

Republican State Executive Committee.

ROOMS OF THE REPUBLICAN STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, Raleigh, N. C., May 28, 1875.

There will be a meeting of the Republican State Executive Committee at the Commons Hall, in the City of Raleigh, on Wednesday, the sixteenth day of June next, to consider questions touching the proposed Constitutional Convention and for other business.

THOMAS B. KEOUGH, Chairman. F. M. SORRELL, Secretary.

The Proposed Convention

Ye hewers of wood, drawers of water, and delvers of the earth generally, says the Asheville Pioneer, hear what Wm. J. Yates, editor of the Charlotte Democrat, has to say about Convention and the prospective pay for emancipated negroes, and then bare your backs to the lash.

"If a Convention is called let it be unrestricted—let there be no pandering or promise to Radicalism or imported Yankee ideas—let the old time practices be restored, including the whipping-post and qualified suffrage. But it is understood, we think, that the Legislature cannot limit the action of a Convention, and if the Convention meets it can do as it pleases.

No member of a sovereign State Convention should regard the dictation of a mere legislative body." "The restrictions imposed in the bill as it passed the Senate are degrading and disgraceful to the people of the State, especially in its pandering to the prejudices of our fanatical enemies at the North. NO NORTHCAROLINIAN SHOULD EVER SAY THAT HE IS WILLING TO SURRENDER HIS CLAIM FOR DAMAGES IN THE UNLAWFUL EMANCIPATION OF AND DEPRIVATION OF PERSONAL PROPERTY, ALTHOUGH WE ARE ALL NOW OPTING TO RE-ESTABLISH SLAVERY IN ANY STATE."

CITY CHARTER CASE.

This case, involving the validity of the notorious gerrymander of Wilmington when some two hundred voters were given the same strength and equal voting power as twenty-eight hundred voters, comes before the Supreme Court next Tuesday or Wednesday at Raleigh. It is thought that the decision will be against the gerrymander, for thinking so except on the idea that law is justice, and that an able and impartial court will decide according to law and justice. One thing we can say, however, a decision in favor of the old Board and against the gerrymander will be hailed with delight by three-fourths of the people of Wilmington, and by a large majority of the people who are not Republicans. The masses of the white people are opposed to the unscrupulous tricksters who fastened this job on the city, and live in the hope that the law may afford them relief against the outrage. This is shown by the fact that the present claimants scarcely received a third of the Democratic vote.

JUDGE KERR.

As the Journal informs us, last Saturday concluded in the county of Sampson his judicial labors in this District, which had been incurred by an exchange of Districts with Judge McKay.

The Journal wraps the folds of its nose in its pocket-handkerchief and sheds whole buckets full of crocodile tears at parting with this eminent jurist and statesman—talks feelingly of his judicial bearing (particularly the bear), his promptness and impartiality (heaven save the mark)—admires him for his eminent qualities as a judge, and eulogizes his many virtues which so distinguish him as a noble gentleman and sincere Christian.

We hear that this Christian has been making great efforts to accumulate ten or a dozen copies of the Journal to stow in his pocket to carry home with him as a sort of recommendation to his Democratic masters in the Seventh Judicial District from his klu klux employers in the Fourth Judicial District, that he had faithfully performed the duties assigned him.

THE DEATH OF CÆSAR.

Those eminent, self-constituted reformers, who now, by that rare exercise of modesty which transforms suddenly a traitor to a patriot, in their own estimation, having assumed to prescribe the only safe policy upon which to conduct this government, are not at all satisfied at the President's letter in regard to the third term. In fact they are as was the Frenchman when his mother died, "over much devoted." They were not much more dissatisfied when Grant struck that solid blow at Vicksburg, nor when "with huge two-handed sway" he successively dealt these ponderous blows at the Wilderness, at Cold Harbor and at Petersburg, nor when Sherman broke the rotten shell of the Confederacy. It is quite difficult for Gen.

