THE WILMINGTON POST.

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THE "POST"

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Immigration.

The POST has, from the beginning of its career, advocated the desirableness of a new population and the manifest superiority of the colored laborer, as a laborer, over any other which can be had. We have pointed out many of the difficulties and the means to overcome them. The fact is that North Carolina stands just where she did in 1865.

In lieu of any remarks of our own, we extract the following from the *Old and New*, written by Edward A. Pollard, an acknowledged writer of great ability. It sets forth in strong language the faults and fallacies of Virginia, and is equally applicable to North Carolina. We invite candid and unprejudiced attention to this article, and, if possible, suggest speedy changes, where they can be brought about.

The question now comes up—how has Virginia, arrayed with so many advantages, yet failed, up to this time—and failed utterly—of the expectations she had formed of immigration since the war? The same disappointment is visible throughout the South (with the exception, perhaps, of Florida and Texas); but it is especially marked in Virginia; both as to the height of her expectations, and the extremity of her failure. The discussion will serve as a full exponent of faults of discretion and of temper which have appeared since the war, in nearly the entire South. On the close of the war, Virginia proposed to take the lead of the entire Southern States in what was indicated as a new era of material prosperity. She has composed all her political troubles; she has been admitted into the Union on better terms than other Southern States; she is in profound peace, undisturbed by ku klux or any other political apparation; she renews her invitations to the immigrant—and yet there is an utterly dead failure as to the incoming of the material prosperity she had expected. The industrial interest excited towards her after the war seems recently to have wholly retreated; the expected army of immigrants has not yet made its appearance; and the few stragglers who ventured within her limits have generally been disappointed, and remain reluctantly if they have not actually withdrawn in bitterness and dismay. The condition of the farming industry of Virginia to-day is thus described in official language: "Barely one-fourth of Virginia's lands were under cultivation in 1860; and since the abolition of slavery, its land owners are working but one half, in many instances less than one-half of what they did in 1860."

For this failure of immigration into Virginia, the writer may mention three notable causes, each one of which has an interest of its own, and involves considerations for the whole South. The are:—

1. Mismanagement; the want of proper machinery of advertisement, solicitation, and transportation of immigrants.

2. Social prejudices; not only such as survived from the war toward the North, but such as have grown out of the isolated and untraveled condition of the Southern people.

3. A mutual ignorance of the Virginian and of the immigrant as to what is really wanted.

The mismanagement of the immigration interest is a continuous illustration of a characteristic infirmity of the South, so fatally displayed in the late war; viz., the want of business talent—that faculty which measures what it proposes to do, and provides for its work means systematic and adequate. The philosophic historian will remark of the South in the past year a strained collection of paltry expedients; a fussy appearance of doing a great deal, and doing nothing; a great sum of small efforts, but an utter want of practical adequacy in all its plans. The habit of mind which induced the confederate secretary of the treasury to suppose that he might raise a war revenue by collection bags in the churches and gifts of old jewelry, and which hoped to build gun-boats by advertising for scrap iron—thus inducing a number of old ladies throughout the South to send in dismantled kettles and old horse-shoes—is precisely that which has since been shown in the attempts to control immigration into the South, and to compete with the large and well-ordered systems by which the North conducts her own schemes of material prosperity. There has been an appearance of great and diffuse exertion; a sum of violent, ill-directed individual efforts; and yet nothing done worth mentioning. The "land agencies" which have been planted at cross-roads, and have advertised in local newspapers and on painted shingles, hand bills on the cars; and the sending some impecunious adventurer to Europe to hunt immigrant geese, are about the sum of what has been done.

It is true that the Legislature of Virginia has constituted a "State Board of Immigration;" but such a caricature has seldom been exhibited, even in the South, since Mr. Memminger's plan of replenishing the confederate treasury by church collections.

In the first place, the Legislature (act of 3d March, 1866) stipulated that "in no event shall the operations of said Board be a charge upon the Treasury of the State." Funds were to be raised by voluntary contributions, to make which it was said the land proprietors would be interested; the country newspapers were eloquent, and would do the advertising *gratis*. So the "State Board" begged an advertisement in some local newspaper, published an "Address," and then set to work to obtain funds by donations. With what result? asks the curious reader. "I succeeded," officially reports Gen. Richardson, the President of the Board, "in obtaining a loan of five hundred dollars only, and by donation one hundred dollars; and the attempt, being manifestly hopeless, was given up."

