



"Act - act in the living present. Heart within, and God o'er head."

Friday, October 1, 1869.

WALTER A. MONTGOMERY, Literary and Political Editor.

J. M. WADDILL, General News, and Local Editor.

All letters connected with the Editorial Department must be directed to WALTER A. MONTGOMERY, Box 58.

THE LIVING PRESENT OFFICE, Corner of Main and Franklin Streets, over GEORGE R. STUBBS'S STORE.

Thomas A. Montgomery, General Agent for "The Living Present."

Secret Political Orders.

The results of secret political organizations are beginning to develop themselves in our State. We have always, publicly and privately, opposed the formation of any secret order whose objects were to bias, prejudice and pervert political freedom, believing that they were calculated to do no good, but on the other hand fraught with evils to government and to society. Indeed if we will examine the records of history we will find that all such associations always resulted in great mischief. Prior to the great civil war through which we have lately passed, secret political orders were entirely unknown in North Carolina, if we may except one, concerning the fact that North Carolinians enjoyed to its fullest extent what we call political freedom? There was no necessity then for men being banded together in secret conclaves at dead hours of the night to deliberate on great questions of State and government. Whatever politicians or people had to say at that time on all questions, was said openly and in the light of day, so that every man could discuss and choose for himself. That there exists in North Carolina to-day secret political associations, we presume none will deny. What the necessity for such is a natural inquiry. We do not know any necessity for such associations ourselves, and we have yet to hear a well founded reason for their existence. Among the more prominent of these secret orders may be mentioned the "Union Leagues" and the "Ku Klux" which of the two is more dangerous to the peace of society, and good government we do not know, but certain it is that the formation of the first, gave rise to last. If there had been no "Union Leagues" there would have been no "Ku Klux." That there have been foul crimes committed by both orders in some sections of our State we presume is undeniable, if indeed any truth can be attached to the many reports that are circulated in regard to them. It is time then, high time, that public sentiment and the laws of the land should take hold of this matter, and put an end to this social disorder and this defiance of lawful authority. Be it said to the credit of "Old Warren" that many months have elapsed since there has been a meeting of any secret political organization, and for the good of all, we trust that there may never be another. As a natural consequence we have had in our midst no infraction of the public peace, no violent political demonstrations, but on the contrary peace and good order have prevailed. Before we may reasonably expect anything like material prosperity and social tranquility there must be an end to the League and the "Ku Klux."

J. W. Thomas, of Thomasville, indicted for perjury, was tried in the Superior court for Guilford county, last week, and found guilty. A sentence of six months imprisonment and \$1,000 fine was rendered, from which an appeal was taken to the Supreme court.

Accounts audited by Board of Commissioners, and orders drawn ON COUNTY TREASURER.

Table with columns: Date, Description of items, To whom made payable, Amount. Includes entries for August, September, October, November, and December 1868, covering various expenses like bridge repairs, jail fees, and tax collection.

Table with columns: Date, Description of items, To whom made payable, Amount. Includes entries for February, March, April, May, June, July, and August 1869, covering various expenses like tax collection, jail fees, and public works.