Grant to please these people whatever he may do. And now when he has done what they, with much indecent bluster have for two whole years been clamoring for him to do, there is obstreperous giggling among them, and sneering, and much cudgelling of brains to know exactly what to say on the occasion. It is true that he has said exactly what these reformers have insisted he ought to say, but now that he has said it they declare that he does not mean it. Grant has said as plainly as language can express it, that he preferred to stay at the head of the army when he was nominated the first time, and would have been glad to retire when he was nominated the second time, and now does not want the nomination the third time; and his English is always perspicuous. Nor is he in the habit of saying what he doesn't mean. But these new-fledged guardians of the nation, just from attempting to destroy it, won't take his word, and consequently are in extreme distress still.

The most melancholy thing to these reformers is that their man-of-straw, Cæsar, is demolished. They have been for a long time manufacturing this artificial despot, during which there has been a very heavy expenditure of Goldsmithy learning. Their Cæsar was a very dangerous and bad one, who, as they said, was gradually advancing towards an empire, with a view of by and by crossing a supposititious Rubicon, and bagging things. But Grant's letter has killed their Cæsar, and he has fallen, not indeed with the decorum of the great Julius, but with a disgraceful collapse leaving not a straw. The great and real Cæsar, pierced by the dagger of Brutus, fell majestically, exhibiting a kingly indignation at the manner in which he had been assaulted. The death of this artificial, sham Cæsar was as mean as his origin. He lied and made no sign.

"All at once and nothing first, Just as bubbles do when they burst." Verily, the exclamation of Mark Antony, "What a fall was there my countrymen!" is converted into a derisive sarcasm, but our new-fledged reformers are all turned into wailing Mark Antonies, and there are more of them than Cæsar and Marius in the great Cæsar.

The designing men who are attempting to get control of the national government, sticking at no means, however disreputable, conjured up the idea that Grant was aspiring to the third term, then to a fourth, and then to an empire. In this false assumption they intended to avail themselves of the sensitiveness of the American people on any movement that seemed to indicate a tendency to a monarchy. So they blew up the bubble of the third term, and this has for two years been their chief stock in trade. Grant has pricked the bubble, hence their howling, and silly denials that he said what he evidently did say. The public received his letter as an honest, plain and manly declaration. With one dash of his pen their sophistry and deception was brushed away. They are now attempting to nullify the effects of the letter upon the public mind, by doubting its sincerity. It is a low and shallow trick of men reduced to desperation. The people will understand that there has been an attempt to deceive them, and will be more likely to believe what the great soldier says, than what his treacherous assailants say.

BLOWS HOT AND GOLD

We clip the following extracts from the Wadesboro Argus (Democratic), of the 3d inst:

Rev. Mr. Stocking, of Chicago, is another man who has been down south and seen for himself. Here is his report: "The relations of the white and colored people are, on the whole, most amicable and will continue so, in so far as the latter are unmolested by politicians. No rights of their newly acquired citizenship will be contested, but public officers will be cheerfully shared with them, if only common sense and decency are respected in their selection."

And the following from an editorial in the Durham Tobacco Plant (Democratic), of the 2d inst:

"Nine more convicts came down over the N. C. R. yesterday." "The above paragraph is taken from the last Raleigh News. At this rate of rapid increase in the State pen what will become of the taxpayers. Already a large amount is raised annually for the support of this institution and it is not improved, in a few years the present amount will be tripled.—Just here the question very naturally arises, how can it be remedied? Reinstating the whipping post and disfranchising the rascals."

"No rights of the newly acquired citizenship of the negro will be contested, but public officers will be cheerfully shared with them," quotes the Argus and the Tobacco Plant says that "if the morals of the negro are not improved, the remedy for their non-improvement will be the reinstating of the whipping post, and the disfranchisement of the rascals."

Ex-Senator Carpenter has addressed a letter to the Wilmington News, in which he refers to the newspaper clamor or over his appearance in defense of the Whiskey Ring. He announced that he is practicing law, and regards it a duty to accept retainers in all cases, civil or criminal. He continues: "I shall therefore accept the duty of defending such persons charged with any offenses, as may wish to employ me, whether charged with larceny, perjury, forgery or murder."

THE WHIPPING POST.

