

The Charleston Advocate.

VOL. I.

CHARLESTON, S. C., SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 1867.

NO. 11.

The Charleston Advocate.

CHARLESTON, S. C., APRIL 27, 1867.

A. WEBSTER, Editor.
B. F. RANDOLPH, Associate Editor.
T. W. LEWIS, Editors.

A RELIGIOUS AND LITERARY PAPER.
PUBLISHED WEEKLY AT NO. 188, MEETING STREET, NEAR CALHOUN.
BY H. JUDGE MOORE.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION:
Three Dollars a Year, payable in advance.
Six Months 1.75
Three Months 1.00.

All letters to the Editors or Publisher, should be directed to "Charleston Advocate, Lock-Box 109," Charleston, S. C.

RATES FOR ADVERTISING.
Advertisements will be inserted at the rate of SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS per square. The space of ten lines of Brevier type constitutes a square. Longer advertisements in the same proportion. For standing advertisement of eight weeks and upwards, FIFTY CENTS per square; for standing advertisements of six months and upwards, FORTY CENTS per square; payment in every instance being required in advance.

Professional and Business Cards, not exceeding five lines, \$10 a year.

Marriages, Deaths, Religious and Literary notices, not exceeding five lines, FIFTY CENTS each insertion.

No publication reflecting upon private character will be allowed in our columns, either as advertisement or otherwise.

No publication made without a responsible name.

All licensed preachers of the M. E. Church whether traveling or local, are our authorized agents.

Educating Theologians.

Many of our readers are interested in the Baker Theological Institute in this City, and know something of its marked success and interesting exercises. The friends of education among the colored people will be pleased to learn that a similar institution has been started in Georgia. The following is an account of some of its first exercises by Northern teachers:

A theological school is just being opened here for colored Baptist ministers. A building is to be erected by-and-by, and a professor from the North is to take charge; but at present the school is simply a voluntary organization of brethren, meeting together for study, with such help as they can get. They have asked Mr. Price to take charge, and he has proposed to me to assist him.

I made my first visit last night, my good friend Miss Burt accompanying me. The school is held in one of the churches, and being more than a mile away, one of the "ministers" called for us with his own horse and buggy. We had some interesting talk with him on the way concerning the new and wonderful prospects opening before him and his people.

I asked how he felt about *politics*, and he replied that he was very thankful and happy to have the privilege. I told him there were thousands of well-educated gentlemen in England who did not possess this privilege, at which he seemed greatly surprised.

He said that their fathers and grandfathers had looked and prayed for such a day as this, but had died without seeing it, and wound up with the remark, "This is the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes." Tying the horse to a tree he assisted us to alight, and we were soon in the midst of our scholars.

I had taught night-school before, but never just this kind of school. Here were about forty ministers, of different ages, from the white-headed father in Israel to the young licentiate, every one with a book in his hand, and eager to study. They greeted us warmly, and when I said I hoped they would not have any objection to being taught by ladies temporarily, they replied unanimously that they should consider it an honor.

School was opened by prayer, and one

of the brethren called the roll, and then Miss B. and I buckled on our armor and addressed ourselves to the work of enlightening this body of divinity.

It touched me much to see a row of young ministers, every one with a primer in hand; licentiates, I presume, these were. Miss B. took them in hand, and afterward attended to a Third Reader class, while I took charge of a large class in the Freedmen's Second Reader. On the front seat was a venerable old man, evidently more accustomed to the spade or the hoe than to a book. He held it up to the gas, borrowed a pair of "specs" of a neighbor, and finally succeeded in reading the first two paragraphs of the opening lesson. I confess I felt some delicacy at correcting the old gentleman for the misplacing of a letter or two, or the disregard of the commas and periods. I pictured him in the pulpit giving full vent to his native eloquence, urging his unconverted brethren to come to Jesus, or going down to the river side to administer the rite of baptism; and I almost felt as if I were offering an insult to his gray hairs. Not so he, however; his face brightened up each time I corrected him, and as he evidently enjoyed it I began to enjoy it too.