The short-sighted views of land proprietors in Virginia which induced them to hold up prices at the first blush of the appearance of immigration, rather than to solicit it by lowering their prices at the prospect of demand, and thus securing it, is said to have given the finishing blow to the "State Board," which at first proposed to co-operate with those who had their lands in market. The patriotic and estimable Gen. Richardson, who by proper and generous aids might really have done something to build up the fortunes of the State on the basis of immigration, thus relates an instance of disappointment:

"We were notified that early in last September one of the company's steamers from Copenhagen, with seven hundred emigrants of a select class, was expected to arrive at New York, and that they would be sent to Virginia if lands could be purchased for them in fifty or one hundred acre farms. A gentleman of high character, connected with the company, came to Richmond, and, after conference with the Board, endeavored to purchase lands for settling those emigrants, but, owing to the high price demanded, failed to make the purchase; and there being no time for delay, the opportunity was lost. I have been credibly informed that this company brought more than two hundred and eighty thousand dollars in gold."

If any further commentary was needed on the character of Virginia's immigration scheme, it is furnished in the fact that this State, to receive any immigrants she might obtain from Europe, has to operate through an agent at Castle Garden, acting under the instructions and directions of the Commissioners of Emigration *for the State of New York*. The State of Virginia has no arrangements for the landing of immigrants at her own ports. Her whole system on the subject is one of mendicancy, and of trust to a machinery outside her limits, within the jurisdiction of another State, and likely, of course, to be controlled to the interest of that State. But, despite the wretched public mismanagement of a vast concern, there have been some traces of immigration made in Virginia, which have a history of their own. They have proceeded either from irregular agencies, or from the voluntary movements of those in search of better fortunes. In some instances disreputable speculators in the emigrant trade, operating outside the State, have brought in the refuse of the human flesh-markets of Europe; and these poor creatures have suffered horribly, besides inflicting a nuisance and a burden upon the communities where they have been introduced. Indeed, the "land agencies" and "labor agencies" of Virginia are fallen into great disrepute, since every vagabond and moneyless adventurer has found a sort of last resource in such business to make his bread out of the credulity of the public, and in some instances to reap a golden reward by sharp practice and cruel fraud.

Of voluntary sources of immigration, which usually yield the best and most desirable classes, there were some prospects in Virginia shortly after the war; many very respectable Northern men of their own motion having sought to plant their fortunes in a State of the resources of which they knew without the intervention of untrustworthy agents and solicitors. Here was the best prospect Virginia ever had of assessions of population and wealth from abroad; but, unhappily, this class of immigrants has almost wholly fallen off for a peculiar reason; and, what is worse, it is a class difficult to be reclaimed, after it has been rebuffed or disappointed. The majority of such desirable Northern people, who adventured into Virginia with capital, bringing with them both wealth and intelligence, and who would socially have been an accession, have been driven from the State, mainly on account of the social prejudices they found they had to encounter, together with some asperities of condition, such as are calculated to revolt that class of immigrants who are able to *choose* their homes. But the prejudices surviving from the war and directed against the people of the North are not the only ones in the South which revolt a valuable class of immigration; there is another narrowness and bad temper of which the South will have to cure herself before she can extend the hand of fellowship to respectable comers from all parts of the world. A keen observation will detect in the South a certain dislike of all strangers, bred out of long-continued habits of an isolated life, beyond which Southern men in the past seldom traveled and which they made the standard of all that was best in the world.