The Democrats are becoming more outspoken in their sentiments about changes in the State Constitution, and in spite of their protestations made sometimes since, they are now advocating measures against which we have all the time warned Republicans, but which they have not until lately avowed:

The Durham Tobacco Plant of the 2d inst., speaking of the morals of negroes and the increase of the number of convicts in the penitentiary, prescribes as a remedy for the evils complained of, "Reinstate the whipping post and disfranchise the rascals."—Aye, the whipping post and disfranchisement are the remedies of the Democrats, and if they can only control the convention, or a year has passed we will be treated to the sight of black men and white men; of women and children stripped to the waist with hands and heads in stocks, with quivering and torn and bleeding flesh, under the lash of officers of the law, executing the sentences of the law, and that, too, in the refined and goody city of Wilmington. In behalf of the Republican party, we tell these men—Beware!

REV. JOHN PARIS.

Late Chaplain Fifty-fourth Regiment N. C. Troops, seems to be furnishing Our Living and Our Dead with what he calls "The Soldiers History of the War," and in the June number of that magazine, in giving an account of the retreat of Gen. Banks from Winchester, Va., and his report to his superior officer in which he says, "my command had; not suffered an attack and route, but accomplished a premeditated march of nearly sixty miles in the face of the enemy, defeating his plans and giving him battle wherever found." This so-called recent gentleman, who having held a bomb-proof position during the time he so gloriously fought and bled and died for his country, and probably never within hearing distance of "the Yankee's din," or at all familiar from practical experience with the manual of arms, now, after a lapse of thirteen years, comes to the surface with his "History" and in the most graceful and gentlemanly and ministerial manner imaginable, fights over again his warlike campaigns, and completely demolishes and puts to rout the entire "Yankee" people. In commenting on Gen. Banks' dispatch, this distinguished Christian hero and historian says:—"If Banks were not a Yankee, this Galliver-like story would be startling. But taking his nationality into consideration, the matter becomes plain and easy. To gull the public mind was necessary. Therefore the end justified the means."

In other words the valiant bomb-proof preacher, not having been satisfied with the millions of Yankee lives that he didn't sacrifice during the grace on them by consigning them all—the entire Yankee nation, to the fate of Ananias. "If Banks were not a Yankee, this story would be startling!" All Yankees are liars, and it was nothing startling that Gen. Banks, being a Yankee, should lie. "But taking his nationality into consideration, the matter becomes plain and easy." What a glorious old Chaplain the Fifty-fourth Regiment N. C. Troops had, surely.—And with what pertinacity he followed the teachings of his divine preceptor. This man's facility at infernal lying is perfectly refreshing, and if he don't create as much sensation for some clerical achievements as have some of his co-bomb-proof fellows, he can certainly take the palm for infernal lying.

We wonder if Col. Pool is going to run his magazine on that schedule?—

MATTER FOR CONSIDERATION.

We give the readers of the Post another glimpse of the inside workings of the Confederacy in 1863-64. Comment on these transactions is almost unnecessary, but we have the same question to ask the people of North Carolina. Do they want any more of such things?

Under date of April 22, 1863, the Governor of this State wrote to J. A. Seddon, Secretary of War at Richmond, in which he had cause to complain of the unlawful, severe and tyrannical acts of that pure christian patriot, soldier and statesman, D. H. Hill, who then commanded this Department, (now the klu klux editor of the Charlotte Southern Home), who, in his zeal to fill up the ranks of the army, had virtually suspended the enrolling officers. "Numerous complaints are made to me that he arrests men and sends them direct to the army, without allowing the proper officers to pass upon their claims to exemption, as required by the act itself, and the regulations of the Department thereon." In other instances it is complained that the exemptions furnished by the enrolling officers have been disregarded, and the men forced into service, notwithstanding. "As a matter coming within my own knowledge, I also, beg leave to say that a number of men have been seized by Gen. Hill and conscribed, who were members of a State battalion, raised under an act of Congress, by volunteers from counties within or near the enemies lines, where the enrolling officers could not go to do their duty." "As for this and other irregularities complained of, I am clearly of the opinion, and so regulate, that the best way would be to comply with the law strictly in all respects—that the military authorities should not be permitted to interfere with the

enrolling officers, except to render aid when required in making arrests. * * * This course we are entitled to at the hands of the government."

