

# COLUMBIA.

Friday Morning, August 4, 1865.

The work of reconstruction and re-organization is going on smoothly and effectively in the Southern States. The Provisional Governors appointed by President Johnson have all placed themselves in communication with the people of their several States, and have made known to them the course of policy they intend to pursue. They have explained to them the wishes of the President, and counselled them kindly but firmly as to their duties. These Governors have encountered no opposition on the part of the people over whom they rule. We are yet to hear of the first instance (says the *Richmond Times*) of complaint by these high officials of sullenness or contumacy among their people. Everywhere throughout the whole South a sincere disposition is manifested to do all that the constituted authorities of the country desire them to do. The Governors and the people have come to understand one another, and if left alone by meddling and busy-bodies, they will very soon astunish the country with a most gratifying display of Southern loyalty and obedience. This is not the age of miracles, and rational men could not expect the Southern people to pass through a radical change of character and sentiment in an hour, a day, or a month. Such a change might well be viewed as suspicious and hypocritical. But three months have not passed over them without leaving traces of its healing and restoring influence.

The Southern crops have been watched with solicitude by the whole country. In the last three months and under the fructifying influence of sun and shower, the wheat grew and was gathered; the corn, now fresh, green and luxuriant, promises a bountiful yield. The cotton, the rice and the sugar, where they have been cultivated, give promise of the same exuberance. But there is one crop that has been watched with far greater solicitude, and that is of far more importance than wheat or corn, than rice, sugar or cotton. By the blessing of God, and under the benignant and liberal policy pursued by President Johnson, that great crop cultivated now throughout the whole South, promises a mighty yield—that crop is the restored loyalty and devotion of the Southern people to the Government of the United States. Let the blessed and genial influences of sun and shower be continued yet for a season, and a harvest will be gathered that will as much gratify all true patriots as it will astonish, shame, and confound those pestilent intermeddlers and busy-bodies who are constantly misinterpreting and misrepresenting all that the Southern people say or do, and who are incessantly clamoring for the adoption of stern and harsh measures, as the only means that can bring the South back to reason.

In no quarter of the country in which elections have been held do we hear of disorder or of the manifestation of disloyalty, sullenness or unwilling acquiescence. The people have with one accord determined to let bygones be bygones, and if we may use the language of the *National Intelligencer*, "to conform to the amnesty oath in spirit as well as letter." There is unhappily a most malignant disposition on the part of the old radical enemies of the South to nip this loyalty in the bud by taunts, misrepresentation and abuse. But it must be remembered that all growing things have their enemies. These pestilent creatures are but the bugs that infest the wheat, and the worms that disturb the growing tobacco. In spite of their mischievous endeavors, the crop will yet ripen and prove abundant. All that is needed to make the South what the true patriot desires to see it, is gentleness, forbearance and magnanimity on the part of the rulers of the country.

## Sensible Talk.

The *New York Times*, speaking of Northern sentiment and expectations about the South, says:

We (the Northern people and authorities) are too exacting also in regard to the political action of the Southern people. We expect them, now that the war is over, and they are beaten, to become at once, not only loyal citizens, obeying all the laws, and sustaining fully the national authority, but thorough-going abolitionists, and advocates of negro suffrage. Anything short of this we consider half-way loyalty and think they have not been whipped quite enough yet. We denounce them as still secessionists at heart, and call for their exclusion from the rights of citizenship.

This is unreasonable and unwise. We have really nothing to do with their hearts. We have no right to exact the complete change of sentiment and feeling which we demand. We have a right to insist that they shall obey the law, that they shall acknowledge and respect the national authority, and conduct themselves as peaceful law-abiding citizens. If they do this, we can demand nothing more. They may believe in their hearts what they please; they may feel as they like about the war and the government, they may be at heart rebellious still; but that is really none of our business. We cannot control their opinions or their sentiments; we can and must control their conduct, but that is all. Nor is it reasonable to expect that the mass of the Southern people can or will become suddenly devotees of doctrines and sentiments which they have hitherto abhorred, and against which they have staked their fortunes and their lives. Men do not thus instantly change their whole natures on compulsion. And any ostentatious professions of such a change would be hypocritical. The great body of the Southern people were unquestionably honest and sincere in the opinions, the prejudices and the resentments which led them to rebel against the Government; and it would be folly to suppose that those feelings would all be at once eradicated by the simple fact that they have been beaten in the field. A radical change in the sentiment of the Southern people, concerning slavery and the purpose and temper of the national authority, can only be wrought by time, by wise and wisely administered, and by their experience of the new condition upon which they have entered.

