

BARRY & BERNARD, EDITORS AND PROPRIETORS. JOHN D. BARRY, WM. H. BERNARD.

Office No. 41 Market street. WILMINGTON, N. C., DECEMBER 22, 1865.

LARGEST CIRCULATION IN THE CITY.

AGENTS FOR THE DISPATCH.

- MA. A. M. CAMPBELL, Fayetteville. WM. H. McLAURIN, Laurinburg. C. L. CHESNUTT, Magnolia. COL. E. R. LILES, Lenoir. ANSON COUNTY. ROBT. M. HOUSTON, Marion. C. H. S. C. CAPT. V. V. RICHARDSON, Whitesville. A. ROWLAND, Lumberton. F. J. SWANN, Swain's Station, Moore County.

Mr. T. J. LEE is the authorized Business Manager of the DISPATCH. Orders for Job Work or Advertising, placed in his hands will receive prompt attention.

Communications without responsible names are not published in the DISPATCH.

A STEP FORWARD.

The provisional government of Alabama has been brought to a close, by order of the President. This step in the work of restoration will add to the already high position occupied by him in the affections of our people. The removal of the Provisional Governor of Alabama will, we trust, be soon followed by a similar course in regard to North Carolina. It is the wish of her people that Mr. WORTH occupy the position of Governor, and in view of the entire absence of opposition to the general government, we believe President JOHNSON will respect that wish.

Notwithstanding the persistent efforts of the Red Republican organ at Raleigh to create the impression that a bitter feeling is growing up in this State against the national authority; notwithstanding its demagogic yells for the "heel of power to be placed on the necks of traitors"—the President pursues the even tenor of his way, and sends a message to Congress in which he states that from all the information in his possession, and from that which he has recently derived from the most reliable authority (evidently not the Standard), he is induced to cherish the belief that sectional animosity is surely and rapidly merging itself into a spirit of nationality; and that representation, connected with a properly adjusted system of taxation, will result in a harmonious restoration of the relation of the States to the national Union.

Such are the views of the President—somewhat in contrast with those of the Standard, to be sure; but still, they are the views of the President. And at the same time that this message goes to Congress, a communication is handed in from General GRANT, who, it is now evident, was sent on his Southern tour for the express purpose of ascertaining the real sentiment of our people; in which he says that there is such unusual acquiescence in the authority of the General Government throughout the country visited by him, that the mere presence of the military force, without regard to numbers, is sufficient to maintain order; and that the good of the country, and economy, require that this force should be white troops.

Now, these are the opinions of the highest civil and military authority in the country. General GRANT was even among the "malecontents and rebels" here in Wilmington; but he could not discover that the "cry had gone forth for the 'Yankees' to stand from under." The President, too, derives his information from the most reliable authority, and still he speaks most encouragingly of the disappearance of sectional animosity. In these expressions of opinion on the part of President JOHNSON and General GRANT, we find much of a hopeful and encouraging character. They are the basis of a rapid change now going on in the minds of the Northern people.

AFRICAN LOGIC.

It is said that on a recent occasion General SICKLES accompanied Ex-Governor AIKEN, of South Carolina, on a visit to his plantation for the purpose of using his influence in persuading the former slaves of Governor AIKEN to enter into contracts for the ensuing year. An exchange of views for the following report of a colloquy between one of the freedmen and General SICKLES:

"Gen'l, can't you send to the government, and ask 'em to let us buy de lan', and we will pay for de lan' in two years; and if we no pay for 'um, den let de government take de lan' back."

"The General replied that such an arrangement was impossible; that the land did not belong to the government, but to Governor AIKEN, their former master, who, as everybody knew, was a very kind master, and who would pay them good wages." The reply was:

"Well mass Gen'l, den we use to belong to Mosser, and din de government take us from Mosser, and gib us free? Den can't de government do de same wid de lan'?"

This unexpected evidence of perception on the part of the freedman was rather perplexing to General SICKLES, and we presume he tried another "tack."

Late advices from the city of Mexico, state that twenty thousand French troops are on their way from France to Mexico, and are expected to arrive there soon.

There is a man in Wayne County, Penn., who is the father of thirty-one children, thirty of whom are living and in good health. —Exchange. Wonder if he expects to go father still!

