

THE TRI-WEEKLY NEWS.

VOLUME I.]

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THE TRI-WEEKLY NEWS:

BY J. E. BRITTON.

THE TRI-WEEKLY NEWS is published on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, at ONE DOLLAR per month, in advance. Single copies TEN CENTS. Advertisements inserted at ONE DOLLAR per square, of eight lines or less, for the first, and SEVENTY-FIVE cents for each subsequent insertion, invariably in advance.

[Correspondence of the N. Y. Herald.]
South Carolina.

CHARLESTON, S. C. June 10, 1865.

The amnesty proclamation of the President is considered very liberal by the mass of people. The middle course adopted will save the State from anarchy and confusion, while it relieves the people of the iron rule of the old aristocrats—the real secessionists—who, in the name of honor and chivalry, have heretofore exercised kingly power. To have given the right of suffrage to the recent freedmen, with their overwhelming preponderance, would have practically turned the State over into their hands. Sensible people say, let that question be reserved until the blacks, by habits of industry, thought and education, become fitted to cast an intelligent vote.

The proclamation has, however, excited the ire of the extremists—the secessionists denouncing the President as a tyrant and the radicals as a copperhead. Both of these parties—strange as it may appear—advocate the giving of the electoral franchise to the blacks. The radicals say it is the only course left for the safety of the State, while the secessionists go further, and favor negro legislators and negro Congressmen to take their seats alongside of Senator Wilson, Sumner, et al.

ARRIVAL OF EX-GOVERNOR AIKEN.

The venerable and beloved ex-Governor arrived here last Thursday morning from New York, via Hilton Head, and had a grand reception. As soon as it became known that he was on board the steamer, the crowd on the wharf collected around the gangway to greet him on his appearance. As the Governor stepped out he was received with the most enthusiastic cheering, and a great rush was made to meet him. Everybody wanted to shake hands with the good old man. After quite a severe ordeal of hand shaking, the crowd procured a carriage and escorted the Governor to his residence in Aiken square. Subsequently he called upon General Gurney, at his headquarters, to report to him in accordance with the terms of his parole, namely, "once a month to the commander of the post." The General and Governor had a pleasant interview, and the visit was duly recorded by the former.

During the day the Governor was visited by his humorous friends with their congratulations on his safe return. He gave a glowing account of the kindness extended to him everywhere while at the North. In Washington, besides his pleasant interviews with the President, he was received by all his old friends and many others with the greatest cordiality and friendship. At first, owing to the delicate position in which he was placed, he was obliged to decline the numerous invitations extended to him to meet at social gatherings and dinner parties. Upon his release, however, he received an invitation and dined with the Prussian Minister, and afterwards accepted the hospitalities of his friends. Numerous letters from all parts of the country were received by the Governor, tendering him any amount of money or assistance he might need. The same kindness was shown him in New York.

He also speaks in the highest terms of President Johnson, and believes he will make the best President we could have had for the present condition of the country. In fact he says "he will be the President equal to the occasion, which demands the most consummate talent and abilities." The Governor regards the President as far superior to any member of his Cabinet, and says he will act boldly but impartially in restoring peace and order in the Southern States.

WHO IS TO BE PROVISIONAL GOVERNOR.

This is the general topic of conversation in every little gathering at the hotels, on the streets, and even in home circles. Everybody is anxious for the appointment of a Governor to make arrangements for a speedy restoration of civil rights. The feeling is unanimous with all good working citizens that South Carolina once more, through her representatives in the next Congress,

may clasp her arms with those of her sister States, "better, for worse," in an indissoluble national life.

Previous to receipt of the President's proclamation and the arrival of Governor Aiken preliminaries, for a meeting of which had been arranged, with an intimation from the military authorities that a meeting would be permitted and blacks not allowed to obtrude upon the assemblage. Since then it has been deemed expedient to postpone the matter until the appointment of a provisional Governor.

During Mr. Ken's absence it was reported and believed that he had received the appointment. No man would have been more acceptable to the people or would have received a more hearty and unanimous support. The disappointment was very great among all classes where it was learned that such was not the case.

GENERAL GURNEY TALKED OF FOR GOVERNOR.

The friend of General Gurney have solicited him to permit his name to be brought forward for Governor. General Gurney administration has been very popular and his praise in everybody's mouth. He carries the heart of the people with him, as in fact do all the officers and men of the One Hundred and Two-seventh regiment New York Volunteers. General Gurney has, by his calm, judicious and impartial administration of justice carried this community safely through several ugly, critical occasions, when it was thought bloodshed could not be avoided. Next to Governor Aiken he would be the people's choice.

