

THE TRI-WEEKLY NEWS.

VOLUME I.]

WINNSBORO, S. C., SATURDAY MORNING, AUGUST 19, 1865.

[NUMBER 67.

THE TRI-WEEKLY NEWS:

BY J. E. BRITTON.

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The Extent of the Present Military and Civil Government in North Carolina.

After all that has been said and written about the present military and civil government of North Carolina, it may be doubted whether the condition and extent of the two are well understood by our citizens. At any rate, we are disposed to assume as a certainty that the condition is not plainly understood, and to make one more effort to explain it.

First. What is the power of the military of the United States stationed here? North Carolina is a military department of the national government, and over this department an army officer presides, who has entire and unlimited control over the civil and military laws of the State, and who still has absolute power over everything the most remotely connected with the army, and whose absolute power over the citizens and the civil authorities, is only limited by the authority invested in the Governor by the President's proclamation.

Secondly, there is in the State a treasury department of the United States government, separate and distinct from the military, existing under the laws of Congress. This department has its own head, and is totally and entirely independent of any civil government existing here.

Then comes the Freedmen's bureau, established by Congress, with its own laws, and its own officers to control and execute them. This Department is established amongst us, subject only to the laws and regulations of the United States, and entirely free, distinct, and independent of any and all civil authority now existing in North Carolina.

Then comes the civil government of the State, having no power except such as is conveyed upon Governor Holden by the proclamation of the President, for the purpose of enabling the loyal citizens of the State to hold a Convention to alter and amend their constitution, and with authority to exercise all the powers necessary and proper to enable such loyal people of the State to restore said State to its constitutional relations to the Federal government, and to present such a republican form of government as will entitle the State to the guarantee of the general Government.

Thus it is the powers of the Governor are limited to a particular purpose, which is to enable and assist the loyal citizens to hold a convention, and to establish the connection of the State with the general government. He has no control over the military, the treasury department, or the Freedmen's bureau.

Of course, the first great object is to assist and enable the loyal citizens to hold a Convention for the purpose of altering and amending the Constitution. This will be done as speedily as is consistent with the proper consideration of the rights and privileges of all loyal citizens. As soon as all such people can qualify themselves with convenience to vote and to assist in electing members to the Convention, the election will be ordered.

But it is not to be hoped that a Convention can do any act that will restore us to all our rights and privileges. It is not to be expected that the military power will be surrendered to the civil authority, and the military withdrawn from the State, until our members of Congress are elected, and admitted into the Congress of the United States, and our State restored to its Constitutional relation with the Federal Government.

The meeting of the Convention is greatly to be desired, and certainly that body will do many things to aid and relieve the people in their present distressed and unsettled condition, but it must steadily be borne in mind that the Convention cannot restore us the privileges of the United States Government. We are compelled to wait until December when Congress shall have convened, before we can hope to enjoy that privilege.

In the meantime, if we continue peaceable and united, and present an

acceptable constitution to Congress, when our members are elected, we shall be admitted into the Union, and be restored to the rights enjoyed by our fathers. But if we get up dissensions and strifes among ourselves, or with the military authorities, or if we fail to present to Congress such a constitution as we know the national government will demand of us; under the directions of President Johnson, we may remain in our present condition for years to come, and the military remain amongst us and have the same control of our affairs that they exercise to-day. It is not the meeting of the Convention or its action that can relieve us, but it is our restoration to the national government through the action of Congress.

[Raleigh Standard.]

J. C. BRECKINRIDGE.—A Montreal correspondent of the New York Herald states that J. C. Breckinridge (ex-President,) Secretary of War of the Southern Confederacy, was to sail from England on the 1st inst., and was expected in Canada on the 12th. Among the latest additions to the rebel nest at Montreal were commander Wilkinson of the pirate *Tallahassee*, and Taylor Wood, a former commander of the same craft, who aided Breckinridge in effecting his escape.—*Charleston Courier*.

The Richmond Election.

