

the States because they would the principles on which I have sought to solve the momentous questions and overcome the appalling difficulties that met me at the very commencement of my administration. It has been my steadfast object to escape from the sway of momentary passions; and to derive a healing policy from the fundamental and unchanging principles of the Constitution.

I found the States suffering from the effects of a civil war. Resistance to the General Government appeared to have exhausted itself. The United States had recovered possession of their forts and their arsenals; and their armies were in the occupation of every State which had attempted to secede. Whether the territory within the limits of those States should be held as conquered territory, under military authority emanating from the President as the head of the army, was the first question that presented itself for decision.

Now, military governments established for an indefinite period, would have offered no security for the early suppression of disaffection; would have divided the people into vanquishers and the vanquished; and would have evoked hatred, rather than reposed affection. Once established, no precise limit to their continuance was conceivable. They would have occasioned unnecessary and exhausted expense. Peaceful restoration and a firm and permanent union is one of the best things that can be thought of for the restoration of harmony; and that restoration would have been prevented; for what emanated from abroad, what indignities of men at home, would place himself willingly under military rule? The chief persons who would have followed in the train of the army would have been dependents on the General Government, or men who expected profit from the miseries of a starving fellow-citizens. The power of patronage and influence which would have been exercised, under the President, over a vast and populous, and naturally wealthy region, are greater than, unless under extreme necessity, I should be willing to entrust to any one man; they are such as, for myself, I could never, unless on occasions of great emergency, consent to exercise. The wild use of such powers, if continued through a period of years, would have endangered the purity of the general administration and the liberties of the States which remained loyal.

Besides the policy of military rule over a conquered territory would have implied that the States whose inhabitants may have taken part in the rebellion had, by the act of those inhabitants, ceased to exist. But the true theory is, that all pretended acts of secession were, from the beginning, null and void. The States cannot commit treason, nor screen the individual citizens who may have committed treason, any more than they can make valid treaties or engage in lawful commerce with any foreign Power. The States attempting to secede placed themselves in a condition where their vitality was impaired, but not extinguished—their functions suspended, but not destroyed.

But if any State neglects or refuses to perform its offices, there is the more need that the General Government should maintain all its authority and as soon as practicable, resume the exercise of all its functions. On this principle I have acted, and have gradually and quietly, and by almost imperceptible steps, sought to restore the rightful energy of the General Government and of the States. To that end, Provisional Governors have been appointed for the States, Conventions called, Governors elected, Legislatures assembled, and Senators and Representatives chosen to the Congress of the United States. At the same time, the Courts of the United States, as far as could be done, have been re-opened, so that the laws of the United States may be enforced through their agency. The blockade has been removed and the custom-houses re-established in ports of entry, so that the revenue of the United States may be collected. The Post Office Department renews its ceaseless activity, and the General Government is hereby enabled to communicate promptly with its officers and agents. The courts bring security to persons and property; the opening of the ports invites the restoration of industry and commerce; the post office renews the facilities of social intercourse and of business. And is it not happy for us all, that the restoration of these functions of the General Government brings with it a return to the States over which they were suspended? Is not a sure promise of harmony and renewed attachment to the Union that, after all that has happened, the return of the General Government is known only as a beneficence?

I know very well that this policy is

attended with some risk; that for its success it requires at least the acquiescence of the States which it concerns; that it implies an invitation to those States, by renewing their allegiance to the United States, to resume their functions as States of the Union. But it is a risk that must be taken; in the choice of difficulties, it is the smallest risk; and to diminish, and, if possible, to remove all danger, I have felt it incumbent on me to assert one other power of the General Government—the power of pardon. As no State can show a defence over the crime of treason, the power of pardon is exclusively vested in the Executive Government of the United States. In exercising that power, I have taken every precaution to connect it with the clearest recognition of the binding force of the laws of the United States, and an unqualified acknowledgment of the great social change of condition in regard to slavery which has grown out of the war.