Nor should we desire to break the spirit or crush the self-respect of the people of the Southern States. Their courage, their resolute and determined spirit, is now among the proudest possessions of the whole country. It has been our enemy, but hereafter it is to be our friend. It has been turned against us, and has vainly sought our destruction; henceforth it fights only on our side, and swells the power and the courage with which we may confront a world in arms. It would be suicidal in us to crush or destroy it—we should be destroying a part of that which is to give us the proudest place ever held by any nation on the face of the earth. They confess and feel themselves overcome, subdued, subjugated. From no quarter do we hear the faintest hint of any wish even to renew the contest. It is not for us to poison the wound we have inflicted on their pride, nor to stab, with insulting blows, the dead body of their ambition.

**CHANGE OF FASHION.**—Crimoline, in the shape of steel-hooped petticoats, is certainly doomed; but it will, of course, die a lingering death, and prevail for some time with the servants when it has been discarded by the mistresses. It is a fact that at the opera, the theatre, at flower shows, and, indeed, at all public places, ladies may now be seen without an atom of steel curvingly concealed in their under-clothes. And they are full-dressed ladies of fashion, too; leaders of ton and demizens of the *beau monde*.

Manly fashions, too, are undergoing mutation. Peg-top trousers are decidedly going out; and going out wider and more peg-toppy, but ceasing to be made at the fashionable tailors! Unmentionables are all but tight; indeed, they approach the "horsy" character. Long and solemn frock coats, too, have had their day, and gentlemen from "Noah's Ark" no longer parade in threes along Piccadilly and by the rails of the "Ladies' Mile." A sporting era in matters sartorial seems to be setting in, and cutaway-skirts, with outside pockets, adorn the many forms of our young aristocrats in town.

The salaries of Provisional Governors are three thousand dollars a year, payable monthly or quarterly, by drafts on the Department of State at Washington.

## Affairs in Texas.

**NEW ORLEANS, July 21.**—News arrived yesterday from Brownsville, that S. Viesca, Governor of Saltillo, had captured the rebel Gen. Kirby Smith and party, at Piedras Negras, about fifty miles from Eagle Pass. A train of seventy-five wagons, four pieces of artillery and nine hundred muskets are said to have been surrendered by Kirby Smith and party, who are now on parole.

The above news was received in Brownsville on the 12th inst., from Major Texier, of Certinas' staff.

I clip the following from the *San Antonio Herald*:

Our information from Eagle Pass and Piedras Negras is up to July 1. We learn that Gen. Shelby had reached the first named point in a quiet and peaceable manner, but was informed by the authorities in Piedras Negras, that he would not be allowed to take his men into Mexico with arms in his hands, but that if he would leave his arms there would be no objection to his entrance into the country as emigrants with himself and men. We are informed that Gen. Shelby finally agreed to this, and sold his arms and cannon to the Liberals at Piedras Negras. There were two thousand five hundred stands of small arms and three pieces of artillery, for which Shelby received eleven thousand dollars—six thousand in specie and five thousand in bonds issued by the Liberals. The arms were immediately shipped for Chihuahua. The Governor of the State of Coahuila acted as agent for the Liberals.

Gen. Shelby entered Mexico with about two hundred and fifty men.

The column of cavalry, under the command of Maj. Gen. Merritt, which left Shreveport on the 8th inst., has arrived at Marshall, Texas.

The march through the State will probably occupy a month. Forage and water it is expected will be very scarce along certain portions of the route, but up to the present time there has been abundance of both.

The correspondent of the *New Orleans Times*, writing from Shreveport on the 8th inst., in speaking of the route which Gen. Merritt intends to take, says: Starting from Austin, the command crosses Onion Creek in an eight mile march; Woody Spring is a good halting place, thence but ten miles San Marcos River is distant but ten miles; the Gualoupe River is ferried by a long stretch of twenty-seven miles; thence sixteen miles and Cibolo Creek is crossed; sixteen miles on a horse stretch and the end of the present march, San Antonio, is reached. The above is the plan that will guide the expedition on the route to San Antonio, a distance of four hundred and twenty-five miles. There are twenty-eight camping spots, twenty-eight water sources, at which the command will halt. It is a thirty day march.