It has been rumored that the result of the late election at Richmond has been set aside and declared void by the military edict of Gen. Terry. This statement has not been confirmed, and we regard it as entirely without foundation. Such an act as that would strike away the last prop of republicanism in this country, and the whole fabric would fall in irretrievable ruin.

But there is sufficient cause for anxiety in the contemplation of the attitude of the Black Republican press in regard to the result of the election at Richmond. It seems that the organs of the dominant party are unwilling to accord to the Southern people the enjoyment of their preferences in the exercise of the elective franchise. If they are not to be permitted to select the candidates of their choice for the administration of their local affairs, their franchise is a mockery. It would be far better to spare them the expense and trouble of elections, by giving the appointment of their civil officials to the Federal Executive.

It is natural that the people of the South should vote for men who have served the cause of the Confederacy. That cause was held sacred by the Southern masses, and, whether it was right or wrong, their sincere convictions were enlisted in its support. It is not now to be expected that they will publicly censure those who obeyed their wishes and championed their principles in the hour of danger. If the populations of the conquered territory are to be received into the household with the political rights common to the communities of the republic, and of those rights the free exercise of the elective franchise is the most essential. Shall we presume to dictate to them who shall be mayor of this city and who of that, and still profess to be the guardians of their republicanism? A cotemporary says of the Richmond election: "The first month after the occupation of Richmond, no man could have been elected to office to the skirts of whose garments hung even the odor of the rebellion, and now they sweep the city." Why should they not "sweep the city," if its inhabitants are so nearly unanimous in favor of certain candidates.

Either they have the right to vote as they please, or they have not, and if they have, why should they be abused for exercising their privilege of choice? But the same paper insists that the military authorities are responsible for the result of that election. Are we, then, to understand that the military authorities should have used their military power to control the result? "High officers of the army," says this journal, "associated constantly with men whose violent secession antecedents were as well known as their names, and these men had access to them at all times." We perceive nothing in this that is in antagonism with the laws of the republic. Now that the war is over, it is surely not a crime for a Federal officer to associate with their late adversaries. It is, on the contrary, a virtue, unless we propose to keep alive the embers of antagonism, and build up a social barrier between the two sections. But, if we propose to cultivate friendly feelings, and mutual

confidence and respect, it is eminently proper that social intercourse should be frank and unrestricted.

The War Democracy, at least, has nothing to gain by opposing the privilege of free suffrage in the South. If the Southern people are to be permitted to vote as they please, they will vote for men identified with the Confederate cause: If they are not to be accorded the right of choice, they will vote for those who control the bayonets. In either case, the War Democrats may as well give up the hope of wielding a political influence at the South.

[New York News.]

RIGOR OR MILDNESS?—THE CHOICE WITH THE SOUTH.—The annullment of the Richmond election by Gen. Turner is not disapproved at Washington. The country may therefore set it down as a Government act. It has a significance quite beyond its local scope. It is a "first warning" to all the malcontents South; a special notification that the Government is not shut up to the mild policy hitherto pursued; an admonition that the privileges accorded by the Government to the people lately in rebellion must be used in good faith or revoked.

Military rule will be continued until the Southern people have established the fact that they have truly resumed their loyalty with all of its attendant obligations.

The South needs only a little calm reflection to appreciate the utter folly of such election demonstrations as the recent one in Richmond. It cannot permit its common sense to be overborne by empty spleen, when such results are involved. The prompt action of the Government at Richmond has made its purpose too plain to be mistaken. It will be heeded throughout the South, and will tell greatly, we believe, in bringing its people up to their high rank of duty, by that they will practically attest their loyalty by choosing loyal men to represent them.

[New York Times, 5th inst.]

Brophy, who assailed the testimony of Welchmann, the principle witness against Mrs. Surratt, has published a card reiterating his statements, and challenging Welchmann to bring him (Brophy) as a defendant in a Washington court of justice, in order to test the truth.

PHELPS & DAWSON,

General Commission

AND

RECEIVING

AND

FORWARDING

AGENTS,

ORANGEBURG, S. C.