But now picture, if you can, a minister's spelling class! Imagine my feelings as I called on the Rev. Mr. ——— to spell w-o-o-l-d, and the Rev. Mr. ——— to spell s-p-e-e-k; a difficult word, by-the-way, both to spell and pronounce, and over which every one tripped and fell! I took occasion to enliven the spelling with various little dissertations on the nature and peculiarities of the English language, the derivation of words, etc., with which they seemed highly delighted. When the Rev. Mr. ——— spelled, it was proposed by the Rev. Mr. ——— that they should read the first chapter of Revelation, and I readily consented, advising that one should read in a distinct, audible voice, stopping at the end of each verse for the rest to criticize. My advice was followed, and proved very acceptable in its results. The pastor of the church ascended the steps of the pulpit, opened the ponderous Bible, put on the "specs," and proceeded slowly, but firmly, to read, pausing, according to agreement, for the criticisms of his brethren, and—alas for the dignity of man—of his sister too! Yes, there was no way to escape the responsibility; for once it was clearly my duty to correct the preacher, standing, too, in his own pulpit! There was no hesitation on the part of his brethren. Criticisms showered down freely, and I was appealed to as umpire. You said "sanctified" for "signified," cried one, alluding to the 1st verse; you said "the things" instead of "those things," cried another, referring to the 3d. The worthy pastor stood rebuked, and submitted himself with a lowliness well worthy of imitation. We wound up our exercise by reciting, simultaneously, all the hard words in the chapter—Alpha, Omega, Ephesus, Smyrna, Thyatira, etc.

This recitation was particularly acceptable to all the students, for one of the primer licentiates had previously whispered to Miss B.: "Miss, won't you please give me a Bible lesson, for they call on me to preach sometimes, and I'm mighty tight up on the words!"

All the theological students seemed satisfied with their teachers, and passed a vote of thanks, with a request that they would continue their services.

The same good brother drove us home, chatting pleasantly and intelligently on the way.

[For the Charleston Advocate.]

The Country Alive.

We hear of enthusiastic meetings being held in the different Districts, where Republican organizations are being formed, and the people exhibit a purpose unmistakable to those who have sworn "to rule or ruin." The dogs in the manger are being driven out; 'tis true they snarl and show their teeth, but there is a cur-tailing of their power to harm which gives comfort to those who have so long been subject to the fear of dogs. The

people are rising in their might, the popular voice is significant. There's assurance in the air even. Everything betokens united action. Crowds gather to hear and to do; to be instructed and to determine. Expressions solid and potent come from the great deep of settled purpose, which make the once strong, weak-kneed; the always boastful, doubtful; and the assumptive, cautious.

The freedmen are lending their ears to the advocates of free and equal privileges; to the declarations of their manhood—their rights and responsibilities, with delight. The Military Reconstruction Bill has already built men up in hope, and, as one, they will show how worthy they have been to receive the trust—the franchise so deservedly conferred upon them. They are not to be duped, although every invention will be applied to accomplish distraction and division in their ranks.

Threats have already been made, but, thanks to the keen-eyed vigilance of the General Commanding the 2. District, provisions are made which will relieve many a dependant physically, and cause him to become an independent mentally. Voters, that are to be, have learned, that Contracts do not control their opinions, however much the always in the habit of ruling may say to the contrary. They have suddenly discovered that they can think for themselves and speak what they think—in fact are free entirely.

The country is alive with earnest inquiring; men want to know the whole of the great matter which blanches the cheeks of some, irritates aristocracy and rejoices the hearts of the people; whites as well as black are breathing freer looking more cheerful and mentally promissive.

Radicalism prevails. There are those, once the tools of the Slaveocrat and the Secessionist, that now out-Steven Stevens in denunciations of such as would sink the ship if they could not command it. Democracy like the leprosy is slumped, and he who dares defend it is in danger of the verdict, "traitor to humanity and National unity."

Depend upon it, the country is all right and will send forth such an expression of loyalty as will convince the scheming—unreconciled non-conformist, to the logic or march of events, that old things have passed away and a new order of relations exists.

ALPHA.

[For the Advocate.]

A mass meeting of the freedmen was held at Darlington on the evening of the 9th instant. Although the weather was unfavorable, the house was crowded to overflowing. Chaplain Wittemore was the principal speaker, and delivered one of his characteristic speeches, which was enthusiastically received by the crowded auditory. After describing the two antagonistic parties, (the Republicans and Democrats) he requested those who belonged to the former party to rise, when instantly, every one present sprang to his feet, and a voice replied, "Not a Democrat in the house." Another voice exclaimed, "Yes, there are two out in the hall."

Rev. Isaac Brockenton, followed in a short speech, in which he ably advocated and defended the Republican doctrine. Mr. Humbird, and others, spoke, declaring themselves fairly and squarely on the Union Republican Platform, which was read and unanimously adopted. At the close of the addresses, the following resolutions were put to the house and unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That as citizens of Darlington District, we do hereby pledge ourselves to stand by each other in upholding and defending the great principles of the Union Republican Party of South Carolina; and that we do cordially and earnestly adopt the platform of that party, as presented and ratified at a public meeting in Charleston by the people of that city.