The radicals are preparing to open their batteries on the President's policy. The object of the adjournment of Congress from December 21 to January 1, it is reported, is to give the radicals an opportunity of operating on the Legislatures of the Northern States, most of which will be in session early in January, and to obtain from them an expression of opinion in opposition to the President's plan of restoration. It is said that a leading radical member from Pennsylvania, Mr. WILLIAMS, has prepared an elaborate speech in which he takes the strongest grounds against the President. This speech, it is said, is approved by WADE and STEVENS. So the "plot thickens."

We learn from the Richmond Republican that Colonel BROWN, Assistant Commissioner of the Freedmen's Bureau in Virginia, has submitted to General HOWARD a proposition for the transfer of negroes from Virginia to the unoccupied government lands in Florida, the result of a conference between him and the Legislative Committee. General HOWARD has the proposition under advisement, and, it is said, expresses the belief that the matter will be submitted to Congress.

SPIRIT OF THE NORTHERN PRESS.

The Evening Post remarks, with great truth and force, that "there are unfortunately a few men in Congress who would like to see the present abnormal condition of things protracted, and who do not scruple to speak of the late Confederate States as conquered and subjected provinces, as if we breathed the very air of the Austrian bureaux."

The Times is still sustaining the restoration policy of the President, with marked vigor and ability. We extract the following from its issue of the 18th: "It ought never to be forgotten that the faith of the Government has been in a certain measure, pledged to the Southern States for an early restoration of their State functions. The President declares in his message that the success of his policy required at least the acquiescence of the States which it concerns, and implied an invitation to those States, by renewing their allegiance to the United States, to resume their functions as States of the Union." This invitation was accompanied with suggestions that ordinances shall be passed forbidding slavery, putting the formal stigma of nullity upon the secession ordinances, and repudiating all debts contracted in aid of the rebellion; and that a legislative ratification of the Constitutional Amendment should be given. These suggestions have been substantially complied with; and the Southern States are now awaiting their promised privilege of resuming their functions as States of the Union."

The Times also advocates the removal of the Provisional Governors and the admission of the Southern representatives into the National Legislature. It thinks the dealings of the Southern States with the President were dealings with the government, and that they carry with them a certain faith which all branches of the government should recognize and respect.

The News has the following on the probabilities of a war with France: "We do not think that Napoleon will risk the hazard of a war with the United States unless his keen intellect discover the opportunity for triumph in the Radical poison that defeats the recuperative power of this country." None so quick as he to take advantage of the lack of harmony and concentration in the household of an opponent; and he is aware that, if the disunion intrigues of the Radicals should prevail, the best elements of our strength would be wanting in the struggle."

The Herald thus discusses the success of the President in his war with the radicals:—"The coolness, adroitness and skill exhibited by President JOHNSON in managing his policy constitute one of the most striking features of the times. He has not only reserved all the weapons necessary to fortify his position, but has made himself so completely master of the situation that he is able to shape events in spite of the opposition of the revolutionary radicals in Congress. The latter, under the lead of Mr. STEVENS, marked out their plans in caucus, marshalled their forces and deliberately assailed the President's policy; yet he continues his efforts at restoration perfectly regardless of their action, and pays no more attention to their antics than General GRANT to an army fringing popguns at his columns. Thus far the fanatics in Congress have not in the least disturbed his equanimity, nor caused him to abate a particle in his policy to restore the South to its full relations in the Union."

"While we see in all this the reaction in favor of ANDREW JOHNSON's policy, we also have another evidence of his coolness and determination to stand by his policy, as announced in his communication, which we published the other day, to the Provisional Governor of Georgia.

"After all, the public can afford to allow the radicals all the comfort and consolation which they can derive in having so large a representation on the joint committees. They can probably delay restoration; but we imagine that they will find it impossible to either move the President, or affect the final result. If they adopt a policy treating the Southern States as conquered territories, it will have to be done by the passage of a bill by both Houses. It will then go to the President, and will undoubtedly receive his veto. The change which has taken place in both Houses during the first ten days of the session, indicates very clearly that by the time a bill is matured by the committee and passed in both Houses, a sufficient number of the Republicans will be found voting with the Democrats to sustain the President, to

prevent its passage over the President's veto in either body. By that time ANDREW JOHNSON's skillful management, backed as he is by the people, will work such a revolution that the radicals will be unable to override his veto, or prevent the admission of all Southern representatives who have not made too objectionable records during the rebellion. They can postpone the admission of the representatives; but the President is so completely the master of the situation that he will ultimately succeed. Such at least are the indications, from the change in tone already taken place in Congress."