It remains to consider the last reason assigned for the flat failure of immigration in Virginia; and here will be found not only the greatest of these causes, but the dominant interest of our whole subject, and one which opens up the entire industrial condition of the South. The Virginian has made a mistake, and his customer, the impecunious immigrant, has made a mistake, in supposing that this State, or indeed any part of the South, really wants *labor*; the real want is *capital*. The negro labor in the South is the cheapest and most tractable in the world. It is quite as sufficient as it was in the days of slavery, the best evidence being (all newspaper nonsense to the contrary) that the negro, since emancipation, has not relaxed as a laborer, but shown a real increase of industry, not counting even the ten per cent. of addition in numbers he has made in the last decade; it is, in fact, cheaper than it was under slavery, his wages being so low that the aggregate is estimated to be less than the usual expenditure accumulated in taking care of him when a slave, and when the extravagance of his proprietor was notorious; and it defies the competition of the white man, by the ability acquired from slavery to live on the lowest scale of comforts, to practice a submission and obedience which even the lowest of white laborers would refuse, and to content itself with modes of life to which its competitors are wholly unused, and in which so far as the experiment has been made in the South, they have invariably revolted.

No falser, more mistaken idea ever took possession of the hasty mind of the South than that of supplanting the negro by foreign white labor. The gross inconsistency of such an expectation stares out in the fact, that the native poor whites of the South yet abstain from working alongside the negro, and decline the competition; they will not work in the fields, and it is yet an imputation upon the lowest pauper of them, besides being as they profess a hopeless task for livlihood, to compete in labor with the negro. Until the poor whites of the South themselves will give the example of working by the side of, or instead of the negro, and show to the world that there are real opportunities for the white laborer in the South, it is unjust and cruel that the land proprietors should expect to find victims for the hopeless competition with the negro among people of the Northern States or of Europe, who are at least equal in self-respect to men of the same color in the South, and who have no harder necessities to relieve.

Of the *refuse* of European emigrants, the State of Virginia has already had some experience, and is not likely to repeat it. A "colony" of such—they were called "Norwegians"—was recently planted in Amelia county; and in a few months the poor creatures, victims of a heartless speculation, were at the doors of the poorhouse, or had become wandering mendicants. The advertised demand of Virginia is for a respectable efficient white labor to supplant the negro; and such, the writer insists, it will not find in the world; and that the advertisement for it is a delusion and a snare.

The negro is sufficient for the present labor demands of the South; more sufficient than he ever was in slavery. Nowhere, at the wages he is willing to accept, can he found a laborer more willing, more used to habits of obedience, and more really efficient. It has been urged that the South would have to look to the market of white labor at least for skilled artisans; that the labor of the negro is ponderous and inaccurate, and is suited only for the rude work of the fields. But here, too, is a mistake. A juster observation discovers that the negro may be educated for any kind of work; that the creature whom Providence has so plainly designed as a laborer has wonderful capacities as such; that he has really a nice, nervous hand, when it has not been actually blunted by rough work; and that, kindly treated and taught, he is serviceable through a range of employments extending from the nicest offices of handicraft to the rudest tasks of the field and the forge. The negro seamstress in Virginia is famous for her dexterity and delicacy of execution in the most exacting ladies' work. The exquisite artificial flowers made in Brazil, from the marine shells, and feathers of the forest bird, are made by the hands of negroes. The reproach of coarseness in his labor is one of the many which are being lifted from the negro, as he becomes better known and developed under systems of education.

So important does the writer consider the negro labor of the South, that, as the preface to all material prosperity there, he would have special exertions made to conserve it, and to secure it for all time. The question of keeping it in the South is not so entirely with the white man, a onesided choice, as has been generally supposed. The negro, too, has to be consulted. In Virginia, at least, he has become so unsettled and uneasy under the pressure of very low wages, that there is a real danger of his eventual desertion of the State. In 1870 no less than twenty thousand negroes are estimated to have left the State, attracted by the better wages of the far South. Many of these have returned, disappointed and ill-used by speculative agents; but since then there has been a marked emigration of what are known as "house-servants," to the Northern cities, even as far as Boston, where they get at least double the wages allowed in their old homes. Virginia can ill afford to lose this class, the very best of her colored population, and long the peculiar pride of her household economy. In fact, a necessity may soon be evident to secure the residence of the negro in his old homes; and the obvious suggestions are, increased wages, and some arrangements to attach him to the soil. As yet, the negro has shown but little ambition to obtain an interest in the soil beyond his wages or share of the crop; but such an aspiration, which invariably marks and implies a certain stage of improvement in the labor system of a country, will undoubtedly be developed in him as he continues the progress he is now making, and should be met by wise provisions. With the former slaves converted really into what John Randolph once, and at that time by a romantic fiction, described them, "a black *peasantry*, the best in the world," and with changes of policy and of manners to correspond, there is no reason why Virginia, on such a basis, may not raise almost any superstructure of prosperity, stand a model and imitation to the world, and realize in all respects that "New Virginia," prophesied and aspired for at the close of the war.