The next which I have taken to restore the constitutional relations of the States has been an invitation to them to participate in the high office of amending the Constitution. Every patriot must wish for a general amnesty at the earliest epoch consistent with public safety. For this great end there is need of a concurrence of all opinions, and the spirit of mutual conciliation. All parties in the late terrible conflict must work together in harmony. It is not too much to ask in the name of the whole people, that, on the one side, the plan of restoration shall proceed in conformity with a willingness to cast the disorders of the past into oblivion; and that, on the other, the evidence of sincerity in the future maintenance of the Union shall be put beyond any doubt by the ratification of the proposed amendment to the Constitution, which provides for the abolition of slavery forever within the limits of our country. So long as the adoption of this amendment is delayed, so long will doubt and jealousy and uncertainty prevail. This is the measure which will efface the sad memory of the past; this is the measure which will most certainly call population and capital, and security to those parts of the Union that need them most. Indeed it is not too much to ask of the States which are now resuming their places in the family of the Union to give this pledge of perpetual loyalty and peace. Until it is done the past, however much we may desire it, will not be forgotten. The adoption of the amendment rewrites us beyond all power of disruption. It heals the wound that is still imperfectly closed; it removes slavery, the element which has so long perplexed and divided the country, it makes of us once more a united people, renewed and strengthened and bound more than ever to mutual affection and support.

The amendment to the Constitution being adopted, it would remain for the States, whose powers have been so long in obedience, to resume their places in the two branches of the National Legislature, and thereby complete the work of restoration. Here it is for you fellow-citizens of the Senate and for you, fellow-citizens of the House of Representatives, to judge, each of you for yourselves, of the elections, returns, and qualifications of your own members.

GENERAL LEE'S NAME CHERISHED.—The following reception of General Lee's name at a meeting of the New York Democracy to endorse Mr. Gunther's nomination for Mayor shows in what respect General Lee is held at the North by the Democracy. Mr. Theodore Tomlinson one of the speakers, said:

"Brave men, let them remember, were never liars. He did not think there was a noble-hearted man in the North who did not believe that General Robert E. Lee—[At the mention of this name, and before Mr. Tomlinson could conclude his sentence, there were a few hisses when a tremendous round of cheers burst from the audience and completely drowned the dissonant few. Immediately hisses were again heard, when cheers still louder than before were sent and continued some time, utterly preventing Mr. Tomlinson from continuing his remarks for some minutes. At length the hisses remained mute and Mr. Tomlinson proceeded with his address.] He repeated that there was no fair-minded man at the North who did believe that when Robert E. Lee, leader of the Confederate army, pledged his honor to support the Union and the Constitution, and swore to it, that he would do other than keep his word, [Applause.]"

The Columbia (S. C.) *Phoenix*, of the 9th inst., gives the gratifying information that the South Carolina Railroad has made another step in advance, and says that from and after this day the trains over the South Carolina Railroad will run from Hampton's "Turn-Out" six miles from Columbia.

WINNSBORO.

Thursday Morning, December 14, 1865.

New Advertisements.

We invite special attention to the Card of Mrs. C. LADD, relative to her school.

Advertisements from Rev. Mr. STACY and Rev. Mr. ZEALY, of the proposed establishment of a "Female Seminary" and the resumption of the duties of his "Female Institute" respectively, also appear.

Capt. T. W. WOODWARD issues an order to the Police Companies.

Mr. SMITH adv rises Estate Sale on 28th inst.

President's Message.

Our brief space forbids the publication of the whole of this document. Accordingly we present to-day, so much only as pertains to the rehabilitation of the South, and her re-instatement to the exercise of her full functions as a component part of the government.

It will be found to be a statesmanly production, calm and temperate in language, conciliatory in tone and entirely unincited with the passions and fanaticism that fill the political atmosphere of Washington.

In enunciating his policy of restoration, he is clear and emphatic, and contemplated from the stand-point of our prostrate state is unexceptionable, and fully responds to the expectations created by the previous clemency of his administration.

Its chief significance consists in the open rupture which it inevitably prefigures between himself and the dominant faction in Congress. What the issue will be is the most momentous problem that ever enlisted the attention and baffled the conjectures of the world.

