

The Election.

The people of South Carolina, on Wednesday next, will be called to exercise their suffrages in one of the most important elections that has ever been held in the State. For the first time the electors of the State cast their votes direct for their Chief Magistrate, and they are fortunate in having presented to them for that office a gentleman of large experience and undoubted ability. He has long been connected with the political fortunes of the State, and the best evidence that he has the entire confidence of her people is the unanimity with which their representatives nominated for the high and at this time very important office which, under our new Constitution, he will occupy for four years. We may safely predict that, in his hands, the Commonwealth will suffer no detriment.

The election for Members to the Legislature is one of the utmost importance to the future welfare of the State. Legislating under a new Constitution, with deep and radical changes in our political and social systems, the task of framing new laws will be one requiring the highest order of talent, the largest experience and the soundest judgment. In this election men should not let personal prejudices or preferences sway their choice, but rather let them make that choice with an eye single to the fitness, qualifications and experience of the candidates set before them. The Members chosen will have to legislate for them and their children, and it is of the gravest importance that they should stand clear on the record, as to their fidelity, capability and meritorious conduct, both in public and private life. The game of mere politics is played out, we trust for a long time, in South Carolina, and the men we want now in her councils should be men of clear heads, sound judgment, and of undoubted loyalty and devotion to the best interests of their country and State. Mere partisans or aspirants for office should be repudiated at the present grave juncture in our State concerns, and we, therefore, earnestly recommend to our fellow-citizens, not only in this District, but throughout the State, to choose wisely in the selection they are called upon to make.

The late Convention was the best evidence that the people could choose well; but in electing members to that body they had advantages they will not possess at this election. Many of the members of the Convention were men who have filled and must continue to occupy other and different positions than members of the Legislature, therefore the circle from which the voters must now select is greatly diminished; hence the necessity for increased prudence in the exercise of their high prerogative.

In making these remarks, we do not design to indicate any preference for this or that friend who may have been announced as candidates. We wish simply to impress on our people the fact that this is something more than an ordinary election, in which personal friendships or individual preferences might legitimately be exercised, but one involving the great interests of the State, not only for the present, but probably for many years to come.

CIVIL AUTHORITY.—The Charleston Courier, of Friday, says:

"Another step towards the restoration of civil power was taken on yesterday. Mr. Steadman Yeadon, the keeper of the State Magazines and Powder Inspector, received the keys of one of the magazines from Gov. Perry."

EMPLOYMENT.—Eight or ten good printers can obtain employment in this office during the approaching session of the Legislature.

The Commanding Position of New York in Support of the President.

The Empire State, through the action of both her great political parties in support of President Johnson, occupies a lofty and commanding position before the country. For the first time in the history of the Union, since the days of Monroe, both parties have met on the platform of the Administration, as if to inaugurate another "era of good feeling." We had something like this in 1852, when the Whigs and the Democrats adopted the same national platform in support of Henry Clay's great compromise measures of 1850. Thus both parties, in 1852, trimmed their sails to the popular breeze; but the people, while believing in Clay's adjustment, distrusted the Abolition affiliations of the Whig party, and poor Pierce was elected by an overwhelming majority of the popular and electoral vote North and South. That election was the death of the old Whig party; and in behalf of the great compromise settlement, culminating in this remarkable event, the State of New York led the way.

Had poor Pierce shaped his policy according to the instructions of the American people so emphatically pronounced in his election, he might have re-established the Democratic party in power for half a century longer. He was puffed up with his self-conceit; he was weak and foolish; he turned his back upon the people, and was led by a clique of Southern conspirators into the rash, bloody and disastrous experiment of that Kansas-Nebraska bill. From that day began the dissolution of the old Jacksonian Democratic party, which was consummated in the revolutionary rupture of the Charleston Convention of 1860, and confirmed in the irrevocable split a few weeks later at Baltimore. All these things, culminating in the late sanguinary rebellion, may be traced directly to the weakness, faithlessness and criminal folly of poor Pierce. Against him, and in the tremendous Northern anti-slavery re-action thus brought about, the State of New York led those resistless columns which cast the Democracy out of power and into disgrace in 1860. There, excepting the lucid interval of 1862, the party has since remained, in consequence of its adhesion to its incurable copperhead leaders.

New York, with the signal from Fort Sumter, led off in the war for the Union; and in every great political revolution or re-action of the country, we find that New York has exercised the influence which properly belongs to the most powerful State of the Union. It is in this view that we attach the highest importance to the present attitude of both parties in this State, in reference to President Johnson's domestic and foreign policy. By their official action, as we may term it, the Democratic party and the Republican party stand upon the same platform. In reference to their principles and their candidates, there is hardly anything to quarrel over between them. The intolerant Abolition radicals threaten a bolt against the doings at Syracuse, and the intractable copperheads are disgusted with the doings at Albany, and of these two small discordant factions the opposition elements to President Johnson's policy are composed. If the Republicans are defeated in November, it will be in the house of their radical friends; if the Democrats fail to recover the State, they may charge the account to their copperhead brethren. In either event, however, the Administration will stand endorsed by New York and by both parties.

