

into the hands of their late masters? I ask that Massachusetts may sustain the noble position she has occupied for the last few years. I ask you to reject this amendment, and by so doing say to the people of the country, say to the world, that the promises made by the government of the United States to the blacks when they went into the field shall be redeemed; that you believe the blacks of this country have nobly vindicated their manhood and their right to be free; and that the people of Massachusetts are unwilling to submit to anything but that which gives complete justice to every man in the United States of America."

Gen. Sickles to the Freedmen.

As the foregoing was read on Tuesday night of last week, published in respect to General Sickles, and the following speech which will be of interest to our numerous readers in different portions of the state as far as the present, at least our civil interests are in his keeping:

"My friends, I thank you for your visit. Although I am sorry, if I might be less gratified. It is your presence, not mine, to take part as a participant in the political and social life. My duty is to see that every citizen of North and South Carolina, not only a free man, but a full and fair opportunity to exercise his judgment and conscience in all matters. This duty I shall endeavor to perform. The colored race in this country have gained just praise for their admirable conduct during the war and during the recent agitation of their civil and political emancipation. In my department I can truly bear testimony to your patient forbearance. When sorely provoked to retaliate on acts of violence and humiliation, you have borne yourselves with unflinching confidence, that the day of your deliverance was not distant. [Cheers.] Let me inform you all, in this hour of your success, perseverance in well-doing. You are now citizens of the republic. Remember that the strength of the nation lies in the ability, industry, loyalty and courage of its citizens. You must try and vindicate the hopes of your friends and repel the doubts of the sceptical by proving yourselves worthy of the privilege which you have won. Whenever any large addition has been made to the voters of a state the same apprehensions have been expressed that are now heard with relation to your selves. Those already enfranchised are easily alarmed at any considerable change in the established order of things. So far, in this country, experience has shown that union, liberty and power are safe in the hands of those who earn their bread by the sweat of the brow. [Applause.] None have the hard of their birth more fully none will defend it with more constancy and valor than those whose labor makes up the sum of a nation's wealth. [Applause.] So long as the studies of this country are in the hands of those whose homes are made sacred by justice, whose liberties depend on the courage with which they are maintained; the old flag may defy all enemies, whether from without or within. [Great applause.]

It would be difficult, under the most favorable circumstances, for any race of men to engage you have now to do, in the most interesting political events, without being deeply moved by their importance and novelty. Let me advise you as a friend, and not as one not without experience in public affairs, to preserve at all times the utmost moderation of expression, temper and conduct. Avoid everything like violence, impatience or ignorance. Do not give even your adversaries just occasion to complain of the least disrespect shown to them in your discussions, private or public. And beware of those who would endeavor to excite animosities between the white and black races.

The prosperity of the South, the welfare of the country, are intimately associated with the harmony and good feeling which should exist between the people of both races. Whatever seriously impairs the interests of one race, must result injuriously to the other. Intelligence, culture, capital, land, are not less essential than labor; and yet without a prosperous, contented and happy laboring class, society lacks an essential element of strength and repose. You have already shown your appreciation of your privileges by the eagerness with which you have employed the opportunities lately given to you to educate yourselves. It will not be long before the white race in the South will see how deeply they are interested in the education, industry,

thrift and progress of their colored population. In this mutual dependence lies the security of all.

Abundant time and opportunity will be afforded, and ample notice will be given, of all the successive steps to be taken in the organization of the State Government within my command. It will not be necessary, nor can it be otherwise than injurious to yourselves, for you to neglect your regular employments and associations, to attend to political affairs. I promise you that without any such sacrifice on your part, every man in the Carolinas entitled to a voice in the decision of the great questions to be passed upon under my supervision, shall have a fair chance to act his part, without later hindrance from any one. My friends, I wish you all good night. [Enthusiastic cheers.]

Governor Orr on the Situation.