Consignments and orders solicited, and promptly attended to. aug 19/65—law3

NICKERSON'S HOTEL,

COLUMBIA, S. C.

THE undersigned, having leased the LARGE AND COMMODIOUS BUILDING known as the "Columbia Methodist Female College," will open it as a FIRST-CLASS HOTEL, on September 7.

T. S. NICKERSON, Proprietor.

Papers throughout the State insert twice a week for five weeks, and send bills to Columbia Phoenix office. aug 19/65—law10

STRAYED OR STOLEN.

A RED COW, with a great appearance of milk, small crumpled horns and a white spot on each flank, (that on the left the largest,) either strayed or was stolen on Sunday morning last. Any information concerning the said cow will be gratefully received. MRS. M. E. LAUGHLIN, Winnsboro, S. C. aug 17/65—2

QUARTERMASTER'S OFFICE,

DISTRICT OF WESTERN S. C., Winnsboro, S. C., Aug. 7, 1865.

Wanted to Purchase,

150,000 POUNDS Grain, 150,000 lbs. Long Forage, (Hay or Fodder,) to be delivered either at Newberry or this place. Payment will be made at this office, on presentation of vouchers. F. H. COFFIN, A. A. Q. M., District of Western South Carolina. aug 8/65—

By the Provisional Governor of the State of South Carolina.



A PROCLAMATION!

WHEREAS, His Excellency, President Johnson, has issued his proclamation, appointing me (Benjamin F. Perry) Provisional Governor in and for the State of South Carolina, with power to prescribe such rules and regulations as may be necessary and proper for convening a Convention of the State, composed of delegates to be chosen by that portion of the people of said State who are loyal to the United States, for the purpose of ratifying or amending the Constitution thereof; and with authority to exercise within the limits of the State all the powers necessary and proper to enable such loyal people to restore said State to its constitutional relations to the Federal Government, and to present such a Republican form of State Government as will entitle the State to the guarantee of the United States therefor, and its people to protection by the United States against invasion, insurrection and domestic violence:

Now, therefore, in obedience to the proclamation of His Excellency, Andrew Johnson, President of the United States, I, BENJAMIN F. PERRY, Provisional Governor of the State of South Carolina, for the purpose of organizing a Provisional Government in said State, under the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim and declare that all civil officers in South Carolina, who were in office when the Civil Government of the State was suspended, in May last, (except those arrested or under prosecution for treason,) shall, on taking the oath of allegiance prescribed in the President's Amnesty Proclamation of the 29th day of May, 1865, resume the duties of their offices and continue to discharge them under the Provisional Government till further appointments are made.

And I do further proclaim, declare and make known, that it is the duty of all loyal citizens of the State of South Carolina to promptly go forward and take the oath of allegiance to the United States, before some magistrate or military officer of the Federal Government, who may be qualified for administering oaths; and such are hereby authorized to give certified copies thereof to the persons respectively by whom they were made. And such magistrates or officers are hereby required to transmit the originals of such oaths, at as early a day as may be convenient, to the Department of State, in the city of Washington, D. C.

And I do further proclaim, declare and make known, that the Managers of Elections throughout the State of South Carolina will hold an election for members of a State Convention, at their respective precincts, on the FIRST MONDAY IN SEPTEMBER NEXT, according to the laws of South Carolina in force before the secession of the State; and that each Election District in the State shall elect as many members of the Convention as the said District has members of the House of Representatives—the basis of representation being population and taxation. This will give one hundred and twenty-four members to the Convention—a number sufficiently large to represent every portion of the State most fully.

Every loyal citizen who had taken the Amnesty oath, and not within the excepted classes in the President's proclamation, will be entitled to vote, provided he was a legal voter under the Constitution as it stood prior to the secession of South Carolina. And all who are within the excepted classes must take the oath and apply for a pardon, in order to entitle them to vote, or become members of the Convention.