Will President JOHNSON be strong enough, though fortified by the moral weight of justice, humanity and the Constitution, to bear up against and shield the South from the attacks of the solid columns of the enemy, or will he go down before them? On the one side we find a firm character and a strong intellect, wielding the formidable weapons of an immense patronage, the veto and pardon power and all the high prerogatives that surround the executive position. On the other we see thorough organization, numerical superiority and a strong and inexorable purpose to humiliate the South and to involve her in hopeless ruin. Whatever may be the event this message gives the strongest assurance that President JOHNSON is pledged to the prosecution of the contest, by the necessities of his position. No retrogression now can establish any affinity between himself and the radicals. The situation is perilous, but we are sustained by humanity and a strong champion.

NEW YORK CHARTER ELECTION.—At the election in New York, on Tuesday, Mr. Richard O'Grady, Democrat, was elected Corporation Counsel by 1,700 majority. The vote for Mayor stands: Hoffman, Tammany Democrat, 32,955; Republican, 31,421; Hecker, Citizens' Association and Mozart Democrat, 10,400; Gunther, McKoon-Democrat, 6,661.

The Richmond *Whig* mentions that one of the most startling bills of mortality ever exhibited, comes from the Freedmen's Bureau, in the confession that, out of ten thousand negroes sent by General Sherman down the Cape Fear River in March last, two thousand died in the short space of two months and a half. Had the Asiatic cholera, the small pox, or any of those other scourges that sometimes sweep off thousands and tens of thousands, prevailed among them, the result would have been astonishing, but it is absolutely frightful, when we bear in mind that no such dreadful epidemic prevailed among them, but that they were carried off by ordinary diseases, or, perhaps, we should say, by that cause more fell than any disease, fanatical philanthropy. At this rate of mortality, it would require only twelve months and a half to bury the whole ten thousand.

[Communicated.]

COLUMBIA, Dec. 10, 1865.

Dear News: As if to make amends for the darkness of our political horizon, the brightest sun and bluest skies have smiled upon us; an unusual thing at this time—for "seasons weather" is proverbial. There seems to be but little doubt as to the action of Congress towards us, and after all our sacrifices, we are to be kept out until we can more fully appreciate that we are a conquered territory, and the inestimable privilege of being allowed to assume once more, the position we occupied. A brief synopsis of the proceedings of our General Assembly, may not, however, be uninteresting to your readers. Before proceeding any further, a description of the halls in which these bodies hold their sessions would not be out of place.

The Senate occupies the College Library, a large hall, and in every respect suited to the purpose for which it has been selected. Surrounded by thousands of volumes, stored with the rich freight of minds, which now at rest, have left these imperishable monuments to their genius and grandeur; the busts of the good and great, who swayed the destinies of nations, looking upon them, it is indeed a place well calculated to impart dignity and character to a less august body.

The House meets in the old Chapel, a convenient and comfortable hall, where if not surrounded with the imposing influences of the Senate, many bright eyes from the galleries, enliven and cheer. Both houses have been principally engaged upon the bills connected with the negro code. They have been severally discussed and though not past their third reading, have pretty much passed through the amendment process; the features are not materially altered. The election for Judges will probably come off the early part of this week, and excites some interest. Of the candidates, among others, Mr. Moses won golden opinions for himself as President pro tem of the Senate, before the Lieutenant-Governor took his seat. Mr. Aldrich of Barnwell, attracts all by his genial heart and the ability with which he conducts his duties as Speaker of the House, and Mr. Thompson of Abbeville, Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, in the Senate, whose duties, arduous and continuous, are conducted with skill and decided perseverance. A resolution has been passed vesting the bank with the authority to borrow one hundred thousand (\$100,000) dollars to meet the expenses of the present session, and other immediate demands. A measure for relief at large is to issue bills receivable in State dues; the bill calls for \$300,000, and an animated debate is still going on, on propositions to increase it to \$500,000 and even \$800,000. The proposed change of the South Carolina College into a University is a matter that excites much interest. Mr. Orr, a graduate of the University of Virginia warmly recommends the measure. It is universally conceded that the change will be highly advisable under the altered condition of things. A bill to amend the criminal law, on account of vagrancy, theft, &c., among the negroes, has been offered. Whether or not we will be allowed to enforce it remains to be seen. The beautiful weather has afforded a fine opportunity to the ladies for attending the sessions. In this respect the House has decided advantage of the Senate. It has always offered more attraction in the greater number of members, the vivacity of the debates, and the absence of that comparative quietness that reigns in the Senate Chamber.

