

WINNSBORO, S. C.

Wednesday Morning, Feb. 24, 1869.

Desportes, Williams & Co., Props

The Fifteenth Amendment.

It is supposed that, the Legislatures of almost all of the States being thoroughly Radical at present, the 15th amendment forbidding any distinction in the right to vote or hold office on account of "race, color, property, education or creed," will pass three fourths of them and become a part of the Supreme Law of the land.

If the principle that political power belongs of right equally to all men, which underlies this action of Congress, be correct, then we see no reason except ungenerous prejudice why the article of sex was omitted in the amendment. Certainly there is no logical stopping place short of allowing women also to vote.

Gen. Grant's visit to the metropolis, at a moment just before his inauguration seems to have been instrumental in producing this sudden enlightenment, and for reasons not difficult to find.

Moral Ideas, whether right or wrong, whether believed in, or simply hypocritically professed, are those which consciously and unconsciously control human action, and rule, or rather converse the world.

Gold our Currency. The Supreme Court has rendered, within a fortnight, two decisions worthy of the serious consideration of the business men of the Southern States, since they blaze out far as a financial policy, which will both keep our capital at home, and prevent losses to us by the mismanagement or waste of Federal Finances.

tract then, be "a gold contract" hereafter, and let every Southern State Treasury deal only in gold—taxes in gold, and all their expenditures in gold. Thus will we practically control the Finances of the Union, gradually forcing a universal return to a hard money currency.

The Writing on the Wall

Joubert said that there are heads that have no windows, so that the daylight cannot strike from above. Such are the heads of the journalists who are only just beginning to discover that important truth about Gen. Grant's future political relations which was clearly set forth by the Round Table as long as last November.

AN ALARMING AND MORE UNPREDICTABLE PROCEEDING.—The Edgefield Advertiser, of Wednesday, the 17th inst., says:

THE TRIAL OF THE CASE OF THE STATE AGAINST HILDRY HARDY AND LEWIS FREEMAN (two negroes) for the murder of Mrs. Elkins, terminated on Thursday morning of the second week of the late term, in a mistrial, the jury having been absolutely unable to agree upon a verdict.

OUR COMMUNITY, unaccustomed to this novel, speedy and inquisitorial method of general jail delivery, even where offenders were imprisoned for minor offenses, was, as a matter of course, shocked to learn that two stalwart negro fellows, indicted, imprisoned and arraigned for murder, rendered hideously heinous by suspicion of rape, had been turned loose on a slip of justice, upon their simple and sole recognition.

ALL THIS clearly indicates the general nature of President Grant's future policy. The Radicals have not lifted him to power, and he does not mean to show them gratitude for favors not conferred.

lived the system that gave it birth quite long enough, and the sooner it draws the drapery of its couch about it and prepares to lie down to pleasant dreams, the better for the nation.

Treaties Between England and the United States.

ON Friday last the President transmitted to Congress copies of three treaties which have just been concluded between our Minister at the Court of St. James and Earl Clarendon.

ARTICLE 1. The two Governments agree to the settlement of all claims and differences, which have arisen since the Convention of 1853.

ARTICLE 2 provides for a commission of four persons, each Government being entitled to two representatives, this commission to agree upon a plan of settlement.

ARTICLE 3 provides that a majority of the Commission shall decide the questions involved.

ARTICLE 4 provides for cases of disagreement on the Commission. In such an event the two Governments shall choose an umpire.

ARTICLE 5 provides that in the event of the refusal of the umpire to decide, the question shall be settled by lot in presence of the Commission.

ARTICLE 6 excludes from the jurisdiction of the Commission all cases arising from claims which have been adjudicated by Courts of Admiralty.

ARTICLE 7 provides that claimants shall have first proved that they are British subjects, that they preserved strict neutrality during the war, and did not aid the South.

ARTICLE 8. The sessions of the Commission are to be held in Washington.

Indeed we may say in worse than a mistrial; inasmuch as on Friday last the prisoners, to the astonishment and indignation of all who had the faintest acquaintance with law, were released from jail upon their own recognition, by authority of Judge Platt.

WE venture to say that the records of South Carolina will not disclose a parallel case. Indeed we have never heard it intimated before that a prisoner indicted for murder could be released save upon recognition with approved sureties.

IN view of the manifold results involved in this revolutionary war in Cuba, the best course Gen. Grant can pursue is the one taken by Gen. Jackson in regard to Pensacola and the Spanish possessions in Florida—take possession of the country, and settle the matter by negotiation with Spain afterwards.

A young gymnast in Boston boasts that after practicing three years, he can raise himself with either arm from the "dead hang" six times in succession, with a fifty pound weight in the other hand.

A million francs change owners in Paris every night in consequence of the gambling carried on there, and the cards used cost eight thousand francs a day.

HISTORY REPEATING ITSELF—A PARALLEL CASE.—The disorderly scenes in the House yesterday afternoon during the opening and counting of the electoral votes for President and Vice-President were a repetition of what occurred when the votes were counted in 1821.

When, however, the President of the Senate declared that "if the votes of Missouri were counted the number of votes for James Monroe would be 231; if they are not counted the number of votes for James Monroe is 228," Floyd and Randolph, of Virginia, began to protest against this partial recognition of Missouri, but were called to order and made to take their seats.