If after this commentary upon the real condition of the South as respects labor, practical advice is asked by those abroad who are looking to this part of the Union with hopes of better fortunes, the following may serve as a principal guide: Do not come unless you have money enough to buy and operate a small piece of land, or to engage in some business other than that of a day-laborer with no other means than days' wages. In Virginia, grown field laborers get from eight dollars to ten dollars per month; female domestic servants from six dollars to eight dollars. Your white color may get you some slight advance on these rates; but you will find a habit and countenance of command over you (naturally surviving from slavery), as a mere laborer, and an expectation that you will put up with food and shelter such as you have not been accustomed to, and will not be likely to endure. A gentleman of the writer's acquaintance in Virginia recently imported on his farm some German laborers. The first night after their arrival, they asked where they were to sleep, and were pointed to the deserted negro cabins of logs and dirt floors. The gentleman, kind and humane enough, had no idea that they could expect any thing else than what his negroes had been content with, and was astonished next morning to find them fled with such dismay that it is doubtful whether they stopped this side of the Atlantic. But this is only one side of the picture: here is the other. If you have money enough to make a small investment in land, to found an enterprise of your own, probably nowhere else in the world will you find such an opportunity of investment as in Virginia,—so small an outlay required with such a prospect of income. Cheap lands; accessible markets; a delightful climate; the variety of various agricultural experiments of great and yet untried promise; innumerable openings for manufacturing enterprise; an unrivalled water-power; a constant excitement in the discovery of undeveloped resources; the hunt of an El Dorado, where the prizes of all minerals,—such are the invitations extended to you.

Expectations from Democracy.

As watchmen upon the tower, we warn the people to consider what the consequences will be should the ku klux democracy ever get into power in this State. It is an axiom that, to judge of the future, we must look at the past. Democracy, ku klux democracy, is the same to-day that it was in 1861; the same proscriptive spirit; the same haughty, arrogant oligarchy; the same thirst for power and place which animated the leaders of the rebellion, inspired the formation of the klans. These leaders, as soon as it was at all prudent for them to take any steps in forming a political party after their failure to break up the Union, concluded to open a war against the constitutionality of the constitutional amendments, and the reconstruction acts of Congress they declared they were unconstitutional and of no force; they claimed in one breath that they demanded their rights under the constitution, and in the next that they openly renounced the constitution; they boasted that the great democratic principles of States Rights was yet the law of the land, and, though (they said); "We have been overcome by the force of numbers, when we get into power all these constitutional amendments, all these reconstruction acts shall be repealed. In the language of their chief they declared they would accept nothing; no, nothing short of having "our own way." They have attempted in the National Legislature to pass a law, as they have in North Carolina, to allow ku klux to testify in their own cause when on trial for their fiendish crimes. They have attempted in the Legislature of North Carolina to pass a law by which all the ku klux shall be pardoned *before* trial. They call it amnesty; they dignify the offence of ku kluxing defenceless poor men, both white and black, as an offence that admits of amnesty, (that is, an offence against the government), and as old offenders in that direction, many having received the gracious unmerited pardon from the United States, they cling to this last fond hope of escape. They claim all the decency, all the *social* position as they so often call it; they threaten, aye, and *do* ostracise all who do not agree with them in their hellish purposes; they vilify, abuse and traduce all who are in power, regardless of age, learning, or merit; especially do they assail the Judges of our State; and men who could not obtain a county court license, and hardly know the difference between a real and a personal action, take upon themselves to criticise the opinions of the Supreme Court, and impute partizan motives for their decisions with an air of lordly superiority that makes them ridiculous for vanity and weakness, and contemptable for their meanness and malignity. Such is North Carolina democracy. We will now show you the truth of what we say, out of their own mouths will we condemn them. Jeff Davis, the Boss man in this crowd, the ring master of the rebellion, the head and front, body and soul of the Confederacy in open war against the government, said in his speech at Atlanta, Ga., 1870:

"I am not one of those who accept the situation.' *I accept nothing*. These cant phrases that we hear so much about, 'accepting the situation,' and about our rights having been submitted to the 'arbitrament of the sword' are but the excuses of cowards."