At a recent meeting of the Board of Trade in this city, Governor Orr said:

I desire to state to you that your commerce, manufactures and agricultural interests will all remain paralyzed until our political relations are re-established and re-constituted with the Government at Washington, and until you see some representation in the Congress of the United States. While the Constitutional Amendment was proposed to South Carolina as a national and equal condition in that capacity could be exercised, as I well know to every gentleman here, I opposed its adoption, but the act of Congress recently passed has assumed that this country is a conquered territory, a conquered people, and consequently that that body has a right to dictate terms. The power exists in that body to dictate those terms; it is secure for the next two years, and when they place themselves squarely and broadly upon that platform, I for one, do not propose to go to the Supreme Court or any where else, for the purpose of disputing that power; but in good faith I will accept the terms, humiliating as they may be, and openly, fairly and squarely urge their adoption before our people.

I have neither the privilege of enrolling myself as a voter, or casting my vote at the ballot box, nor of becoming a candidate for the humblest office under this organization, and, therefore, the only occasion may be regarded as accepted by even those who are in the habit of distrusting me as the expressions of an individual entirely disinterested and anxious only for the welfare of his people.

Rebel Reconstruction.

SHOULD WE TRUST THE ARISTOCRATIC LEADERS OF THE REBELLION?

A correspondent in Alabama asks the above question. Time and space is not sufficient to give an elaborate opinion. It would seem, however, that it is expecting too much of human nature, to suppose that the aristocratic leaders of the rebellion, such as Toombs, Cobb, Clay, Rhett, Wade Hampton & Co., will faithfully organize, develop and represent a State government that knows no distinction on account of color. Their acquiescence is only due to their love of power. They are willing to ascend by any ladder, hoping to kick it away when they get up. Those lovely Southerners have had their day; it is now over, and they should be laid on the shelf. They are utterly unsuitable to have the destinies of the loyal masses committed to them, as horse-power is to propel a New York Forty boat. The times demand *aristocrats*, whose political habits are not formed, men who are not fossilized in pro-slavery and rebellion, but whose hearts and minds are receptive—men who can be moulded by the advanced sentiment of the nation.

The aristocracy of the South must be ignored by the loyal masses, they must follow, and not lead. They were not true to the white men before the war, and they will not be true to the black man after it. A few aristocratic white men in South Carolina always controlled the State, the nominated each other for all important offices, and so kept power where they wanted it. The idea of popular nominating conventions was scouted at. The loyal masses of the South have their eyes open, and it is hoped they will conquer.

The Student's First Glass.

A youth once threw his head upon my knee in the bitterest agony, and said, "Oh, cousin! if I could only describe to you these awful feelings of insatiable thirst! It is like ten thousand devils gnawing at my vitals!" Said I, "Why will you not be persuaded to break off

from these habits of drink?" He replied, "It is impossible, I would give everything I own to be able to do it; but the raging fire within can only be assuaged by another drink, and another, and another, and another! and so it must go on till death! Oh! it is hopeless, hopeless!" And he a noble youth, with collegiate education and native grace, of excellent family connection, and having just completed the study of law, with fine opportunities for honor and usefulness opening before him. In a few weeks from the time of that conversation he was found in the street, was taken to the almshouse, and there died in a few days. Is more than one such record needed to prove the danger of taking the first glass?—*Youth's Temperance Banner.*

All letters to the Editors of Publishers, should be directed to "Charleston Advocate, Lock-Box 109."

The Charleston Advocate.

CHARLESTON, S. C., APRIL 6, 1867.

State Convention.

The Committee of Thirteen, in compliance with instructions, do call a Convention of the Union Republican party of South Carolina, to meet in Charleston on Tuesday, the 7th of May, at 8 o'clock P. M.

H. J. MOON, Chairman.

Hatred to the South!

The readers of southern papers are often told of the inveterate hatred of the North towards the South. The recent act for the purpose of securing a more efficient government to the States recently in rebellion, is regarded as one of the greatest developments of injustice, and malice, that an ungenerous foe could inflict upon its prostrate and helpless victims. It will be noticed however, that none but those who were formerly enemies of the government, make any complaint against it. Congress has been generous in its treatment of the South, even to a fault, while at the same time, no effort has been spared by the *press* to depict the *papers* as the *dearest* interests of the *people*. But our government would be strangely culpable, if it did not protect its *real* friends here, who have been suffering even to the perils of martyrdom as a punishment for their loyalty.