The Newbury (S. C.) Herald, of the 12th instant says:—"A cold blooded and diabolical murder was perpetrated on Thursday night last, near Stoney Battery, in this district, the victim an old lady by the name of Mrs. White, harmless and inoffensive in disposition. Mrs. White lived entirely alone in a cabin in the woods. She was found the next morning with her head broken in two or three places. The deed was supposed to have been done by a notorious renegade freedman, formerly the slave of Mr. H. Stuchman, and who had just previously broken into her cabin and stolen some articles. On Sunday morning the body of the murderer and thief was found dead somewhere in the neighborhood, his head perforated by a pistol ball."

A Paris letter mentions as an instance of the folly and extravagance prevailing in that city, that a baptismal dress for an infant has been prepared, of exquisite embroidery and lace, at an expense of eighteen thousand dollars! The establishment in which it was made has been thronged with lady visitors to see the rich and costly dress in which the little creature is to renounce the pomps and vanities of the world.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

WILMINGTON, N. C., December 20, 1865. Messrs. Editors:—Some days since, the question was asked, by some person through the DISPATCH, whether or not the citizens of Wilmington had the privilege of electing a Mayor. I have not seen the question answered. Though not a lawyer, nor do not profess any legal attainments, I say, according to the privilege granted by the Legislature of North Carolina, that they have that right. Therefore, I suggest the name of DR. W. PRICE, for Mayor, and the following named gentlemen as Commissioners: M. LONDON, ELI MURRAY, ALFRED MARTIN, S. D. WALLACE, DR. E. A. ANDERSON, SILAS N. MARTIN.

Perhaps the citizens of Wilmington do not deem it expedient to go into an election for Commissioners of the town, under present circumstances; from the fact that all elections that have taken place have been a mere farce; that none of those elected have been allowed to exercise the authority delegated to them by the Constitution and laws of North Carolina. Hence, they could not perform the functions of said powers delegated to them heretofore. But as it has been proclaimed by the Provisional Governor that the people had a right to elect officers in the different municipalities, why not the people of Wilmington exercise that right, though they may not be allowed to take their seats as such officers, but may be ready to qualify at such time that civil authority may be established in accordance with all other elections.

OLD AMERICA.

To the Pilots who Wrecked the Twilight. I have been informed by the Captain and others, of the Twilight, that it was the pilots who broke open my trunks and took my property. I have not recovered anything, as yet, and if the pilots are innocent, let them clear themselves.

WILMINGTON MILITIA.

ATTENTION, COMPANY C. YOU are hereby ordered to assemble at the Court House, in this town, at 3 o'clock, P. M., this day. By command of the Captain, C. BANKS, Acting 1st Sergt.

WILMINGTON THEATRE.

IS FOR rent by the week or month. Apply to the undersigned. WM. S. ANDERSON, S. Committee. JNO. G. BAUMAN, J Committee.

FOR SALE AND RENT.

"LOVE-GROVE," on the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad, one mile from town, can be leased for three years. A vacant lot on Ninth street, between Chesnut and Princess, is offered for sale. Apply to THOS. H. HOWLEY, or JERE. J. KING.

HAMPSHIRE COAL.

CHARGE OF 275 TONS HAMPSHIRE COAL daily expected from Baltimore. This coal is bituminous, and perhaps the best coal known for steam purposes, whether for locomotives or steamboats. It is used almost exclusively by Northern railroad companies and the Chesapeake Steamers. It is also represented as the best blacksmith's coal in the country, and is very extensively used in iron works for forging, etc. It is soft and friable, the fine coal being as good for use as the lump. The attention of railroad companies, iron works and machine shops, is particularly invited to the importance of a trial of this coal. The undersigned having been appointed agent for the Hampshire and Baltimore Coal Company will be prepared to furnish any quantity required, at a reasonable price. Orders respectfully solicited. PETER MALLET, No. 23 North Water street. Raleigh Sentinel copy one month.