Frank P. Blair, the son of Montgomery Blair, spoke for the Democracy, in 1868, about the Reconstruction Acts, as follows:

"There is but one way to restore the Government and the Constitution, and that is, for the President elect to *declare* the acts null and void; *compel* the army to undo its usurpations at the south; disperse the carpet-bag State governments, *allow* the *white* people to reorganize their own governments and elect Senators and Representatives."

In their last National Convention, at New York, in 1868, they said:

"We regard the Reconstruction Acts (so called) of Congress, as such, as usurpations, and unconstitutional, revolutionary and *void*."

In their Convention in North Carolina, in the same year, after *protesting* against the reconstruction policy as "unconstitutional, unwise and destructive to society," they said:

"We are *unalterably* opposed to *political* and social equality with the black race."

Robert Toombs, of Georgia, a leading spirit in the rebellion, being interviewed on the subject, is reported in the *N. Y. Herald* as follows:

"You have given up, however, all hope of armed resistance to the United States Government?"

"Not at all. I don't know but that it is about time for us to fight again; our only hope is in ourselves; every party in the North abandons us. I never expected much from the Northern Democrats since they deserted us at the beginning of the war."

"But you surely do not seriously mean that the war ought to begin again?"

"Yes, I do."

"And you remember the bloodshed and misery which that must involve?"

"Yes; but what of it? I am not a peace man. There are many worse occupations for a gentleman than fighting."

"When are you going to raise the standard of revolt?"

"Whenever a favorable opportunity occurs. We will wait until your people at the North are divided among themselves or are at war with some foreign power." * *

"Don't you you regard the acts of the reconstructed Legislatures, then, as binding upon the Southern people?"

"Of course not. These Legislatures have not been legally elected, and whatever they have done is therefore invalid."

Alexander H. Stevens, also interviewed, said:

"All the reconstruction legislation of Congress he believed to be unconstitutional, fraudulent and void."

"*The 14th and 15th Amendments he claimed were no part of the Constitution*, because their pretended ratification" had been effected by force and fraud.

We will quote but one more declaration of these ku klux democratic leaders. Frank P. Blair, the leader of the democracy in the United States Senate, the avowed sympathizer of the ku klux, and by many gravely suspected of being the chief of the organization, in his speech in the Senate of the United States in 1871, said:

"I do not now, and never have regarded the reconstruction acts as any part of the law of the land, and if I had been in place or power (i. e. if he had been President) and called upon to act upon those so-called laws, I should have acted out my conviction, let the consequences be what they might!"

Men of North Carolina, we have set before you the principles of the democratic party. They are at war with equal rights are antagonistic to the government under which you live; they are revolutionary and destructive, and woe be to the people if democracy should ever have the controlling power in this country.

Republicans stand firm, the country, the people are with you, and none know it better than the leaders of the democratic party. Hear what Montgomery Blair, the father of Frank P. Blair, says in his letter to the New York *World*, he gives up the contest, pronounces the defeat of the Democracy; these are his words:

"*The Democratic party cannot succeed on any platform*, not even when opposing ku klux bills and martial law." * * * "With or without the new departure, no well informed and candid man would now say that the Democratic party is likely to carry the election in 1872."

The democracy now exclaim in the extremity of their despair: "Oh! Ku Klux, Ku Klux, wherefore art thou Ku Klux?"

Shameful Treatment of the State Convicts--The Prisoners forced to Devour Carrion and Filth--Barbarity and Cruelty almost Incredible--The Ku Klux Democracy the Authors of it--The Managers of the Penitentiary Appointed by the Ku Klux Legislature.