And now we find a matter of such peculiar interest, showing us it does the terrorism created in North Carolina by these terrible hordes of marauders; led on by men wearing the uniform of officers of the Confederate army, and bearing commissions issued and signed by Jeff Davis as President of the Confederate States, as to call forth a most remarkable letter from the Governor to the Confederate Secretary of War. It has been the chronic cry of disappointed rebels in the South and their copperhead allies in the North ever since the war, to stigmatize the march of Sherman from Atlanta to the Sea, and the movement of Sheridan in the Shenandoah Valley in Virginia, as being instigated by a hate and malice, exceeding anything of which mention is made in either ancient or modern history.

These acts of these Union Generals accomplished more towards bringing the unhappy war to a close than anything that had then been done, and although the remedies were severe, they accomplished the purposes for which they were intended. Sherman and Sheridan were fighting to break down the Confederacy; the troops of which the Governor complained to the Secretary were Confederate troops, and the supposition was that they were fighting for the establishment of the Confederacy, yet we see that their lawless acts were stigmatized by the Executive of this State as "stealing, pilfering, burning and murdering conduct." Did the yankee hounders of Sherman's army do any worse? Could they do worse? We give the full text of the letter:

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, RALEIGH, Dec. 21, 1863.

Hon. James A. Seddon, Secretary of War.

DEAR SIR: I desire to call your attention to an evil which is inflicting great distress upon the people of this State, and contributing largely to the public discontent. I allude to illegal seizures of property and other deprivations of an outrageous character by detached bands of troops, chiefly cavalry. The Department I am sure can have no idea of the extent and character of this evil. It is enough in many cases to breed a rebellion in a loyal county against the Confederacy, and has actually been the cause of much alienation of feeling in many parts of North Carolina. It is not my purpose now to give instances and call for punishment of the offenders—that I do to their commanding officers—but ask if some order or regulation cannot be made for the government of troops on detached service, the severe and unflinching execution of which might not check this stealing, pilfering, burning and sometimes murderous conduct. I give you my word that in North Carolina it has become a grievance, damnable and not to be borne! If God Almighty had yet in store another such instance, I should have no doubt but that the Egyptian in case sure can have hardened his heart, I am sure it must have been argued or so of half-disciplined Confederate cavalry. Had they been turned loose among Pharaoh's subjects, with or without an impressive law, he would have become so sensible of the anger of God that he never would have followed the children of Israel to the Red Sea—no, sir, not one inch! Cannot officers be reduced to the ranks for permitting this? Cannot a few men be shot for perpetrating these outrages? Unless something can be done I shall be compelled in some sections to call out my militia and try actual war against them.

I beg your early and earnest attention to this matter. Very respectfully yours, Z. B. VANCE.

THE CHARLOTTE DEMOCRAT

The Charlotte Democrat is nothing if it is not radical. In its issue of Monday of last week, noticing the fact that Col. R. M. and Mr. S. A. Douglass, of Greensboro, had had a claim confirmed by the Court of Claims at Washington for cotton, seized on their mother's plantation in Missouri during the war, says:

"If the Government pays Stephen A. Douglass's sons for property destroyed or seized by Federal troops during the war, why should it refuse to pay Southern slave-soldiers for the property destroyed and confiscated by enactments of Congress? Miserable demagogues and placasters from the present National Administration may say what they please for partisan purposes, but we declare that we never intend to surrender our claim, or the claims of our people, against the Government for compensation for personal property which the U. S. Government took from us; and when we get compensation we intend to divide it with the negroes we owned, giving them one-half. The people of North Carolina have as much right to receive say for emancipated negroes as the Douglas boys, or any other men, have for cotton or other personal property used or destroyed by the Government. Every sensible white man and black man should agree with us that if the Government pays out the people's money for one species of personal property destroyed by the war, it should pay all alike."

Bully by! but isn't it almost time for our Democratic friends to "let up" a little about that "compensation for his niggers" that he talks so much about? We happen to know a man who knows something about those "niggers," and he don't stop prating about them as we do make a revelation. If the government should undertake to pay for every nigger that every blatant, red-mouthed democrat pretends that he owned, it would multiply the national debt many times its now vast proportions: If the same demagogue, having received the sum demanded by his complaint, were called on to divide with the negroes

one half, we fear the actual number to be found would dwindle down to so few as to leave all the money in the hands of "the masses." But then this cry is so convenient to raise, and (in a word,) it raises the cry so much in the eyes of poor men who never owned a nigger, and in the eyes of the niggers who will know that they would never get a cent of the money.