Resolved, That we will remember the adage, "United we stand, divided we fall;" and use our every endeavor to bring about perfect unity of opinion throughout the District, so that way

not be despoiled of the glorious rights and privileges given us.

Resolved, That every man shall be used to instruct, caution, and encourage the people in the discharge of their duties, so that none may say at the hour of election, "we were ignorant of our duty."

Resolved, That we nominate and support, as our candidates for office, those, and those only, who, we are fully persuaded, are true to our interests, and will become the faithful exponents of every loyal principle of government.

Resolved, That we communicate with the people of the surrounding Districts, and stimulate them to a concert of action in the coming events, to the end that our efforts may be successful.

Resolved, That by the help of Him who ordaineth right and justice, we will prevail, and show our-elves worthy the trust so graciously confided in us.

Resolved, That a meeting for the nomination of officers for the permanent organization of the Union Republican party of Darlington District, be called at the earliest possible date.

Resolved, That the speaker, B. F. Whittemore, receive our sincere thanks for his able and instructive address.

[For the Advocate.]

A mass meeting of the citizens of John's Island was held at the Camp Ground on the 19th instant, for the purpose of adopting the Union Republican platform, and hearing the addresses of the speakers. We had invited Rev. Mr. Van Horn, and others, of your city, to address the meeting, but they were prevented from attending on account of the inclemency of the weather.

The meeting was organized by a singing of hymns to the chair, and requested Mr. E. Gaillard to act as secretary. Mr. Gaillard made a very impressive and appropriate address, at the close of which the platform was read and adopted with great unanimity. There were about five hundred persons present, every one of whom voted to adopt the platform, and pledged themselves to support the doctrines and principles embodied in it.

The meeting was altogether enthusiastic and harmonious, and the greatest order and good feeling prevailed. You may rest assured that John's Island is all right, and will stand shoulder to shoulder with the great Union Republican party North and South.

Slandering the Dead.

We were never among the admirers of Joshua Soule, lately senior Bishop of the M. E. Church South, but we believe that his friends should rescue his reputation from the foul slander which a corrupt press recites above his grave. Southern papers say that he charred the sentiments of his colleagues—was with the other Bishops, &c. We have said his position was far from satisfactory, and so we still say, but while every man then and now in that Southern Episcopacy, was a rebel in heart, a rebel in sympathy, Bishop Soule loved the old flag and the Constitution too well to join their vituperations, or assist in any way their wicked machinations. He was deeply grieved when McTyre was writing crazy philippics against our government, and Marvin was in the rebel ranks; he did not share the treason of his colleagues.

We have not joined in any memorial services for Bishop Soule—there was enough of mistake and mischief in his life to sadden any heart, and errors for which posterity must condemn him, but we don't believe the old man ever gave his up, royal to treason, or went to his grave with the blood-guiltiness of a rebel upon him.

It was sad enough that he, Northern born and reared, ever became even the apologist of the worst system of slavery known to history; that he ever lent the influence of his great name to the mad schemes of men who meant secession in 1844; that he thus did much to shape and render potential, the causes which eventuated in secession, but we cannot

believe that he added to those grave mistakes the sin of deliberately sanctioning the monster crime of the century, the Southern rebellion.

Let them leave one green twig uncut; let them leave one virtue uncut; let them leave history one grateful record; let them not wrong the memory of Joshua Soule by insisting that he was their fellow-conspirator, their fellow-traitor, their fellow-rebel.

He did go with them very far, but we cannot believe that he sounded, with them, the depth beneath the deepest depth of infamy—the slough in which unrepentant rebels wallow.

Western Advocate.

Our Cause in Kansas and Missouri.

The influence of the M. E. Church, is doing much for the loyalty and equal rights in the great West. The *Centr. Advocate* published at St. Louis says:

"Our position in reference to human rights is well known, and we shall give our entire influence to freedom in the future as in the past. We have no doubt of the result of the pending canvass. Missouri will put the ballot in the hands of the negro whether the government demands it or not. We hope Congress will pass a law giving suffrage to all men in every State long before such benighted regions as Connecticut can become truly civilized. Missouri and Kansas will not need the spur of Congressional admonitions. The people will do right. We know that our church needs no urging in a matter of this kind. The question is already settled with us, and the entire weight of the body in these two States will be given for truth and justice now as it was for liberty and our country before. Treason is undoubtedly shocked at negro suffrage, but it will receive worse shocks than this before it gets itself enthroned again. We like these providential adjustments. When the South attempted to forge chains which would hold forever their slaves, the God of heaven gave to his poor freedom; and now the law of equivalents demands that he shall have the ballot. We have several times affirmed our faith in God as the arbiter in these matters, and we have no doubt of the equity of his awards. The slight reaction of a little mercenary spot in New England which never yet had much independence of character will only intensify the disgust of the West, and her majorities for justice will appal the decaying rebels who trust in Connecticut. One constant earnest effort to reconstruct the country, North and South, on the principles of eternal justice, will be profitable for all concerned. We shall do our part."

