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SUNDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 24, 1878.

CICERO W. HARRIS

OUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

With the best intentions possible, our Legislatures and public men have erred in their efforts to establish a system of public schools in North Carolina.

1 They have started at the wrong end. The whole weight and force of public opinion ought to have been concentrated on the University. Michigan built a university in the wilderness before there was a single public school of lower grade. She gave it lands and money. It grew and became great. This is recent. Go back. Massachusetts Colony started Harvard, and Connecticut began Yale at Saybrook before there was a system of schools. Begin at the fountain. The University is the fountain whence healing waters flow. The University is the Pharos giving light far out over the dark waters of ignorance. The University is the training school. Educate the teacher first. Nothing worthy and abiding can be accomplished with inefficient instructors. We but perpetuate ignorance. The University is the great Central Sun of the educational universe. Make the University what it ought to be, and the schools will be what they ought to be. This is our faith, but

2. Even with a great University it will be slow work getting the school system into shape unless public opinion broadens sufficiently to admit of large measures requiring (1) better men and (2) more expenditure. Better men come with better pay. The people have been educated by timid politicians into believing that they cannot stand an increase of taxation for educational purposes. Sound policy dic- vada tates a liberal course as regards the schools. Better reduce the salaries of State officers and give the difference between the old and the new salaries to the common schools. North Carolina cannot afford to be niggard in this matter. For the sake of posterity the State must do a great deal more for her children than she

3. Organization is as necessary in schools us in anything else. There has never been system enough. Up North, in the brisk current of life, the schools are not forgotare looked after with care as business matters. With less money we naturally can accomplish less. But we ought to do the best we can with the means at command. We ought to have a school government in this State, located centrally, which would put new life into the schools now in existence and as rapidly as possible start new ones. Its care should be over every county, and over both races. It should have power given to it to organize schools wherever they may be needed. A Board of Public Education separate from the political government-a small, compact board, composed of three gentlemen of culture, judgment and experience, two of whom ought to be teachers or ex-teachers and one a sound headed business man-would do wonders for education, we do not doubt, in a comparatively short time. The chairman might be General Superintendent of Public Schools, with a salary equal to the Governor's. In addition to the State-Board we would suggest the appointment of county boards of three, the chairmen of which might act as county superintendents with salaries about equal to the average of the teachers' salaries.

This machinery after it has been started free from politics.

In the second article on this subject which we purpose writing objections to an enlargement of our school operations will be considered.

SOCIAL EQUALITY.

THE SUN has waited patiently since Friday morning for Judge Russell or some one authorized to speak for him to attempt an excuse or a palliation of his language employed on Thursday evening last at the Market House, in this city. Of course we knew that "thoughts that breathe and words that burn" from the pit below, like those uttered in that harangue were not uncharacteristic of Daniel L. Russell. His record as Judge and politician shows that he has been all the while in full sympathy with the social equality theories of the worst men in his party. In his decision in the Opera House cases he went out of his way to parade his race irrespective of party. But there was a feeling entertained by some over-charitable souls that Judge Russell's nominal connection with the so-called National Greenback party indicated a change for the better in his sentiexplicit utterances on the stump that he is ' his throat

as socially and politically radical as he ever was. Indeed, when we consider the circumstances, we are led to regard Judge Russell as more obnoxious to the white men of this District and State than heretofore. Remember that this speech was not delivered in the heat of a political campaign, but was the matured product of his brain. True it was his cry of victory, but a cry not raised until passion had an opportunity to die out and reason to resume her throne. Deliberately he tells his audience-mostly composed of negroes-that he desires to see established in this country 'absolute and eternal social and political 'equality among the races." His assertions that he stood by the Greenback platform faithfully go for nothing in the face of the avowal of such infamous Radical doctrine as this. The little game between himself and the other Radical leaders might as well be stopped. Nobody is deceived. Those who place confidence in a man who says he is in favor of absolute and eternal social equality "pay their money and take their choice." They know what their man holds politically, and if they can swallow him we and everybody else ought to be satisfied.