Our Charlotte friend was certainly troubled with indigestion, and his radicalism impelled him to run a tilt against a lady. He speaks of Miss Anna Dickinson as the lecturer who went flitting through the South a few weeks ago, and tells the people who went to hear the lady, that they are now rewarded by the said "eloquent" Anna's abuse and misrepresentation in lectures delivered in Northern cities. She made a Radical speech in Chicago last week, which is spoken of by a reporter as follows:

"Miss Dickinson then went on to speak of the poverty at the South and their feeling to the North, as she had observed in her recent visit there. Southerners were looking for reform, and a new party, and then they expected compensation for their liberated slaves. But it was the duty of the people of the North to see no change in party. It was necessary to keep the party that secured victory for liberty in power and hold it over the heads of the South. Miss Dickinson closed by speaking of her visit to the graves of 12,000 soldiers in Salisbury, and 13,000 in Andersonville, and the message she received to carry to the North from the fallen heroes who fought for liberty, was that liberty was still at stake."

And then this gallant Democrat hopes Southern people will learn a lesson after a while about encouraging the lecturers, lugging the disgusting epithet she lecturer twice into the same article, applying it to a lady whose fair fame and character is well known and as high and pure as that of any woman in North Carolina.

It was because Miss Dickinson told the truth that the Democrat is so riled—it hurts. No one can find any fault with what the lady said at Chicago, and the Democrat has openly and repeatedly asserted that when the disloyal Democratic party obtain the control of the government, that they would have compensation for their slaves.

In another article—the same paper, the Democrat says "No man, black or white, who has not paid a tax, should be allowed to vote or go into Court, unless physically incapable of work. We are in favor of requiring the payment of a tax as a qualification for a voter."

How do poor men, black and white, who may be unable to pay a tax, like that music? And then hear what the mean, low and vulgar fellow falsely and slanderously says on another subject. "It is said that many of the Female Clerks in the Department at Washington are of the color of the Ethiopian." When one of them gets married it is rather bad taste for yankee papers to make a great deal of fuss over the affair. We hope no Southern-born woman will ever beg for or accept a place in a Government Department at Washington. Where's Ananias?

HEAR! HEAR!

The Concord Sun, Democratic, has this about the Convention:

"We think that in their zeal to do the country a great service, the Legislature inflicted a blow, that will take prudent counsel and hard work to overcome. When this body (the Convention) assembles, they do not propose to alter or amend this or that chapter and section of Battle's Revised, set aside, in whole or in part, any obnoxious law now on our statute books, and they go there FREE, with full and ample power—save a few restrictions (and the Salisbury Watchman, a Democratic journal, laughs to scorn the plea of restricting the Convention)—TO SAVE THE VERY FOUNDATION OF OUR WHOLE STATE SYSTEM; in fact, to out all the old machinery, including the best circuit judiciary the State ever had, and substitute new, something yet to try. The people should look well and earnestly into the matter of who should bear the responsibility of changing the organic law of the land under which we and our posterity are to live."

Send Republicans to the Convention, and the present Constitution, which gives you a homestead, and forbids corporal punishment, and allows every man to vote, will not give place to an instrument recognizing the turning out of doors of your wife and children, the lacerating of the back with a cowhide at the whipping-post, and which will require you to own acres of land or a house and lot before your preference can be expressed through the ballot-box.—Etc.

Nearly every practical reform advocated by both the old Whig and Democratic parties, nearly twenty-five years ago in the "Western Address" is now embodied in the present Constitution, and yet we find men at this late day in favor of taking from the people the very rights which they so strenuously advocated even in the dark days of slavery. The address demanded universal suffrage. The present Constitution ordains it. It recommended the eligibility of all men to office. The present Constitution ordains it. It recommended the abolition of the property qualification for office. The present Constitution ordains it. It recommended the establishment of the office of Lieutenant Governor.—The present Constitution ordains it. It recommended the election of all judicial and executive officers by the people. The present Constitution ordains it. What is it, we ask, that has caused this backward step in the so-called conservative ranks? Will such men as Graham, Craige, Shober and others answer? It is because the people are not so easily moulded to your will, that you propose this monstrous outrage, gentlemen! There is certainly some great cause for this retrograde and the freedom of North Carolina will yet find it out.—Etc.

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