The testimony given by the Penitentiary Committee, before the late ku klux Legislature, has developed and unfolded a tale which staggers belief; "on horror's head horrors accumulate." We fain would turn our eyes from the horrible scene, but we cannot, we dare not if we would. The sworn evidence of the convicts themselves reveals this harrowing story of devilish deeds, worthy only of foul fiends. Right in the very heart of Raleigh; at the Capital of the State, as the *Era* says, "in the midst of a people unsurpassed by any for generosity, humanity and refinement, and surrounded by plenty, four hundred unhappy convicts have been for months made to suffer "*the tortures of the damned*." Such is the testimony elicited before a democratic committee." What is that testimony? Why, that four hundred men, driven by the unutterable pangs of starvation, devour all sorts of carrion, filth and revolting offal, which the most loathsome of beasts and reptiles would not approach. This is a chapter in the administration of democratic directors.

They say these men are criminals, and that they are placed in the penitentiary to undergo punishment. We reiterate it, that if starvation, barbarity and unrelenting cruelty are to be found as punishments, on the statute books of North Carolina, *the ku klux Legislature placed them there*. What did this ku klux Legislature do after they had received this mass of incontrovertible testimony? Did they turn out these penitentiary managers. No! *They kept them in office; approving their course and endorsing their damnable outrages on the prisoners.* People of North Carolina, we call upon you to mark well and consider well—*that one of those Penitentiary Directors is a member of the bloody ku klux Central Committee*, and it would not do for *his* party to remove him and his fellow managers, for it *might* disgrace them, if any disgrace can attach to the members of the hellish ku klux klan. Let the Democratic instigators and perpetrators of these disgusting and sickening atrocities upon the unfortunate convicts, be withered into dust by the scorn and contempt of every humane man. Let the ku klux Democracy who are responsible for it all, be driven from every office which they now hold. Let every Republican journal in the land, herald it to the people. Let every Republican orator on the stump, proclaim it in the impending campaign. The ku klux Democracy will be arraigned for trial before an unerring jury—THE PEOPLE. The charge to that jury has already been delivered, and in August next, that jury will take the case and render a verdict. From that verdict there will be no appeal. Hear also what the *Era* says:

"It has been reserved for the managers of the North Carolina penitentiary, appointed by a ku klux Legislature, to exceed all previous prison horrors; to bring unequalled disgrace upon their State and country.

"The testimony of the penitentiary committee was before the ku klux Legislature. But, in view of the facts they continued the Directors in office *because the President is a member of the Democratic Executive Committee*, and his removal from the Directorship might injure that party! So said a leading member on the floor of the House. This action on the part of the Legislature is an *endorsement* of the cruelty practiced on the prisoners."

A Slimy Wretch.--A Viper Stinging the Bosom that Warmed it into Life.--An Outcast Reviling His Benefactor.--A Polecat.

The local ku klux sheet, in an ecstacy of joy, publishes entire, a communication under the caption of "Fraud on a State," and signed "A Republican," which appears in the columns of a newly established journal in Washington City, *The Transcript*, a democratic paper. The article in question is the emanation of the notorious *Charles I. Grady*, (whose name is a by-word in this city), and is a long rhodomontade of abuse and falsehoods directed against Senator Abbott. This wholesale fraud *par excellence*, Charles I. Grady, who was driven out of the city of Wilmington, and who, if he dared to show himself here, would be immediately imprisoned, *was released from jail in this city on the sole condition that he would never return to this State*. This miserable wretch was picked up in Washington City by Senator Abbott, a penniless, half-starved Bohemian; brought to this city by General Abbott, installed by him in a comfortable and respectable position as the *ostensible* editor of the POST, pecuniarily aided by Senator Abbott and supported by him, until his scandalous course compelled every man in the Republican party, to shun, repudiate and denounce him. The following, taken from the *Union and Republican*, exhibits the estimation in which this miscreant was held thirteen months ago:

(From the Union and Republican, Wilmington, N. C., Jan. 24th, 1871.)