A DISTINGUISHED SOREHEAD

Mr. Stephens, of Georgia, about as nearly represents Southern sentiment now as he represented it during the war while he was paralyzing the arm of the administration. He has intellectual power, and this gives him weight in the country. But his greatest prominence is due to his mental idiosyncrasies and his physical insignificance. Mr. Stephens is fond of notoriety. To be considered an original man, Mr. Stephens would discuss questions of celestial polity with the Archangel Gabriel if he could meet him. The great Georgian poses on his breadth and altitude in politics. He is a Grant admirer, because he thinks it is a magnanimous thin :, for a Southern Democrat to speak good words of his enemy. He is a Hayes man because most of his friends are anti-Hayes men. Mr. Stephens is never so well pleased as when his friends censure and his enemies praise his conductor opinions. Of course he is always right, whether acting with the Democrats or with the Republicans. He is the only infallible man in the country. Nobody except Stephens is a statesman-nobody but Stephens loves the South-nobody other than Stephens is a full-habited patriot. In all this teeming land Georgia only produces a wise man. Great is Alexander H. Stephens, of Geor-

PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS.

Wendell Phillips, who declares he is the champion of the poor, loans them money at twelve per cent. interest.

Croly left the Graphic to go a-mining, for which he has recently developed a passion. He will try it in Colorado and Ne-

The cremated remains of the late Baron de Palm were thrown into the sea, near New York, Wednesday night last, with appropriate mummeries, by the Theosoph-

A MONSTROUS STORY.

Respectable People Accused of a Triple Murder.

WILMINGTON, Del., Nov. 21.—Accounts of a murder perpetrated yesterday near GENTS' FURNISHING GOODS. Middletown, in this county, have just been

Early yesterday merning a colored man, bleeding and covered with mud, and with two bullet holes in his head, dragged himself to a house near Vandyke's on the Queen Anne and Kent railroad, near the Delaware line, and told a horrible story, the substance of which is as follows:

At Chestertown, Md., lives a woman named Dodson, who is in good circumstances, and has two attractive daughters; who have received considerable attention in so-

Some time ago the daughters became the mothers of illegitimate children. The latter were killed and the colored man mentioned above (James Jones) buried them, and threatened with death if he ever reveled the crime. A few days ago, however, he told the story to a colored woman. On Tuesday two men, named Vincent and Newcome, cousins of the girls, caught Jones, and locked him up on the Dodson farm, promising to do him no harm if he would leave the State forever. This he agreed to de, and Tuesday night the two men, accompanied by Mrs. Dodson, started with the negro in a carriage for Delaware. About midnight, in a dense woods near

Vandyke's Station, this side of the Delaware line, the men took Jones and prepared DY VIRTUE OF THE POWER CONFERto kill him. He begged hard for life and promised never to return, but the women told the men to kill him, and done with it. They fired, both bullets taking effect in the negro's head, and then dragged him a short distance into the by the Legislature should be kept perfectly | woods and left him for dead. He revived, however, sufficiently to reach a farm house. when a magistrate was sent for and his declaration taken. He cannot live. The two men have been arrested and the women

will be arrested to-day. [The above dispatch was shown to Capt. W. B. Burchinal, of Chestertown, Deputy Collector of the port of Baltimore, who says he does not now a family of the name of Dodson at or near Chestertown.. He knows two men named Newcomb, who are farm laborers at Chestertown, and also a colored man named Jones. He thinks the wounded man or those taking his statement have mistaken the locality of the alleged outrage. - Baltimore Bulletin.]

A young gentleman of Sheen, near Manchester, offered, with her mother's consent, to help a pupil teacher with her lessons in the morning. He said she would not be awake early enough, and she offered to tie a string to her foot and let the end hang out of the window, so that if she over slept herself he might pull it. He was up the earlier and pull the cord, and the Rev. T. E. Hevgate, holding that this was an "act of impropriety,' refused him the sacrament. these views in a manner offensive to The Bishop of Lichfield declines to interfere, as it does not seem that the case ad-

mits of any authoritative decision. A correspondent in Land and Water lately maintained that tobacco will serve as an antidote in cases of strychnine poisoning. He relates the case of a dog, poisoned with strychnine, whose life was ments. It seems, however, from his own saved by forcing a plug of tobacco down 27 North Water Stree Wilmington, N. C.

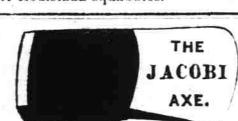
A Judge's Unseemly Conduct.