COAL, COAL.

SEND in your orders for COAL to the COAL and WOOD YARD foot of Nun street. Best kinds of coal and wood always on hand. R. HENNING & CO.

CHINA TEA SETS.

DINNER Sets, Plates, Pitchers, Mugs, Cups and Saucers, Glass Ware, Fine Table Cutlery, Pocket Cutlery, Tin Ware, Hollow Ware, Coach Hardware and Materials, Builders' Hardware, House Hardware, Powder, Shot and Caps, Saddlery Goods, Leather and Skins, Window Glass, Paints, Putty, Brushes, etc., etc. at Hardware and Harness Establishment, Market street, near the Wharf.

No. 1 Peruvian Guano.

ONE HUNDRED TONS to arrive per schooner John. For sale by WILSON'S, MURRAY & MURCHISON.

Butter and Crackers.

FIRKINS and five Tubs best Oaken Butter. 10 Firkins second quality. 20 Boxes and ten Barrels Brun's celebrated Milk, Lemon, Butter and Soda Crackers. Just received and for sale by O. G. FARNSLEY & CO.

(From the Evening Edition.)

LATEST NEWS BY MAIL.

From Washington.

THE EFFECT OF THE SPECIAL MESSAGE IN CONGRESS.

THE REPUBLICANS DON'T HARMONIZE.

Raymond on Reconstruction.

More Rumors of Trouble with France.

Mr. Stanton's Resignation Probable.

THE CONDITION OF THE FREEDMEN IN NORTH CAROLINA.

Interesting Letter from Bishop Wilmer, of Alabama.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Important Message from the President—Report from General Grant.

WASHINGTON, December 19, 1865. The President, to-day, in reply to a resolution of the Senate of the 12th instant, communicated a message to that body stating that the rebellion, waged by a portion of the people against the properly-constituted authorities of the Government, has been suppressed, and that the United States are in possession of every State, in which the insurrection existed, and that, as far as could be done, the courts of the United States have been restored, the post offices re-established, and steps taken to put into efficient action the revenue tax of the country.

He says that, as the result of those measures instituted by the Executive with the view of inducing an assumption of all of the functions of the State, the people of North and South Carolina, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas, and Tennessee have organized their respective State Governments, and are quietly yielding obedience to the laws and Government of the United States than, under the circumstances, could reasonably have been expected.

The proposed amendment to the Constitution has been ratified by each one of the States mentioned, except Mississippi, from which no official information has been received.

Lieutenant General Grant's report, which the President transmits to the Senate, briefly reviews his tour of inspection throughout the South. He says he was pleased to find that the leading men whom he met not only accepted the decision arrived at as final, but that now that the smoke of battle had cleared away and time has been given for reflection, the decision has been a fortunate one for the whole country.

He further remarks:—"My observations lead me to the conclusion that the citizens of the Southern States are anxious to return to self-government within the Union as soon as possible, and that while reconstructing they want and require the protection of the government."

The report is very interesting, and furnishes many favorable facts in regard to the condition of affairs in the Southern States, and shows throughout a friendly feeling towards the South.

When the message was read in the Senate, accompanied by the report from General Grant, Mr. Sumner said he disapproved of the report, and characterized it as a "whitewashing report," which reminded him of the Kansas message of Franklin Pierce.

Messrs. Dixon and Doolittle replied to Mr. Sumner, defending the message as an able and truthful statement of the facts.

The report of General Grant on the condition of the South is the most terrible blow the radicals have yet received. Sumner's ill-timed fling at the President's rectitude has added much to its force. Some of the radicals talk largely about destroying General Grant, but it is apparent that demoralization has already begun in their ranks in both Houses, and that upon reassembling after the holidays, they will show a very different spirit.

THE PRESIDENT'S DISPATCH TO THE GOVERNOR OF ALABAMA. The dispatch to the Governor of Alabama exhibits much comment in Republican circles, and there is a feeling that the President is trying to force his plan of early reconstruction through.