OTHER CANDIDATES FOR THE GOVERNORSHIP.

The class of several others have also been put forward. Among them, James Simons, well known Union man, who advised Governor Pickens not to fire on the Star of the West, and he has never taken an active part in the war, although sympathizing with the distress of the people. Dr. A. G. Mackey's name has also been mentioned. The appointment of Hon. W. W. Boyce would meet the hearty concurrence of the people; but it is thought he cannot receive it, having been a member of the rebel Congress. A memorial has been drawn up by the friends of Governor Aiken, and is now in circulation for signatures, asking his appointment. No meeting, it is thought, is necessary, but simply the appointment of a committee to proceed to Washington and lay the memorial before the President.

UNION MEETING IN SUMMERSVILLE, S. C.

A union meeting was held at Summersville on the 31st ult., at which resolutions were adopted requesting the citizens of each parish to take the necessary steps to call a public meeting for the appointment of delegates to a general convention. This meeting was held previous to the receipt of the President's late proclamations. Since then all permission to hold political meetings has been withdrawn, to await the appointment of a provisional governor.

SPIRIT OF THE PEOPLE.

Strangers who visit Charleston and the interior are unanimous in their expressions of astonishment at the gentleness of the people and the entire absence of all animosity. All the bitterness which prevailed here a month or two ago has gone with the cause to which the aristocrats clung with so much desperation.

A gentleman from New York, who came here expecting to address the people and counsel submission, said he found more hostility to the government in certain circles in New York, Baltimore and Washington, than in South Carolina. The people already here, and those daily returning to their homes, are completely prostrated and at your mercy. They are looking with earnest eyes on Washington, to the President and the powers that be. There is a general desire for the withdrawal of the military, particularly the black troops, and that one good regiment of regulars should be sent here. There is no doubt but that such a step would lead to the most beneficial results and an area of good feeling.

THE PLANTERS.

A number of the old planters on the coast between here and Savannah have gone to Hilton Head, to recover their plantations. Having taken the oath of allegiance they are prepared in faith to

make contracts with the freedmen, their former slaves, and carry out the policy of the government in regard to the cultivation of the soil.

Among the number who have thus returned are Daniel and Nathaniel Heyward, whose progenitor was originator of tide water rice culture.

SHIPMENT OF RICE.

A sober second thought has induced the authorities to permit the shipment of rice to the North to a certain extent. It was at first considered objectionable because of the scarcity of provisions. But it was soon made apparent that the public would be the gainers by an exchange. It is not so much now the scarcity of provisions that is felt as the scarcity of money. When New York can furnish us with cheap food, say potatoes at two dollars a barrel and take our rice at ten cents a pound, we are considerably the gainers by the operation. Some large shipment have accordingly been made on Leary's steamers, the *Alhambra* and *Granada*.

THE MADNESS OF FANATISM.—The negro is irrepresible. He cannot be kept down. From the beginning of our history, he has been a disturbing element in politics. The grand issues of the war we have just seen closed, centred more or less upon him. But with the end of the armed struggle, new complications arise in which the inevitable and irrepresible negro re-appears as their leading character. Slavery has been practically killed. An amendment to the Constitution, perfecting this policy, and giving it the sanction of fundamental law, is far progressed toward adoption by a requisit majority of States. Four years ago, Wendell Phillips, in the wildest flights of his fervid imagination, would not have expected to see so much accomplished in his lifetime. Probably the National Anti-Slavery Society, at the beginning of the war, would have been glad to compromise on the basis of what has already been done, and solemnly agree to agitate no more for a century. But yet the radicals, not satisfied with the liberation of the slaves, wish the blacks who were lately sweating upon plantations, with scarcely an idea beyond their day's task and their rations of hog and hominy, to be given the ballot box, of the uses of which they are as ignorant as would be a Feejee islander of the principles of an electrical battery. And when the right of suffrage is granted—if ever such evil a day should come, and such a blot ever be put upon our history—the next step of these New England dervishes will be to claim that the negro be admitted to social equality, and to intermarry and associate with the whites. [Richmond Times.]

AN INTERVIEW WITH GEN. FORREST—HIS VERSION OF THE FORT PILLOW MASSACRE.

A correspondent of the New Orleans *True Delta* describes an interview with the Rebel General Forrest, at Meridian, Mississippi. Forrest he says, is a man of fine appearance, about six feet in height; dark, piercing hazel eyes; carefully trimmed moustache and chin whiskers—dark as night; finely cut features and iron grey hair. His form is litely, plainly indicating great physical power and activity. The writer asks, after some preliminary questions:

"Now that you have time, General, do you think you will ever put on paper the true account of the Fort Pillow affair?"