**WASHINGTON, July 28.**—The *Chronicle* has received a letter from New Orleans embodying the following extract from one written by a gentleman connected with the headquarters of the Union force at Clarksville, Texas. It is dated July 11, and is as follows:

I am lying at the mouth of the Rio Grande, opposite to Bagdad. The Mexicans under Maximilian guard the opposite side and our troops this. The respective pickets are not forty rods apart. There is a good deal of unfriendly feeling between the two armies, and they cannot long refrain from blows. On the 4th of July, our officers went over, and many rows occurred. I heard this morning that Gen. Brown, the commander at Brownsville, yesterday had an interview with Juarez, and promised him the assistance of the United States troops, and had ordered the Fourth Indiana to cross the river. Gen. Steele, the department commander, went up by a despatch boat to counteract the order if possible. But even if he succeeds, things cannot long remain as they are.

[*Cor. New York Herald.*]

The British ship *Invincible* was wrecked in May, 1864, on Desert Island, when eight days out, from Melbourne for Calao. Six of the crew were drowned at the time, and nineteen saved, including the captain. All the provisions secured were four pounds of bread and three pounds of pork. They remained on the island for a year and ten days, living on shell-fish and roots. One by one they died, and, finally, none were left but the captain, mate and one sailor. At last the ship *Julian*, bound from China to Calao, stopped at the island when in a leaky condition, and rescued them. The captain, Debarrel, had arrived at Panama.

A negro barber was tarred and feathered, last week, in Greensport, L. I., for insulting a white lady.

## Reconstruction.

ALABAMA.

Provisional Governor Lewis E. Parsons, of Alabama, has issued his proclamation announcing the inauguration of measures for the restoration of civil Government in that State. The 31st of August is the day appointed for the election of delegates to the State Convention, which is to assemble on the 10th of September. The greater portion of the old county and town officers are re-appointed to the positions, which they are to hold during the continuance of the Provisional Government; but they are all required to take the oath of allegiance to the National Government and to give new bonds for the performance of their duties. The Governor comments on the present condition of the South, and the ruin and suffering which the war has caused; but informs the people that notwithstanding this, they have to-day every political right which they possessed before the war, excepting the right to hold slaves; and slavery, he tells them, is irrevocably gone, and it is the part of wisdom to make the best they can of the new order of things.

GEORGIA.

Provisional Governor Johnson, of Georgia, has also issued his proclamation calling a State Convention and appointing a day for electing delegates thereto. The election is to be held on the 4th of October, and the Convention will assemble in Milledgeville on the 25th of the same month. The citizens are reminded that in order to be entitled to vote or to become candidates for election to the Convention, they must previously subscribe to the oath of allegiance to the National Government; and this they are earnestly advised to do. They are also informed that slavery is extinct. The administration of civil law, to a great extent, is to remain in abeyance till a State Government shall have been chosen; but in the meantime order will be preserved, if necessary, by the military.

**MAIL COMMUNICATIONS.**—The following from the *True Delta* expresses our opinion upon the importance and necessity of a thorough and immediate restoration of the mails throughout the South:

Nothing that can be done by human agency would more effectually tend to the quick restoration of the old relations between the North and South, and to the rapid revival of the South from its present depressed condition, than the re-establishment of the mail facilities that existed at the commencement of the war now closed.

We have seen it stated that the Postmaster-General has this subject under consideration, and that he gives indication of there being difficulties in the way of the early re-establishment of post routes and post offices in this portion of the Union. These difficulties, we presume, arise from there being no appropriation for postal service in the South. If this is all, awkward though it be, it need not be an objection to the re-establishment of at least all the leading post routes and the re-opening of all the post offices thereon. "Where there's a will there's a way."

If the Postmaster-General will but advertise for the postal service to be performed, we have not the shadow of a doubt that responsible men will at once come forward fully prepared to perform it and willing to wait for their pay until it is provided for by Congress, if that be necessary. As to the re-opening of post offices, let the Postmaster-General but order it to be done quickly, and that and the services of postmasters can be secured with a rapidity unexampled even in this country of innumerable government officers and innumerable expectant place-men.

This is a matter of the greatest importance to us of the South. It is also of great moment to the whole country and to the Government itself. It is needless to enlarge on that which is clearly apparent to all men. Every interest—agricultural, commercial, social and political—calls loudly for the quick renewal of Southern mail communication.