A movement is on foot among certain members of the Washington Bar, the object of wich is to collect evidence and prepare charges against Judge Humphreys, of the District Supreme Court, with a view of procuring his impeachment during the next session of Congress. This will not be the first time that the impeachment of this Judge has been urged upon the House of Representatives. Two years ago the Judiciary Committee of the House, began an investigation of the case, but nothing was accomplished. No complaints affecting his integrity as a magistrate have been heard, but the general sentiment of the community is, that a man who almost daily appears on the bench in an intoxicated condition is not fit to occupy a judicial position. The official conduct of Judge Humphreys has been a public scandal.

Humpheys is one of the leading Radicals in Washington city, and is the Judge who refused to allow the arrest of Senator Patterson of South Carolina, on the ground that the prosecution of Patterson was

Louisiana Recreants.

Charges affecting the official action of several of the prominent federal officers in the State of Louisiana in connection with the late elections have been made. Among those mentioned as implicated are the collector of the port of New Orleans and the United States marshal. The charges with reference to these two officials have to some extent taken formal shape, and are understood in substance to be that both their passive and active aid was given to promote the success of the Democratic ticket, and in the case of the marshal that there was a purposely lax administration of the United States election law It is not known that there is any provision of the Revised Statutes which makes it a punishable offense for federal officers to support Democratic candidates in the same manner as other citizens may do, and it is doubtful if even so much as this can be proved against the two officials named. The intimations as to the neglect of duty in the case of the marshal will be investigated. It seems as if the country at large is never to have a respite from the incessant Louisiana squabbles.



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TO THE DEMOCRATIC.CONSERVA TIVE PARTY OF NORTH CARO-LINA.

The State Executive Committee congratulates the Democratic-Conservative party of North Carolina upon the result of the recent Congressional elections at the North. These elections clearly indicate three things which are of consequence to us: First, that the people of this country are dissatisfied with the Republican party and are unwilling for the Republican leaders to afflict us longer with their ruinous measures and fraudulent practices. Second, that the Nationals do not meet with popular favor, and, as a separate organi zation, have utterly failed to impress themselves upon the country; and lastly, that the star of the Democratic party is still in the ascendant, and the people are looking to that party as the only one capable of restoring prosperity to the country, and able to administer the government on those Constitutional and just principles, which are essential alike to the happiness of our citizens and to the perpetuity of our institutions. Thus in the elections held in eight States the Republicans have lost twelve members of Congress; the Nationals have elected four; and the Demo-

crats have elected twenty-three, and have These facts demonstrate that the people in. tend to invest the Democratic party with the full control of the National Government. The Senate of the next Congress will be Democratic by a considerable majority, and it is only necessary for the Democrats of the South to remain steadfast in their allegiance to our organization, and our triumph will be complete. It is for us to determine whether the banner on which are inscribed Reconciliation, Home Rule and Financial Reform, shali trail in the

dust, or shall be borne on to victory. Every consideration of interest, or policy and of patriotism then urges us to prepare immesiately for the approaching political

Be assured, fellow-citizens, that without preparation, it will be impossible to achieve Let us not by our apathy, our luke warmness and indifference postpone the accession to power of that party which alone has been able to check Republican corruption and to

arrest the progress of oer government towards a centralized despotism. Let us be steadfast in our devotion to principle, true to our organization and endeavor by every means to discountenance those independents and disorganizers who oppose our worthy standard-bearers freely and fairly chosen by the Democratic party in Convention

'assembled. In particular do we desire to repeat what we have so often urged-the necessity of thorough local organization. It is the town ship committees who are charged with the most important of all party duties. To them is committed the duty of supervising the election, and of devising means to bring out every Democratic voter to the polls. They ought to meet frequently and advise and take counsel together how best to promote the forneighborhood, there ought to be ap committee of active, efficient, and prudent party men, who will undertake to see that every Democrat in the precinct comes to the polls and casts his ballot for our nomineee. We therefore urge this upon the township committees; and if in any township it is neglected, we appeal to our Democratic friends there to send their conveyances for all their

neighbors who otherwise might not attend the Let it be clearly understood in every locality that he who fails to vote for our sominee, gives half a vote to the Republican party, and that the Conservative who easts his vote for an independent is taking the surest means to break up and destroy the only party which can give relief to our afflicted country. We warn our fellow-citizens that great ends cannot be accomplished except at the cost of some inconvenience, and often through the sacrifice of our personal preferences; and we appeal to every man who has the good of the people found in the specially reported prices and con- at heart to give a portion of one day to his country, and subordinating his individual preferences, cast his ballot for the nominee of

the Conservative party. For the Committee: S A. ASHE, Ch'n.

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