STEVENS' SPEECH NOT ADMIRER. Thaddeus Stevens' speech in the House last evening has but few admirers, even among his personal friends. Any bill based upon the speech will fail. Raymond desires to reply to him.

THE PROCLAMATION ANNOUNCING THE ADOPTION OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT. The proclamation announcing the adoption of the Constitutional Amendment, in which the President recognizes all the Southern States, and withdrawing the Military Governor from Alabama, is the principal theme in both Houses of Congress to-day. It is in direct antagonism with the views of Congress.

RAYMOND ON RECONSTRUCTION. Mr. Raymond of New York, is expected to speak this afternoon in favor of the immediate admission of the Southern States. Four of the New York Republicans stand with him.

MORE ABOUT THE FRENCH AND MEXICAN QUESTION. General Logan is still here, and undecided respecting the Mexican mission. It is given out semi-officially at the State Department that there is no danger of a rupture with France. The President maintains the Seward diplomacy. On the other hand, it is whispered here that information of an important character has been received in Washington, concerning the complications on the Rio Grande, with the French, of a serious nature. The report has thus far taken no definite shape.

RAILROAD REGULATIONS. The House passed the bill authorizing all roads across the States to carry freight, mails and passengers in spite of any State regulation to the contrary. It is a bit at the railroad between Washington and New York.

THE CASE OF MR. HARRIS AGAIN. It is alleged that Mr. Harris, member from Maryland, in taking the oath committed perjury. The matter has been referred to a committee for investigation.

CURRENCY CONTRACTION. Alley's resolution on the currency contraction gives great satisfaction at the Treasury Department.

General Grant's Tour.

A dispatch to the New York Herald says:—"General Grant had a protracted interview with the President this morning, and communicated to him the result of his observations during his recent trip through Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and a portion of Georgia. He was everywhere received with tokens of personal respect, and none were more forward in such manifestations than the leaders in the late rebellion. The disaffected who stayed at home during the war, and the women, are our bitter enemies. The labor question is still in an unsettled condition. A large majority of the negroes are in comparative idleness, and nearly all refuse to make or renew contracts till after Christmas. In some localities the negroes religiously believe a general division of property is to take place at that time, and a vague expectation of something of the sort prevailed nearly everywhere. In too many instances, it is feared, they are the greatest hindrance in the work of reconstruction."

"All men of standing and influence were outspoken in favor of complying with any demands the President might consider necessary for their restoration. Slavery, State rights, and secession they admit to be settled against them irrevocably and forever. Their desire now is to return to the Union in fact as well as in name, and devote the balance of their lives to repairing the ravages of war. They have been strengthened in this belief by the express or implied promise of those having them in charge. The summing up of General Grant's observations incline him to the belief that the Southern people almost unanimously desire a speedy readmission to their old position as States in the Union, and that their professions of future loyalty and good behavior are honest and sincere."

FATAL ACCIDENT. A most terrific accident occurred to-day, between 1 and 2 o'clock, at the United States arsenal, Greenleaf's Point, in the explosion of ammunition in a small building used by the ordnance department, where ten or twelve men were at work. The shock was tremendous, shaking buildings far up into the sky.

The following named gentlemen were killed: Jeremiah Mahoney, Patrick Reardon, John Crane, James Moran, John Fely, M. McDermott, M. Whitley, John Mcchan, and Peter McGanachy.

THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNOR OF ALABAMA RELIEVED. The State Committed to the Governor Elect.

WASHINGTON, December 18, 1865. The following has been addressed by Mr. Seward to Mr. Parsons: DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON, December 18, 1865. To His Excellency LEWIS E. PARSONS, Provisional Governor of the State of Alabama, Montgomery, Alabama.

Sir:—The time has arrived when, in the judgment of the President of the United States, the care and conduct of the proper affairs of the State of Alabama may be committed to the constitutional authorities chosen by the people thereof, without danger to the peace and safety of the United States.

By direction of the President, therefore, you are relieved from the trust which was heretofore reposed in you as Provisional Governor of the State of Alabama. Whenever the Governor elect shall have accepted and become qualified to the discharge of the duties of the Executive office, you will transfer the papers and property of the State now in your custody to his Excellency the Governor elect. It gives me especial pleasure to convey to you the President's acknowledgment of the fidelity, the loyalty and the discretion which have marked your administration.