**EXCITEMENT IN WESTERN VIRGINIA.**—L. Wilson, son of E. C. Wilson, deceased, who left his home in this place at the commencement of the rebellion, and accepted the position of colonel in the rebel army, returned home on Saturday last. He was waited upon by a crowd of soldiers and others, at his mother's residence, on Saturday night, and ordered to leave. He promised if they would only allow him to remain until the first of the week, he would leave town, which request was granted, and the crowd then dispersed. He left according to promise.

[*Western Virginia Advocate.*]

The value of property in London is estimated at \$200,000,000.

## Local Items.

We learn that J. C. Jannay, Esq., has been appointed Postmaster of this city. That Mr. J. can "keep a hotel," no one can doubt, and it is thought that he will succeed equally well in his new vocation.

**TO TRAVELERS.**—C. Y. Pool's hack line connects with the cars at Hope Station, immediately upon the arrival of the down train, and will convey passengers safely and securely to Columbia; it will also carry passengers from Columbia to Hope Station, in time to take the train the same day for Greenville.

Messrs. Townsend & North have made arrangements to receive the Charleston *Courier* regularly, and will keep it for sale at their store in Bedell's Row; we are indebted to them for a copy. In a short time they expect to have a good assortment of books and stationery—one of the partners having gone to New York to replenish their stock.

We are indebted to Mr. R. C. Shiver, of the Kingsville line, for a copy of the *New York Herald*, of the 29th. The Southern Express Company have also furnished us copies of the *Richmond Times*, of the 28th and 29th, and late Charleston and Augusta papers.

The card of Messrs. Fenner, Bennett & Bowman, will be found in another column. Previous to the war, the firm did an extensive business at the South, and they are desirous of renewing their old acquaintance. Mr. T. A. Tobin, of this State, (whose post office is Clinton, Laurens District,) is a member of the concern, and will be pleased to meet all their old friends and to make the acquaintance of any number of new ones. These gentlemen make advances on engagements if desired.

**THE COLORED FREE MASONS.**—The Grand Lodge of New York has concluded its annual session. On Friday, the Committee on Foreign Correspondence reported adversely to the recognition of lodges working under a charter from the Grand Lodge of Hamburg. There are several lodges of colored men in this country, having charters granted by the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, which have been for some time endeavoring to obtain recognition by the grand Lodges of the various States, but without success. An effort was made by some of the members of the Grand Lodge of this State to procure their recognition, but the only committee who could legitimately bring the subject before the body reported adversely, and the measure failed. This places colored Masons precisely where they have ever been—beyond the pale of Masonic law. Masons cannot recognize them as such in any particular, nor have Masonic knowledge of their existence, notwithstanding the fact that they are bound by the same solemn obligations and ties as are their white brethren.

**DIFFICULTIES BETWEEN RETURNED SOLDIERS.**—The Memphis *Argus* learns that a bitter animosity exists between the people up the Arkansas. Frequent altercations occur between those who served in the Confederate army and others from the Union army, who regard each other with malicious hatred. Some days since, at Spades, a party of discharged Union soldiers met a number of paroled Confederates, and, after an angry discussion, a fight ensued, in which fire-arms were freely used, resulting in killing four men.

**BRAZILIAN EMIGRATION SCHEME.**—The *True Delta*, of the 15th, states that Col. Wm. Wallace W. Wood, of Mississippi, our former fellow-citizen and long-time newspaper contemporary, has been in our city some days, en route for Brazil, as the special chief agent and commissioner of several hundred families who contemplate emigration and colonization. Col. W. leaves our city on the first steamer via New York for Rio Janeiro, with a prestige of success in his mission that few men could attain.

**BIRTH IN A MARKET.**—Yesterday morning, a woman gave birth to a child inside the stall of a butcher at the Old Market. She had been to market and was returning home, when the critical emergency arose which required her to put up with such accommodations as could be instantly provided by the humane proprietor of the stall in which she sought refuge. After the occurrence, she was placed in an ambulance and carried home.—*Richmond Times.*

**SUICIDE.**—While the North River steamer *Armenia*, from Albany to New York, was near Sing Sing, one afternoon last week, a cabin passenger, a respectable looking woman with four children, suddenly leaped overboard with the babe she carried in her arms, and both were drowned before assistance could reach them.

A beautiful young girl in Michigan, has eloped with and married her father's negro coachman.