"Well," said he, "the Yankees ought to know; they sent down their best men to investigate the affair."

"But are we to believe their report, General?"

"Yes, if we are to believe anything a nigger says. When I went into the war, I meant to fight. Fighting means killing. I have lost twenty-nine horses in the war, and have killed a man each time. The other day I was a horse ahead, but at Selma they surrounded me and I killed two—jumped over a one-horse wagon, and got away. I began to think I had some idea of an an at last. He continued: "My own Marshal's book will show that I had then thirty one thousand prisoners at the war. At Fort Pillow I sent them all to surrender, and demanded an unconditional surrender, or I would not answer for my men. This they refused. I sent them another note giving them one hour to determine. This they refused. I could see on the river boats loaded with troops. They sent back asking for an hour more. I gave them twenty minutes. I sat on my horse during the whole time. The fort was filled with negroes and

deserters from our Army—men who lived side by side with my men. I waited five minutes after the time, and then blew my bugle for the charge. In twenty minutes my men were over the works, and the firing had ceased. The citizens and Yankees had broken in the head of whisky and lager beer barrels, and were all drunk. They kept up firing all the time as they went down the hill. Hundreds of them rushed to the river and tried to swim to the gunboats, and my men shot them down. The Mississippi River was red with their blood for three hundred yards. During all this, their flag was still flying, and I rushed over the works and cut the halliards, and let it down and stopped the fight. Many of the Yankees were in tents in front, and they were in their way, as they concealed my men, and some of them set them on fire. If they were burned to death, it was in these tents.

"They have a living witness in Capt. Young, their Quartermaster; and I will leave it to any prisoner I have ever taken if I have not treated them well."

CONDUCT OF THE FEDERAL AUTHORITIES IN GEORGIA.—The Federal authorities seem to be conducting themselves with the same decorum in Georgia as they have done in Virginia. A Macon paper, speaking of their department in that city says:

If Macon is a conquered city, as some people affirm, she is certainly favored with the mildest mannered victors of whom record has been made. Instead of being disorderly, or in any way disturbing the public peace, the great mass of the soldiery among us are preservers of good order. A very few disgrace their profession, when the eyes of their officers are not upon them, but we are free to say the number is small.

Macon, it is stated, is nearly free from all surplus population. The useless white population who infest all cities have been ordered away, and have been compelled to seek some other location. The hundreds of negroes who followed General Wilson's army have left the city. Some of them have returned to their old homes.

COST OF THE WAR TO THE SOUTH.—

A Southern journal estimates the loss on account of the war to a single State as follows:

The property, real and personal, including slaves, held in South Carolina, according to the census of 1860, was valued at four hundred millions of dollars. The bank, railroad and other corporate stocks and personal property amounted to a hundred millions, and of this property hardly a vestige is left. The four hundred thousand slaves were estimated to be worth two hundred millions. The land, embracing some finely improved and productive cotton and rice plantations, with costly mansions, was worth one hundred million dollars; and these are, to a great extent, devastated by the war.

SALES OF SOUTHERN PROPERTY.—

The Philadelphia *Ledger's* Washington correspondent says:

The recent order suspending the sale of Southern real estate in default of the payment of taxes, is merely temporary, and was issued by the President with a view of giving the delinquent parties all the time possible in which to make good the claims of the government upon them. It is necessary to make this statement for the reason that some have construed the order into a release from payment, which is not the case.

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OUR TERMS.

For the NEWS, one month, ONE DOLLAR, or in barter for other commodities. All articles necessary, or useful in families, or in business, will be taken in exchange, at fair prices, as usually understood in the market. But for the better understanding of our friends, we present the following schedule of rates, in the case of the most obvious commodities. For one month's subscription to the NEWS, we will receive either of the following, viz:

3 bushel corn, 1 bushel peas or potatoes.
24 lbs Flour.
5 pounds butter.
5 " lard.
5 " bacon.
2 gallons Syrup.
4 head of chickens.
8 dozen eggs.

Wood, and provisions generally received at fair market rates.

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Any friends receiving papers, or arriving with papers or news, from any places not now in full connection by mail, will oblige us specially, by reporting to the NEWS office, and will thus aid in preventing exciting rumors.

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J. E. BRITTON.

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C. & S. C. Railroad.

AS the immediate reconstruction of this road is highly important, all materials of iron, ties and stringers are needed, and their removal is forbidden by any one.

april 6/65 WM. JOHNSTON, Pres't.

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June 1/65

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Feb 18/65