, and sections 1 to 8 inclusive were

The 9th section, after a slight verbal amendment, and the balance of the report were adopted.

The report, as a whole, was then put before the house and carried by a vote of 86

SPECIAL ORDER-FINANCE. The report of the Finance Committee, was

then put on its 3rd reading, and section 1, 2 and 3 were adopted. Mr. Abbott moved the adoption of his

substitute for section 4, when Mr. Candler. moved that the last clause of the substitute be stricken out. Mr. Tourgee moved the words "as are unfinished" in the 5th line of the last clause of

the substitute, be stricken out, and the the adoption of this Constitution" inserted. to

After prolonged debate, the motion of Mr.

r. Cowles moved to amend by striking

ut in first line the words "at par." and in art " ninety per cent." Lost. The question then recurred upon the substate as amended, and decided in the affirthe following is the substitute as BECTION 4. Until the bonds of the State

slall be at par the General Assembly shall hive no power to contract any new debt or picuniary obligation in behalf of the State, except to supply a casual deficit, or for sup shall in the same bill levy a special tax to par the interest annually.

and the General Assembly shall have no pover to give or lend the credit of the State tion, except to aid in the completion of such railroads and other works of internal improvement as may be unfinished, at the time of the adoption of this Constitution, and in which the State has a direct pecuniasettled, and if necessary would be willing to direct vote of the people of the State, and be approved by a majority of those who shall

Sections 6, 7 and 8, adopte The article, as a whole, was then put and adopted by a vote of 77 to 20. Mr. Hood introduced a report from the

Committee on Disabilities. Mr. Graham of Orange, moved to submit the report to the people for ratification, which motion was lost and the report received and ordered to be engrossed.

Mr. French, of Bladen, by consent, introduced an ordinance providing for the punishment of any one who shall attempt to intimidate by threats or otherwise, voters to keep them from the polls. Ordered to be Mr. Heaton, by leave, submitted a report

of the Committee on Revision, in relation to an article providing for amendments to the Constitution. Ordered to be printed. On motion the Convention adjourned till

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CTATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, WAKE COUNTY, January 23, 1868.

Wm. J. Brown, In Equity. Weldon N. Edwards, et al., It duly appearing upon the oath of the plain-tiff that Geo. B. Waterhouse and Michael Bowes, two of the defendants in the bill of complaint

filed in the court of equity for Wake county and State of North Carolina, by William J. Brown against Weldon N. Edwards et al, are residents of another State, and are absent from this State, so that process cannot be personally served upon them, the said Waterhouse and the said Bowes are hereby notified to be and appear at the term of the said court to be held for said county, at the court house, in the city of Raleigh, on the first Monday after the fourth Monday in March next, then and there to plead, answer or demur, accord-

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