You will please give me a reply specifying the day on which this communication is received. I have the honor to be your Excellency's most obedient servant, W. H. SEWARD.

SECRETARY OF STATE.

THE FIRST AUDITOR OF VIRGINIA, in a report made on the 11th instant, puts down the amount of the registered stock of the State at \$21,996,380, and of coupon bonds issued by the State at \$12,973,000—making an aggregate of \$34,969,380. The amount of interest paid on the registered stock of the State since the first day of January, 1865, is \$399,822 40. On the coupon bonds of the State no interest has been paid since the first day of January, 1865.

SECRETARY STANTON. The New York correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger writes:—"Secretary Stanton has written to intimate personal friends here that he will resign his place in the cabinet immediately after the 1st of January. His health, he says, needs repose, and his private business affairs require attention. Possibly he may visit Europe in the Spring. Mr. Stanton has left Washington for his home in Pennsylvania to spend the holidays."

THE BISHOP OF VERMONT. The following are extracts from a letter written by Bishop Wilmer of Alabama, to Bishop Hopkins of Vermont, setting forth some of the reasons why delegates from the various Southern dioceses did not attend the recent General Convention of the Episcopal Church in Philadelphia:

"We all men, good Bishop, like-minded with yourself, we might have no hesitation in this matter; but certain painful things are brought to our ears. One party proposes to keep the Southern churchmen for a while in the cold—to put the rebels upon stools of repentance, etc. We see in the journals of 1862, certain resolutions proposed, pronouncing certain worthy bishops 'schismatical' and proclaiming the jurisdiction of another bishop null and void. True, the resolutions were not adopted, but they indicate the temper of a part of that body; and we have no means of ascertaining the complexion of the next general convention. Fanaticism grows fast in the hour of triumph."

"The Southern deputies themselves may very naturally be supposed to have some sentiment in this matter. Their sons and brothers lie in bloody graves—their lands are desolate, and strangers devour it in their presence—their emancipated slaves garrison their cities—they live themselves, as yet, under the ban—their representative man, no guiltier than themselves, is in bonds, and may have to die an ignominious death. The whole Southern people, therefore, are at this moment awaiting trial in the person of their representative head—they are denounced as speak a word of vindication or remonstrance. Your own heart, good Bishop, will tell that men in such a condition are in no mood to join in jubilation over a restoration which is sealed by their degradation. The peace, for which Deacons will be chanted, is purchased by the loss of their inheritance, and they are now sitting in the deep valley of humiliation."

"The men of the South have no desire to prolong the hopeless conflict. They accept the failure of their effort as a fact, and as Christian men, will render a faithful allegiance to 'the powers that be,' for God's sake; but it is asking too much of them that they shall swell the pageant which celebrates their subjugation."

"Some time, Bishop, must be given to the heart to school itself. Our people are in no mood for joyous congratulations. They are not yet out of mourning for their dead. It is easy for you to come together, and to join heartily in jubilations for peace and reunion. Yours is the victorious section. It is easy for him who triumphs to forgive; and from your standpoint you can thank God with a full heart. We are trying to forgive and to forget; and, lifting up our hearts unto God from the dust, we are trying to say, 'God will be done.'"

"Excuse some of us, Bishop, for preferring just now to stand aloof from the discussion of these subjects. Our own wounds are too recent to bear rough handling. We have no heart for them—we have no wish to discuss them, for there can be no free discussion. Nor can we, by our silent presence, be faithful to the memory of our dead, nor consent to stand by, while others inscribe 'traitor' on their tombstones."

PROGRESS OF THE UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD. OMAHA, NEBRASKA TERRITORY, Dec. 19, 1865. The first forty miles of the Union Pacific Railroad, from Omaha west, was finished yesterday. The track to Tremont, eight miles further west, will be finished at the end of this week.

IT appears that while the English are unable to stay the cattle plague, which has carried off twenty thousand cattle since it began, the Hollanders are meeting with great success by resorting to homopathy.

FOR SALE. A PORTABLE STEAM ENGINE, HORSE power, locomotive boiler, for coal or wood, in complete running order. H. B. WILES, Dec 21 65-1W