

Monday Morning, May 8, 1866.

Our State and People's Future.

It will be a false question with our convention should our Legislature call it together, and should our conquerors permit its assembling, whether to return to the old Union as a State, or to pre-empt the territorial condition. When we consider the general misrule in the country, and the almost total want of leading minds for government among us, it is, perhaps necessary that we should be placed under military subjection. It is not improbable, indeed, that the United States Congress will subject South Carolina, at least, to some such authority. Under a strong military government, which would subdue the license of conduct which thirty years of ease and profligacy have engendered, it might be expected reasonably that our people would arrive at a due sense of humility, that grand lesson and necessity which must have been the object of the Deity in subjecting us first to the horrors of a long and cruel war, and finally to the humiliation of utter defeat and subjugation. We must learn as soon as possible to reconcile ourselves to our degraded condition. To those whose stomachs are still proud under the scourge and yoke, there will be found a refuge in foreign lands, and there are foreign States who will cheerfully accord territory to the refugees from this who may be disposed to form colonies elsewhere. Maximilian will be glad to find his hand strengthened by the acquisition of a hundred thousand vigorous young men, still full of spirit and willing to bear arms; and doubtless the United States will be quite willing to grant the privilege of departure from the country to those portions of a race who might be too refractory for submission, and who would only continue to breed and nourish discontent. The world is wide enough still for refuge to the patriot in exile; and to those who reject at the Yankee yoke, there is consolation in the mournful resolve of Adam, leaving Eden forever.

"The world is all before us, where to choose Our resting place, and Providence our guide."

It will be well, then, for the emigrants to keep Providence still in view as a guide, and to turn away from the pleadings and pleading of Demos. Better, to begin in our changed condition, we can substitute Jehovah for those false gods whom we have so long and so blindly worshipped. His laws, properly studied, will be easily comprehended, and will keep us from the sorrows in future, and the horrors, of our past experience. To subdue our hearts to our condition, to eschew our miserable vanities, to acquire habits of honest industry, and make ourselves free from those bonds of ignorance which enslave a people, when they lack the modesty to deplore it—these will be the first essential objects for our regeneration. We cannot too quickly address ourselves to the study of these things, welcoming religion, wisdom, virtue, sobriety, and toil, as the compensative things in the loss of our liberties.

It is expected that by 1st of June, Richmond and Washington will be connected by railroad.

On Dix, &c.

Seward and his son are said to be both improving. The assassin did his work unscientifically. It does not yet certainly appear that Booth is captured. By a Baltimore despatch of the 22d ult, he is represented, with thirty conspirators, to be concealed in St. Mary's County, Maryland. A man named "Payne" has been arrested, who is supposed to be guilty of the attempt on Seward.

One of the *ex dictis* of the New York press, of the 18th, is to the effect that President Johnson replied to a clergyman who implored his mercy for the rebels, that "mercy to individuals is not always mercy to States." Andy wants to hang somebody, it is clear, if only to prove that his faculties are not in a state of suspension. Who shall it be? We must not forget to add, that he is also reported to have said to members of Congress, that he "was willing to act with the utmost magnanimity (!) towards the common rebels and to the people of the rebel States, but that those who were the leaders must be severely punished."

Very good. We beg to say to President Johnson, that, so far as this State is concerned, people and leaders were pretty much in the same catalogue. One was as deep in the mud as the other in the mire. While we were successful, all parties were hop-ful, exultant, self-reliant. It was only when the game grew to be doubtful, that an occasional squeak from a Simon Pure announced that he had always been a Union man. If they spoke at all, they were secessionists, with possibly some three exceptions, in all South Carolina. And while they remained silent, being Union men, what were they but poor devils! Let our masters take due heed of this, for every syllable of it is true.

Currency.

We are told that the Yankees in Georgia are endorsing our blue back currency with a stamp of their own, and rating them at fifty cents in the dollar. Having possessed themselves of large amounts of our currency, the cunning Yankees are putting it to the best profit. Confederate bills will constitute our only currency for some time to come. The banks will need a long brooding time for their recuperation, and meanwhile, we shall find in the blue backs our only market money. We are incited to the belief that the United States, as a measure of policy, and in order to the prevention of great and sudden distress in both sections, will blend the debts of the two, even though they may sink the whole by reparation in a few years after. It is the policy of our master that the South shall recuperate as rapidly as possible, and verify their rule would be productive of wholesale disturbance, discontent and perhaps a renewal of the war, if we were required to pay a share of their indebtedness without paying our own. Indeed, the thing would be impossible. *Verb sap.*

GUBERNATORIAL.—Gov. Vance, of North Carolina, is reported as refusing to serve under the United States Government, the Yankee G Schofield having the military government of the State.

Public Opinion at the North.

We are told that immense mass meetings are being held at the North, urging peace and conciliation. The pressure is said to be so great upon Andy Johnson, that he is understood to have yielded—though with such tears as the crescent sheds over the his-staten pig—to the terms agreed upon between Johnson and Sherman. These terms are rather understood in general than by details. It seems to be understood between the parties that there are to be no father-and-son negotiations; that the States of the South simply throw down their arms, meet their members of Congress, and slide back into the Union, without beat of drum. They are not expected to make any unnecessary contentions, but to swallow the physic at a gulp.

FOX AND GOGAZ.—The Northern papers report as the most profound submissionists of Richmond the persons who, safe in civil and official bomb-proofs under the Confederate Government, have made the most amazing fortunes out of the war. All natural enough. The fox tribe is proverbial for using the fingers of the tabby in extracting its nuts from the fire.

AFFAIRS IN CHARLESTON.—A correspondent of the New York Times, in a letter, says that within the last two months trade in Charleston has revived to a wonderful degree. King street is fairly alive with business, and on Meeting and Broad streets the business—being rapidly fitted up and occupied. The time will come when the city will be placed on its old business footing, but this cannot be effected in a week nor a month. Time must be had to repair the damaged buildings, and to enable the old merchants to accumulate sufficient capital to start in business afresh. The lower classes of people appear to have more money than the higher, and it is to their advantage that the shops and stores now open are sustained.

THE YANKEES IN NEW BRUNSWICK.—We learn that a force of Yankees under Gen. Palmer, of Pennsylvania, were in the upper part of Sparta, on Saturday last, where they captured some soldiers and officers who were in that neighborhood. Another force, under Sherman, was said to be on the East side of Broad River. It is said that these parties had not been advised of the cessation of the armistice.

FROM TRANS MISSISSIPPI.—By way of the North, says the August *Chronicle and Sentinel* of the South alt, we have news from the Trans-Mississippi Department, to the effect that Kirby Smith proposes the surrender of the Confederate army West of the Mississippi. The Northern papers also state that Texas will soon be restored to the Union.

Notice.

Soldiers and Fellow Citizens:

AM authorized by Gov. Venable to inform you, that a strong and efficient organization be formed, for the protection of private property, and to insure the safe arrival of Government trains and property to this place, that Commissioners, with Gen. RAMPTON at the head, will be appointed, to secure a fair and equitable disposition of such property as is for distribution amongst the soldiers and others entitled to receive it. I propose now that we meet in front of Dr. Geiger's, THIS MORNING, at 10 o'clock, to perfect the organization, and let us by harmonious and decided action show that, whatever prevails elsewhere, in the capital of South Carolina law and order are still triumphant. JAMES G. GIBBS, Assistant Mayor. May 8