THE TRI-WEEKLY NEWS.

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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.

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[From the Columbia Phœnix.]

Under Which King, Bezonian?

We give a series of test questions, which we find submitted to candidates in the Alabama newspapers. These questions may or may not be of importance to the people. But the question, first, is whether there is a people or not. We are told that the elections are pronounced void in Virginia, by the military authorities, because men who were old secessionists have been elected. How have they been elected? Were they not pardoned—did they not become loyal citizens by the oath—have they not been granted terms of citizenship, and what does citizenship imply? Is not amnesty a wiping out of old scores? If denied the rights of citizenship, after taking the oath, of what import the oath, and what does citizenship mean, and what does it confer of privilege? And if the military may supercede the ballot box what is suffrage? And if the resumption of civil authority is still subordinate to the *ipsi dixit* of matial law, of what use a Provisional Governor? And if the President of the United States confers a power which the military authorities will not respect where are the people to look to authority? We ask these questions in a perfect state of bewilderment. Let us know who to obey. Let us know where the authorities lies. We are prepared to be submissive; but really, in this conflict of authority, one knows not where to turn. We do not complain. We only ask to know. Obeying one authority we may offend another. Where is the authority? What is law? "We have the freedom of the ballot box," the Governor tells us. "Go and vote," says Democracy. Well, we go and vote. We vote for Dick Smith. Dick Smith is the famous fellow that swallowed the broad-axe. Is Dick Smith ineligible to office? Not a bit of it. He was a secessionist, was Dick. Poor Dick! He voted, once upon a time, for Jeff. Davis, for Mr. Foote. Well, he repented of his sin. "If you repent," says the proclamation, "you are saved." You have put yourself right in court. You can come to the communion table as before. And so Dick votes or is voted for, "but," says Capt. Martinet, "you were a pestilent secessionist some time ago, and you shot at me with a Minnie bullet at Gettysburg, or you voted for Dick Smith who did the shooting. Your vote is null and void. The election is null and void. Your repentance is not worth a dash! Your oath is a farce. You must do this election business over again, and see that you vote according to your consciences—for the person whom we please." Let us have all this matter adjusted one way or another. Either Governor Perry has authority or not, from the President of the United States, for calling upon the people to give their untrammelled votes, according to the ideas of Republicanism, or he has not. Gov. Perry must see to it and save us harmless. He must duly ascertain for us what our privileges are, and whether we are to have the ballot or not. If not, we do not complain. We are still submissive. We really care not a straw for the privilege, or about the denial of it. We only desire to know what is expected at our hands, and what is allowed us. We simply wish to escape error, and we demand of Gov. Perry to ascertain his *status* and ours in season, that we may waste no unnecessary time or temper on the subject.

Had Gov. Perry, for example, authority to order an election for members of a convention? Was he authorized to set the wheels of civil and judicial authority in motion? Was he right or wrong in instructing the [illegible]res to resume their functions [illegible]out the State at the earliest [illegible]? It is surely easy to ascertain t[illegible]ings. Is it not the duty of Gov. [illegible] to bring these doubts and queries to a prompt solution? Is it not encumbent upon him to procure from the President a clear declaration on these subjects? A brief proclamation will do it. But if he has erred and been premature—and we can hardly think so, coming, as he does, from a personal conference with the President—then he should put himself right, and put us right, with all possible expedition, so that harm may come to neither. It is not to be expected that the military government will forego its exercise of authority, unless it shall receive official instructions to this effect directly from the Government at Washington. They will not recognize the proclamation of the Provisional Governor until distinctly instructed to do so by the paramount authority of the United States Government. All we ask is that that authority shall declare itself, as soon as possible, one way or the other. It is all idle to the talking about elections for conventions and congresses and legislatures, when permission is denied at the ballot-box by the interposition of the bayonet. It is absurd to require the judges of the Courts of General Sessions and of Common Pleas, to issue their *venire*, when we may have a conflict between their jurisdiction and that of the military courts. That we should, as soon as possible, have our courts and grand juries in session, is called for by the condition of the country The security of persons and property, the adjustment of claims and rights, the support of the republic—these, all demand an early resumption of all the civil offices and duties of the State. But if the Government of the United States shall decide otherwise, for the time, or for any length of time, the people are submissive. All that they demand is simply to know what to do and what to forbear, and whom to obey, and that they shall not be with the excitements of elections and mocked the commands of conflicting authorities. There is no commotion among the people. They are eminently pacific; subdued in tone and temper to the color of their fortunes. They feel and behave as a subjugated people, conscious that they exist and possess only under the will of the United States Government. Any reports or representations which would show them in any other aspect, are false and without the slightest foundation. The people are without arms and ammunition. There are no assemblages of them. There is no combination. When they meet, it is in open day, in the sight and hearing of United States garrisons. It may be that some of them murmur in their impatience. It must needs be so, especially, when they are struggling for the means of life and suffering from the spoliation of their fields and gardens. But such occasional murmurs are not to be considered as impairing their fidelity to their oaths as loyal citizens.