Some persons looking at the course of General Butler, in Congress, think that he has some important public aim, and that it is to put down the Senate and subject the entire government to the control of the House of Representatives.

The Senate desires to control the Executive action in regard to appointments, and arrogates to itself the right of dispensing the patronage of the Government. The House resists that monopoly, and therefore Mr. Butler's measure for the repeal of the Tenure of Office Act was passed by a large majority.

FIRST APPEARANCE OF THE VELOCEPEDA IN CHARLESTON.—"What's it?" "Where's it?" "Who's got it?" "Where did it come from?" "Have you seen it?" "There it goes!" "Whoop! don't it fly?" "Break he neck durreckly!" "Do dehhil in dat same ting!" "The Ghost of Tam O'Shanter's mare."

WE believe that Gen. Blair is the only Democratic leader at the North who comprehends the full meaning of the late election. We think that with him we can foresee complications in the Federal Government the like of which this generation of great history-makers had not dreamed of beholding.

REMAIN MINDFUL above all else; and could we have our way we would organize all the true men into a secret society, sworn to uphold to the last the cause of their race; to keep in check, with the dagger if necessary, the aggressions of the Jacobin adventurers in our midst; to be prepared for whatever emergency may arise, and it is coming, to take possession once more of our State and municipal governments.

WONDERFUL ESCAPE.—One of the most thrilling spectacles ever witnessed by man, where life and death seemed weighing in the balance, was seen at the depot on Thursday morning last, a little after midnight. It seems that a gentleman from Water Valley was waiting for the up Express train to take him home.

A wife joining her husband in a conveyance of real estate, was asked by the judge who examined her in private according to the act of assembly, whether she acted without compulsion the part of her husband. She struck her arms akimbo, and replied, "He compel me! no—nor twenty like him."

JOHN RANDOLPH'S BLACK COLONY. The fairest experiment on any scale of magnitude that has been made in this country to test the capability of a negro community to maintain itself, was the notable one made by the celebrated John Randolph, of Roanoke, who, by his will, emancipated a considerable number of slaves, who were subsequently settled on good land in the free State of Ohio.

Senator Ferry, of Connecticut, having denied, in solemn convocation, the Nutmeg State was independent, his colleague, Mr. Dixon, refreshed his memory and morality thus:

THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT provides in her State constitution that her electors, before voting, shall take such oath as shall be prescribed by law; and part of the oath prescribed is in these words: "You, A. B., do solemnly swear that you will be true and faithful to the State of Connecticut, and the constitution and government thereof as a free and independent State."

THE PEOPLE OF THIS Commonwealth have the sole and exclusive right of governing themselves as a free, sovereign, and independent State.

THE CELEBRATED Bishop Burgess, whose sayings are quoted as replete with sound judgment and beautiful ideas, says of the journey of life, "that ten thousand human beings set forth together on their journey. After ten years, one-third, at least have disappeared. At the middle point, of common measure of life, but half are still on the road. Paster and faster as the rank grows thinner, they that remained till now become weary, and lie down and rise no more. At three-score and ten, a hand of some four hundred yet struggle on. At ninety, those have been reduced to a handful of thirty trembling patriarchs. Year after year they fall in diminishing numbers. One lingers, perhaps, a lonely marvel, till the century is over. We look again, and the work of death is finished."

THE EMPRESS Eugenie, according to Figaro, has recently become a convert to spiritualism, through the influence of a clever clairvoyant, Mlle. Elise Gallotien, who calls herself the "Light of the Future." The Empress has recently attended almost daily the seances of this woman, and even Louis Napoleon is said to have consulted her.

THE BALTIMORE Gazette, speaking of the heightened morality of Congressmen, says:

BLOODY CONFLICT BETWEEN A NUMBER OF CHINESE AND THE CREW OF AN ENGLISH GUNBOAT.—Late despatches from China report that a collision took place at Swatow between the Chinese inhabitants and the crew of the British gunboat Grasshopper. The fight was obstinate and bloody.

THE NEWS FROM CUBA.—The intelligence from Havana published in our telegraphic column is of a very important character. It will be seen that Count Valmaseda, who is operating in the Eastern Department, has been forced to send a portion of his column to St. Jago to save that city from capture by the Cubans, while in the Central Department there is a significant inaction on the part of the Spanish troops.

Local Items. Now Advertisemen's. Good News! Good News!—call on Ladd Bros & Co. Dry Goods, &c.—Ketchin, McMaster & Brice. "No Mule."—E. W. Oliver & Co. Masonic Meeting—S. B. Clowney, Seco.

Unconstitutional. The Charleston papers print in full the opinion of Judge Carpenter that the Homestead exemption is unconstitutional. Gen. D. H. Hill, Of Charlotte, N. C., called at our office yesterday in excellent health and spirits, though grown grey in patriotic service both with pen and sword.

Another Change. The Charlotte & S. C. R. R., as it will be seen by this morning's issue has again changed its schedule. The down mail train arrives at Winnsboro at 9.28 a. m., up train at 3.42 p. m.

THE OLD BLACKSMITH SHOP. This old shop so long known as the "Aiken Blacksmith Shop," has recently undergone a thorough overhauling, under the special supervision of our enterprising townsmen, Mr. Geo. II. McMaster. Where stood a few weeks ago a delapidated old blacksmith shop now stands a beautiful store, and is now occupied by Messrs. Oliver & Co.

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