A spirit of gaiety prevails among the people, to a moderate degree. A dancing club meets once a week and the effect is decidedly pleasant.—There is no extravagance, and when we consider that the only expense incurred is that of a few candles, we must admit that they are well worthy of imitation in our sister towns, where it is

hoped the suggestion may meet with approval.

The President's Message satisfies the majority of the sincerity of his intentions to restore us to our former status; but having a strong opposition majority in both houses, it is not to be supposed his wishes can effect much.

"N'IMPORTE."

TELEGRAPHIC.

Returned Confederates and Negroes Batef-ered.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 8.—The New York *Tribune*, this morning, says that East Tennessee Unionists have been permitted, by a weak and worthless Union General commanding and a reverend blackguard styled Governor, to butcher not less than one hundred rebels and negroes in and around Knoxville since June last. Greeley says Tennessee has many staunch Unionists, but nevertheless is a pandemonium of passion and crime, and not more fit for self-government than Dahomey.

Commercial.

MOBILE, Dec. 8.—The Sales of cotton to day have amounted to 500 bales. Middlings 46 to 47c per lb. Sales of the week thirty-one hundred and fifty bales. Receipts of the week fifteen thousand five hundred and ten. Exports of the week seventeen thousand nine hundred and sixteen. Stock sixty-four thousand three hundred and nine. Gold 49 to 50.

NEWSPAPERS—HIGH PRICES.—Paper has raised almost one hundred per cent since the first of August, and is now quite as high as it was at any time last year, and the tendency is still onward and upward. There is little prospect of relief before spring. Paper, ink, labor, and all the materials which go to make a newspaper are so high that no proprietor can afford to publish a paper for less than double the price received before the war. Still people complain because the prices are not reduced, never thinking that the matter is entirely beyond the control of publishers.

[Westminster (Md.) Sentinel.]

Military Notice.

WINNSBORO, Dec. 12, 1865.

Captains commanding Police Companies, will forthwith adopt such systems as will enable them to train out their commands within a few hours notice. In each neighborhood *Companies* will be appointed *wards* whose duty it shall be to assist the Sergeants and Corporals in warning out the men, and they shall be furnished with a list of persons whom they shall be required to warn. Each member will provide himself with a fire-lock of the order of issue.

T. W. WOODWARD.

Capt. Mill Creek Scouts and Sr. Captain of Police. dec 14'65—1

Notice.

WILL be sold at Public Auction, on Thursday, 28th inst., at the plantation of Estate of Mrs. Wilkes, 2 miles from Winnsboro, on the Peay's Ferry Road.

The Utensils of said Plantation.

ALSO,
CORN, PODDER, PEAS, &C., &C.,
and one Bay Mare.

Terms cash. Sale to commence at 11 A. M. S. E. SMITH, Agent. dec 14'65—2aw12w

Monticello Female Institute.

FAIRFIELD DISTRICT, S. C.
THE exercises of this School will be resumed on Wednesday, the 10th of January next. The Session will embrace twenty weeks.

Terms for Session, payable in advance.
Board, including washing : : \$50
Tuition in English, : : : 25
do. " Music, : : : 25
do. " Latin, : : : 20
do. " French, : : : 20
do. " Drawing, : : : 20
do. " Vocal Music, : : : 5
Incidental Expenses, : : : 5

Pupils are required to furnish lights, sheets, pillow-cases, towels and heavy covering. For further particulars address
REV. J. TAYLOR ZEALY,
Principal, Monticello, S. C.
dec 14'65—td

The Chester Standard please copy.

Fashionable Dress Making.

MRS. J. M. ELLIOTT is expecting a first class dress maker, and will carry on fashionable dress making in the basement of her residence. She has also just opened a neat and fashionable selection of all Wool Delaines, French Merinos, Silk Poppins, Black and Brown Debares and Black Alapacs. Also, white Kid Gloves, Collars, and Dress Trimmings, which she will take pleasure in showing to her patrons. dec 9'65—2w6