The members of the Convention thus elected on the first Monday in September next, are hereby required to convene in the city of Columbia, on WEDNESDAY, the 13th day of September, 1865, for the purpose of altering and amending the present Constitution of South Carolina, or remodeling and making a new one, which will conform to the great changes which have taken place in the State, and be more in accordance with Republican principles and equality of representation.

And I do further proclaim and make known, that the Constitution and all laws of force in South Carolina prior to the secession of the State, are hereby made of force under the Provisional Government, except wherein they may conflict with the provisions of this proclamation. And the Judges and Chancellors of the State are hereby required to exercise all the powers and perform all the duties which appertain to their respective offices, and especially in original cases. It will be expected of the Federal military authorities now in South Carolina, to lend their authority to the civil officers of the Provisional Government, for the purpose of enforcing the laws and preserving the peace and good order of the State.

And I do further command and enjoin all good and lawful citizens of the State to unite in enforcing the laws and bringing to justice all disorderly persons, all plunderers, robbers and marauders, all vagrants and idle persons who are wandering about without employment or any visible means of supporting themselves.

It is also expected that all former owners of freed persons will be kind to them, and not turn off the children or aged to perish; and the freed men and women are earnestly enjoined to make contracts, just and fair, for remaining with their former owners.

In order to facilitate as much as possible the application for pardons under the excepted sections of the President's Amnesty Proclamation, it is stated for information that all applications must be by petition, stating the exception, and accompanied with the oath prescribed. This petition must be first approved by the Provisional Governor, and then forwarded to the President. The headquarters of the Provisional Governor will be at Greenville, where all communications to him must be addressed.

The newspapers of this State will publish this proclamation until the election for members of the Convention.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal. Done at the town of Greenville, this 20th day of July, in the year of our Lord 1865, and of the independence of the United States the ninetieth.

B. F. PERRY, By the Provisional Governor: WILLIAM H. PERRY, Private Secretary. July 29/65—tesp4.17

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

For the Convention.

"Choose for the Convention your best and truest men; not those who have skulked in the hour of danger—nor those who have worshipped Mammon, while their country was bleeding at every pore—nor the politician, who, after urging war, dared not encounter its hardships—but those who had laid their all upon the altar of the country. Select such men and make them serve as your representatives."

Mr. Epiton: From the above stand point of the gallant WARRIOR HAMPSON, I announce for the Convention to be held the 4th September next, the following gentlemen, believing they will be acceptable to

THE PEOPLE. GEN. JNO. BRATTON, COL. R. STARK MEANS. aug 8/65—lc

For the Convention.

"Choose for the Convention your best and truest men; not those who have skulked in the hour of danger—nor those who have worshipped Mammon, while their country was bleeding at every pore—nor the politician, who after urging war, dared not encounter its hardships—but those who had laid their all upon the altar of the country. Select such men, and make them serve as your representatives."

Mr. Epiton: Deeply impressed with the immense importance of the above advice of the noble HAMPSON, I propose as members of the Convention for Fairfield

JOHN BRATTON, JAMES H. RION, Dr. T. F. FURMAN. aug 5/65—to AMOR PATRIZ.

GRAND AUCTION SALE

BROWN STOCK

COMPRISING HORSES,

MULES,

ARMY WAGONS,

etc., etc., etc., etc.

COMMENCING ON FRIDAY, AUGUST 25, 1865

AT WINNSBORO', S. C.,

At 9 a. m. and to be continued from day to day until completed.

TERMS CASH.

F. H. COFFIN,

A. A. Q. M., District of Western South Carolina. aug 10/65—ta9

NOTICE.

HEADQUARTERS, DISTRICT WESTERN S. C., Winnsboro', August 14, 1865.

THE above auction sale of Government Stock, advertised for Friday, 18th inst., is hereby postponed till Friday, 25th inst. F. H. COFFIN, A. A. Q. M. aug 15/65—ta5

JOHN A. KAY, ARCHITECT AND CIVIL ENGINEER, COLUMBIA, S. C.

Professional business attended to in North and South Carolina. July 20/65