But we have said enough. Briefly to recapitulate—let us know what is our status—what is expected at our hands. Is Gov. Perry authorized to confer power on the courts—to call a convention of the people—to order elections—to restore the State to the Union by the well-known laws of the republic.

Here follow the queries of the Alabama papers, which, of course, are mere impertinences, if, when the vote is cast, it is discovered that Dick Smith is incompetent as a voter, and ineligible as a candidate for office:

1st. Are you or not in favor of a free Constitution, and how will you vote on this subject?

2d. Are you or not in favor of the disfranchisement of all who have been excluded from amnesty by the President?

3d. Will you advocate, if elected to the Convention, the immediate or gradual emancipation of slavery?

4th. Are you or not in favor of extending the elective franchise to the negro under any circumstances? If so, what circumstances?

COTTON IN TEXAS.—From a recent letter from a prominent and well informed house in Galveston, Texas, we are permitted to take the annexed facts. The writers estimate the stock of cotton now on hand in Texas at 70,000 bales exclusive of that bordering on Red River and tributary to New Orleans. Their figures are as follows—stock September 1st, 1861, 75,000 bales; three years crop 122,000, total 300,000. Exports direct 30,000, trough Mexico 100,000; home consumption 20,00; damaged 50,000; total 230,000. Of the growing crop they say, about three-fourths of an average has been planted, which would give 180,000 bales. The total, therefor, we can expect from Texas, both of the old and new crops, is 270,000 bales. This is exclusive of what reaches the market by the way of Red River. All accounts state that there is quite a large quantity of the old crop still along the line of that stream. Of the new crop growing in the Red River country, we have heard nothing as yet.

[*Augusta Chronicle & Sentinel.*

THE AQUIA CREEK RIOT.—The Richmond correspondent of the New York *Tribune*, speaking of the late riot at Aquia creek, says:

"General T. M. Harris, commanding Department of Southeast Virginia, has the matter under investigation. The white laborers, about forty in number, all discharged Confederate soldiers, have been arrested, tried and sentenced to service in the chain-gang of Fredericksburg for 60 days. The superintendent of the gangs on the railroad, E. H. Thompson has been sentenced to six month's imprisonment for encouraging the whites in these unlawful proceedings. The lieutenant is to be court-martialed and the negroes have been sent back to their work.

A Card.

MR. EDITOR: Having noticed in your paper of the 8th inst. my named announced on the list of candidates for the Convention to meet in Columbia on the 13th of September next, you will please give publicty to the distinct declaration on my part, that I am not a candidate. Respectfully

THOS. F. FURMAN.

August 12, 1865.
aug 22'65—1pd

Horse Stolen—$25 Reward.

AN Iron Gray Horse, about five years old, no marks recollected except he being fresh shod "all round," was stolen from my plantation near Longtown, on the night of the 20th inst. A reward of twenty-five dollars will be given for the return of the Horse, or of his being left at any place so that I can get him.

aug 22'65—3 R. H. BELL.

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 greatfully received MRS. M. E. LAUGHLIN,

aug 17'65—2 Winnsboro', S. C.

GRAND

AUCTION SALE

OF

GOVERNMENT 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 10'55—ts9

NOTICE.

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

THE above auction sale of Government Stocks advertised for Friday, 18th instant, is hereby postponed till Friday, 25th inst.

F. H. COFFIN,
aug 15'65—ts5 A. A. Q. M.

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 altering 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 South Carolina, restoring civil authority 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 criminal 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
[L. S.] 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—tsep4.17

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Nomination.

MR. EDITOR: The near approach of the day appointed for the election of members to the State Convention, renders it proper for us consider who we shall select for that position. The declensions which have taken place very restrict the range of selection. At this important juncture of our affairs, it is desirable that those who are peculiarly fitted to serve the people should be called forth. I know of no one more suitable in all respects than Mr. WILLIAM R. ROBERTSON. His well known good sense, his moderation of opinions, his business talents, his untiring energy and practical sagacity point him out as a man who can do us good service. I therefore beg leave to present his name to the people; and I feel satisfied that while he does not seek the position his public spirit will induce him to obey the mandate of his fellow-citizens, who desire his services.

aug 22'65—te BROAD RIVER.

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. EDITOR: From the above stand point of the gallant WADE HAMPTON, 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—te

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

JOHN BRATTON,
JAMES H. RION,
Dr. T. F. FURMAN.

aug 5'65—te AMOR PATRIÆ.

PHELPS & DAWSON,

General Commission

AND

RECEIVING

AND

FORWARDING

AGENTS,

ORANGEBURG, S. C.

☞ Consignments and orders solicited, and promptly attended to.

aug 19'65—law3

JOHN A. KAY,

ARCHITECT AND CIVIL ENGINEER,

COLUMBIA, S. C.

☞ Professional business attended to in North and South Carolina. july 20'65