The people of the North have been constantly making contributions for the benefit of the South. They sent here liberal donations of Bibles and Testaments during the war, and no sooner was the war closed, than they sent teachers, and sustained them in their efforts to give to all without distinction of color, the means of education, and the Freedmen's Bureau has been dealing broadly to the hungry whether freedmen or southern whites.

In addition to all other acts exhibiting this kind of hatred of the government towards this portion of the country, Congress has just past the Southern Relief Bill, which provides that the Freedmen's Bureau shall use out of the unexpended money of the present appropriations, whatever is necessary for the relief of all destitute and helpless persons. It is true that some of the members of Congress looked upon this as a dangerous violation of the Constitution, to send bread to the starving, nevertheless the radicals carried it through with an overwhelming majority. It was a measure greatly needed to prevent starvation and untold suffering here; and by it Congress will be fulfilling the scriptural requirement: "If thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink."

Whatever may be the verdict rendered by the sensitive and jealous South in their judgement of these acts, the rest of mankind will not fail to mark and approve the generous magnanimity of the Government, and it will make a bright page in history, to be honored and admired by coming generations. The time has been when king cotton swayed his scepter over the whole country, and the eroding subjects of his authority fell flat upon their faces, in obsequious submission at the crack of the slave master's whip; then the concessions of the North, were justly regarded as signs of abject servility. But now slavery is dead, and cotton dethroned, and the South without military or political power; the generosity of a great people is not likely to be misinterpreted. If it is thought to be an evidence of weakness or flattery, those who thus judge, will learn their mistake,

The truly loyal of the Southern States will be the last to complain of these noble deeds. We can long and cheerfully bear any amount of such developments of national hatred as this, and may the blessings of those who are ready to perish, continue to be upon a government so brave and forbearing in war, and so lenient and generous in peace.

More trouble on the Street Cars.

We regret to learn that on Monday of this week, quite a serious disturbance was occasioned by colored persons taking passage, like white people, upon the street cars. The trouble at one time assumed a serious aspect through the interposition of the police, but was finally brought to rights by the presence and aid of the military. As the offending parties against the city regulations for excluding persons of color from the cars, are now in the custody of the military, where the case will be duly examined and decided, let all concerned peaceably acquiesce in the result. Let no violence be used to secure, in this respect, equal rights in our city. The people of Charleston have not, as yet, become accustomed to the presence of colored persons as citizens. They have long loved the negro race as slaves, and as such, could endure their presence with pleasure in the same carriages and rooms, if not even in closer proximity to themselves; and when accustomed to them as fellow citizens, their presence will soon be as grateful to them in freedom, as when embathed with the incense of slavery. Those who were our firm friends in slavery, will not trample upon our constitutional rights in freedom.

Let us patiently wait, and in due time the laws and regulations of our state will discard all distinction on the account of color. Coming events cast their shadows before, and the gigantic system of slavery, with all its outgrowths, is doomed to utter destruction; and the equal rights of man, *as man*, are destined to receive universal acknowledgment and respect. Every onward step foretells another; every shout of victory heralds a future triumph; one after another, the foes of humanity are vanquished and who can doubt the final, glorious result? The doctrine of human brotherhood is to be written in our laws, and the civil and political rights of the weakest and humblest person are to be sacredly guarded by our Federal Constitution. To this, the signs of the times point, towards this the nation is steadily progressing; to prevent its accomplishment the selfishness and pride of man will strive in vain; to insist it every true-hearted patriot should earnestly labor and devoutly pray.

The Howard University.

The thirty-ninth Congress will be emboldened in the grateful recollections of coming generations, by the record of its noble and impartial legislation. It has given protection to the union men of the South, and conferred the right of suffrage here without distinction on the account of race or color. It also took an advanced, and important step in extending without a like distinction the means of education, thus aiding to break down the unjust and cruel prejudice, that has so long denied those of African descent a place in the best universities of our country.