"The largest and most enthusiastic meeting of the great CAPE FEAR REPUBLICAN HARMONY CLUB ever assembled, met at the City Hall last night. Forty-three new members were enrolled, making the grand total 1,485. The committee on reception reported that all necessary arrangements were made to give the HON. O. H. DICKERY a grand reception. The following resolutions were adopted with deafening cheers:

Resolved, That recognizing in the HON. JOS. C. ABBOTT a faithful and fearless champion for and unswerving friend of the colored man, we thoroughly endorse his course in the Senate, and elect him an honorary member of this club.

Resolved, That we recognize the *Union and Republican* as the only organ of the Republican party in New Hanover county and the 3d Congressional District."

Resolved, That we condemn the course pursued by C. I. Grady as Democratic, and denounce him as anti-Republican, and request all Republicans to withhold their support from him.

This skunk, who now endeavors to smear with his slime, his benefactor and liberator, Senator Abbott, has since that time ranked among the dirty tools of the ku klux democracy. We demean ourselves by any further notice of this cancer on humanity; but it may be extremely relevant, and withal edifying to the Washington *Republican*, if we should interest it with two absorbing sketches, "An Exploit in New York City," and "Suffering Offspring in Wilmington."

Unconstitutional Legislation.

Section seven of an act concerning elections in the year 1872, is as follows:

No elector shall be entitled to register or vote in any other precinct or township than the one in which he is an actual and *bona fide* resident on the day of election, and no certificate of registration shall be given.

This section is unconstitutional. It is an abridgement of the rights of the citizen. It is an attempt to gain party advantage by a violation of the Constitution of the State. It is a blow at the colored man. The party which enacted the law of which the above is a section, claims to be—*par excellence*—the party of constitutional liberty. A more flagrant violation of the organic law is hardly possible.

Every male person born in the United States, and every male person who has been naturalized, twenty-one years old, or upward, who shall have resided in this State twelve months next preceeding the election, and thirty days in the county in which he offers to vote, shall be deemed an elector.

What authority is there in this section that gives the Legislature the right to prohibit any person who has resided in the State twelve months next preceeding the election, and thirty days in the county, from voting at any township in the county? None. The Legislature was pleased to outrageously violate a plain and unmistakable provision of the Constitution. Democratic members violated their oaths—committed perjury—when they enacted that no elector shall register or vote in any township other than one in which he is a *bona fide* resident on the day of election.

Democrats profess a morbid desire to return to the customs of other days. Before the adoption of the present Constitution an elector was allowed to vote anywhere in the county in which he resided. There was no restriction of the right of suffrage in those days. It was reserved for the late Legislature—the offspring of murder, intimidation and outrage—to violate with impunity, that instrument, which, above all others, the democrats profess to reverence, obey and uphold. Such violence of the fundamental law is a disgraceful commentary upon the acts of the defunct Legislature. It is evidence conclusive, that democrats and ku klux are capable of committing outrageous and unwarrantable violations of the Constitution, under the form of law, for the purpose of political advantage. The liberties of the people are not to be trusted to a party whose representatives have no regard for constitutional provisions as plain as the noon day sun.

This attempt to disfranchise colored voters, is in keeping with the principles and objects of the ku klux democracy. It is carrying out principles which are openly avowed in the dens if not on the stump. The people so understand it. They will remember at the ballot box, the party which has attempted to restrict the right to vote. The people are the sovereigns of this country. Their voice will be heard in condemnation of a restriction of their rights and privileges by the "start-ups" who compose the majority of the late Legislature.—*Carolina Era.*

We learn that the enterprising managers of the Wilmington, Charlotte and Rutherford railroad expect to put another passenger train upon the road as soon as the engines are ready. The latter are now being manufactured at the Baldwin works, Wilmington, Delaware, and it is expected to have the new train running by the middle of March. This train will run through at night, and will supply a long felt want on this road. We understand that Mr. A. M. Alderman is to have charge of this train as Conductor.—*Robesonian.*

NEW ADVERTISEMENT.

Notice of Appointment as Assignee.

THE UNDERSIGNED HEREBY GIVES notice of his appointment as Assignee of the Bank of Cape Fear, Bankrupt, Greensboro, N. C., February 26th, 1872.

N. W. D. WILSON.

feb 29 179-1aw3w

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