The Republican Party in the South.

There is much meaning in the enthusiastic manner in which the Republican party is endorsed by the loyal element in the South. They are not disposed to have any half-way work in the matter of reconstruction. True loyalty is in earnest, and does not fear to call things by their right names; it is only the conditionally loyal who are afraid that the name Republican will offend some sensitive southern ears. The loyal masses who are moving in the great work of reconstruction now going forward in the unconstructed States, have boldly and gallantly thrown the banner of the great Republican party to the breeze, and are nobly rallying around its standard.

"The splendid and patriotic record made by this great political organization, in standing by the General Government with an inflexible resolution, in carrying forward profound measures of statesmanship to a successful issue, and the powerful aid given by it in finally overthrowing and prostrating the most gigantic rebellion of ancient or modern times, should command the respect and challenge the admiration of every candid man."

This spoke the convention recently held at Raleigh, North Carolina; and the same sentiment has prevailed wherever the loyal people in those States have assembled to express their views.

This is wise; there is but one great loyal party in the country, and that is the party represented by the dominant majority in Congress. It is to the Republican party alone that the South can look for aid to restore their forfeited relations in the Union. Their name is an honored one; the party is a loyal one; its principles are known and established; the people of the North and Northwest have approved it. We wish the work of organizing the Republican party in the South God speed.—*Great Republic.*

THE MAN.

Is a man a whit the better
For his riches and his gains?
For his acres and his paucity—
If his inmost heart is evil—
Is a man a whit the better?

And if a man's no whit the better
For his collars and his raiment,
For his purple and fine linen,
For his vineyards and his vines,
Why do thousands bend the knee,
And erge in mean servility,
If a man's no whit the better?

Is a man a whit the worse
For a lowly dress of rags?
Though he owns no lordly rental,
If his heart is kind and gentle,
Is a man a whit the worse?

And if a man's no whit the worse
For a poor and lowly stand,
For an empty, even pocket,
And a brawny, working hand,
Why do thousands pass him by,
With a cold and scornful eye,
If a man's no whit the worse?

Our Russian Purchase.

Why did we purchase this vast and desolate region? What are we going to do with it? In answering the first we must deal principally in negatives. The sale was not made because we wanted land, it was not because Russia wanted money. There must then be some unknown reason; something diplomatic. It is probably a strategic move and no one as yet has guessed the secret. Mr. Seward propounds riddles. This purchase is a political conundrum and we give it up. To what use may this territory be applied? It may be turned into a haven for disappointed politicians, and take the place of that mystical Salt River about whose head waters used-up political hacks have been wont to gather. Why not send thither all the Nasbyites and Vallandighammers, together with Fernan to Wood and the rest. We should be rid of them at but little expense, and they would doubtless be happy, as the irrepressible negro would not care to follow them to such high latitudes. True there are Esquimaux there, but they might be rendered useful and subservient to the higher race, and might even in time take the place of the lost chattels, now unhappily freed and enfranchised. We may need our Russia as a refuge for exiled traitors, who having tried Mexico and Brazil, and being disgusted with the march of improvement in those empires, may wish a place in some more serene and secure region, beyond the reach of railroads and telegraphs, newspapers and schoolmasters. There they can be let alone.—*Central Advocate.*

Can we trust the African?

General Fisk in his recent speech at the anniversary of our missionary society said: "I remember in the early months of 1863, when the army of the Union in the Mississippi valley was endeavoring to climb up 'some other way' to Vicksburg, that I was attached to a large force which was penetrating the centre of the State of Mississippi. On a Sabbath evening, thirty or forty steamers loaded with troops were anchored side by side for the night. The deep, overflowing river stretched far out, up on the decks of those steamers sat ten thousand soldiers of the great Northwest, with their faces turned toward the land of the rebellion. The stars looked down upon us quietly, the bright moon stole out, and the scene was lovely. I remember that Chablain Hare, of Iowa, a sort of captain-in-chief for the troops, I had the honor to command, mounted on the pilothouse of the steamer, commenced singing with his