A bill was passed at the late Congress to incorporate "Howard University" in the District of Columbia, is a measure of incalculable moment. Its provisions are extremely liberal. By its charter the University will be open to all persons, of whatever color or race. It will comprehend six different departments or schools: Normal Collegiate, Theological, Law, Medicine and Agriculture, and such others as the Board of Trustees may establish. If an opinion may be expressed on the subject, there seems a peculiar fitness in beginning the work of properly educating the black population in Washington. Now that they have here the right of suffrage, and as intelligence on the part of those who vote is essential to the safeguard of the Republic, Congress did well in granting to them the privilege of founding an institution of learning of high grade, to be sustained by their own proper exertions and patronage, in which they may secure the advantage of a liberal education. Without this, emancipation would, in the view of most persons, be of very doubtful propriety, and would be attended with many grievous consequences. The University takes its name from the illustrious General O. O. Howard, who is the Commissioner of the Freedmen's Bureau—a philanthropist, a patriot, a Christian.

Meeting of Freedmen.

We learn that a meeting of the freedmen took place here on Monday night for the purpose of forming a party platform, passing resolutions, &c. There were probably from two to three hundred present. The meeting seemed to be conducted principally by a colored man by the name of Sasportas, who has been teaching school here for some time. He offered a set of resolutions the same in purport, if not in words, as those adopted by the meeting of colored people in Charleston a few days ago, and he endeavored to persuade the colored people that their only friends were those who had fought, bled, and died to set them free; and that their greatest enemies were those who held them in slavery and ignorance before and during the war.

Now we happen to know something of this man, who should consider well his antecedents before making such speeches in public. His father, we believe, is a butcher, &c.

We leave the matter to our colored friends to determine, why he has taken this sudden turn, and they may be able to judge in the future how much confidence to put in those who are trying to raise their passions against men in whom they have learnt to put their faith from long experience. (a little too long—Ed.) We learn, also, that contributions were called for in aid of a Charleston paper, which is said to be published in their interest. We hereby cordially offer to the colored people of this District, our columns free of charge for any communications they wish to publish; and we will give them every advantage given to other citizens.

It is true we find it hard to get along in these times, but we promise not to ask them for their little earnings to enrich ourselves upon.

We clip the above from the *Orangeburg News* of this week. We thank the *News* for its notice of this important meeting of the Republicans of Orangeburg. We like the speech of Mr. Sasportas, and think it contained the true doctrine; we confess it does not weigh much in our minds whether his father was a "butcher" or a banker, if his son is of good character, and speaks the truth, we have no scruple for weighing anything but *his* *father's* in a man. And by the way, he should not have been a colored friend to trouble themselves about who their fathers were; for they might find too near paternal relations to slaveholders.

We are glad the *News* opens its columns to the colored people of the District, and have no doubt they will avail themselves of the generous offer.

We know of no paper in Charleston that has contributions to add it, in Orangeburg or anywhere else. Our subscribers pay, but do not contribute, and we suppose it is the same with others.

The ding of the *News* about "contributions," "reaching ourselves" from the "little earnings of the colored people," comes with an ill grace, to say the least, from that class who have been buying and selling, holding and robbing them of their earnings, and everything dear to humanity for generations; and saying it too, to those who are devoting their lives to the education and elevation of the colored people, and that too, without fee or reward from *them*. The freedmen of Orangeburg, as elsewhere in the South, will not be at a loss to distinguish between *false* and *true* friends, whether from the North or South; and now they have the ballot in their own hands, we trust they will use it wisely as freemen.

The African Methodist Church.

The Editor of the *Christian Recorder* says:

"We shall be absent from our office during next week, having received a very cordial invitation from Rev. Gilbert Haven, Rev. Dr. Thayer, and others, to visit the New England Conference of the M. E. Church which meets at Waltham, Mass. on the 27th inst. It is very kindly indicated that we will be successful in extensively introducing the *Christian Recorder*, our Church organ, among our white friends in that section, and an additional promise is made, which is always acceptable to a poor Methodist preacher.

It is desirable that white people as well as colored should take the *Christian Recorder*. It is important that they should know more of our yearnings and struggles for a higher existence. We read, and support very extensively, the papers published by white men, and it is no little satisfaction to see them read and render some support to our own."

It may not be known to all of our readers here, that the Methodist E. Church, at the North, entertains a kind and brotherly affection for the A. M. E. Church, and this has often been exhibited by con-

tributions taken among our people to aid the African Church in its efforts to do good. It is to be regretted that at the South, the African Church is imbuing the spirit of prevailing ingratitude to northern friends, and in some instances, uniting with the previous slaveholding Church, to oppose the M. E. Church in its southern work. But this state of things will not always exist, as many are learning their error, by searching for the *real cause* of this opposition to an anti-slavery church, which has done so much in vindication of the rights of humanity.

How the Chivalry handle the Advocate.

We were not a little amused in learning from a friend, how near one of the forced Unionists of our city came to being contaminated by our paper. One of our subscribers was employed in a store, and his employer happened to be the first to take up the paper which had been thrown in by the carrier, and glancing at the heading he immediately dropped it, and went for the tongs, and with these, holding the sheet at a safe distance, he deposited it among the rubbish of the back yard.

This is the way the South has always been in the habit of treating the truth, when brought within their reach; and by this means they fooled themselves and their dupes into the disgrace and ruin of the recent war. If free speech and a free press had been tolerated here in the reign of cotton and slavery, the people would have been too wise to have ventured upon the chances of war to perpetuate their supremacy. So in regard to the recent efforts for reconstruction, if the people here had read more than one class of political papers, they never would have been induced to have rejected the Constitutional Amendment, to have so soon repented of their folly in their painful but forced acquiescence to Sherman's Military Bill. But none are so blind as those who won't see, and none who fall into the ditch deserve less pity than such for their misfortune.

William Cuthbert, a colored scholar of the Morris street school, who, believing in the doctrine that he must "drink deep" from the stream of knowledge, filled several books from his fellow students; but being detected, he was arraigned before his Honor, who looked him up for a week in the cells, where he remained until he was sent to the penitentiary.

We make the above extract from the Police Report of the *Daily News* of last Saturday. This is a new phase in school government for a teacher to send an offendingurchin to the Mayor's Court to be punished. We suppose the next move will be to send James or John to the lock-up to study their morning lessons; which might not have been resorted to the satisfaction of the dispenser of school room justice.

PREJUDICE AGAINST COLOR.

Wade Hampton in his recent speech at Columbia said:

A stronger prejudice has always existed at the North against your people here, and it exists still. A curious instance of this prejudice came under my own observation some years ago in Philadelphia. Passing through that city, I had with me two servants for whom full fare was charged on the Rail Road; but the ticket agent told me that they would not be allowed to ride in the same car with myself, as the people there "did not like to ride with negroes." But, said I, "you make me pay full price for them, and one of them is the nurse of my children." "That makes no difference," he replied, "you can't take them into the car." I told him that I had paid their fare; that I thought them good enough to ride with me, and therefore quite good enough to ride with his fellow-citizens.

General Hampton ought to come to Charleston, just at this time, and try and allay the prejudice of our white friends here against our riding in the street cars. If we are good enough to ride in the same car with him, why not with his "fellow-citizens" in Charleston? Philadelphia in this regard seems now quite in advance of Charleston in the treatment of colored people.

This Issue.

We reprint in this issue the platform for the Union Republican Party of this State, as it has been demanded for a more extensive circulation in various sections. The good work is progressing finely, and enthusiastic ratification meetings are being held in different localities. This platform will bear a careful reading and is received with great favor among the people.

Laid over.—We were obliged to lay over until next week our letter, giving an interesting account of the Republican organization at Marion. We regret our inability to insert this, and other valuable articles, which will appear in our next.