The moral effect of this emphatic approval of President Johnson by the masses of both parties of this State will be felt in all the other States, and will be recognized in Congress as a true development of the public opinion of the country at large. The members of the new Congress, like Andrew Johnson with President Lincoln, were elected upon the all-absorbing issue last year of the subjugation of the rebellion and the extinguishment of slavery. The rebellion has been since put down and slavery has been abolished. President Johnson has thus been left perfectly free to take his own course in the great work of Southern reconstruction. The course which he has adopted meets the approval of the people North and South. The party that elected him and the party that opposed him last November will both in the coming November elections—especially in New York—stand upon the Johnson platform of Southern reconstruction.

Is it not fair, then, to infer that, in obedience to the voice of their home conventions and their constituents, the New York members of the new Congress, Republicans and Democrats, with an exception or two, will

range themselves when they come together in Washington on the side of the Administration? Is it not fair to suppose that such will be the course with the bulk of the members on both sides from all the other States? We have but little doubt upon the subject. What can the majority party of this new Congress expect to gain by a break with President Johnson? They can expect nothing else from this experiment than such a popular judgment against them in the Congressional elections of next autumn as will make sure the success of the Johnson programme in the next Congress, and of the Presidential succession on the Johnson platform. We therefore conclude that the President's policy of Southern reconstruction will be supported and carried out by the coming Congress; that the Republican and Democratic members generally will be guided by their State conventions and the voice of their constituents, and it is in this view that we can justly boast of New York to-day as occupying a glorious and commanding position before the country.—*New York Herald.*

MATRIMONY.—We never remember to have seen the field canvassed from the point of view here taken. We present it for the sage consideration of our fair readers:

"No one will contend that there are no crimes committed by married men. Facts would look such an assertion out of countenance. But it may be said with truth that there are very few crimes committed by married men compared with the number committed by those who are unmarried. Whatever faults Voltaire may have had, he certainly showed himself a man of sense when he said, 'The more married men you have, the fewer crimes there will be. Marriage renders a man more virtuous and more wise.' An unmarried man is but half of a perfect being, and it requires the other half to make things right; and it cannot be expected that in this imperfect state he can keep the straight path of rectitude any more than a boat with one oar, or a bird with one wing, can keep a straight course. In nine cases out of ten, where married men become drunkards, or where they commit crimes against the peace of the community, the foundation of these acts was laid while in a single state, or where the wife is, as is sometimes the case, an unsuitable match. Marriage changes the whole current of a man's feelings and gives him a centre for his thoughts, his affections and his acts. Here is a home for the entire man, and the counsel, the affections, the example and the interest of his 'better half' keep him from the erratic courses, and from falling into a thousand temptations to which he would otherwise be exposed. Therefore the friend to marriage is the friend to society and to his country. And we have no doubt but that a similar effect is produced by marriage on the woman; though from the difference in their labors and the greater exposure to temptation on the part of the man, we have no doubt but that man reaps a greater advantage from the restraining influence of marriage than women does."

BRUTAL MURDER.—We regret to announce the commission of a most atrocious murder upon the person of Major James J. Adams, one of our most respectable citizens, on Thursday morning last. The deceased was a resident of our District, near Hodges' Depot, and left home early on Thursday morning with his gun in his hand for the purpose, as his mother supposed, of hunting turkeys. On Friday morning, his dead body was found near Hodges' Depot, very much mutilated. Upon his side were the marks of a wound inflicted by an axe. There was a deep gash on the back of his head, and his whole face was beaten in, so as not to be recognized. His broken gun was found near by, with which it appeared that most of the wounds were inflicted. Upon the trees around there was the evidence of a discharge of fire-arms, and the appearance of the ground indicated a violent struggle. Two negroes have been arrested and lodged in jail, and against one of them the evidence of criminality is very strong—but is very likely that others are implicated, and we trust that all will be brought to speedy punishment.

Major Adams was one of our most peaceful and orderly citizens, and sustained the character of a kind and indulgent master. He leaves a large circle of friends to lament his untimely loss.—*Abbeville Press.*

CASE.—We wish it distinctly understood that our terms for subscription, advertising and job work are cash. The money must in every case accompany orders, or they will not be attended to. This rule applies to all.

The Bible.

To the Editor of the Columbia Phoenix: Being assured that you and the readers of the Phoenix feel an interest in every good work, permit me to state what is doing in South Carolina and other Southern States for the great cause of the Bible, under the auspices of the American Bible Society.

During the past three months, a kind Providence has permitted me to prosecute my labors as Bible Agent in South Carolina, under favorable circumstances. Bible committees were appointed in various Districts of the State, and addresses made at several Bible meetings. Donations of Bibles and Testaments were made to Bible societies, committees, destitute Sabbath schools and individuals. And letters of encouragement in my work, together with letters requesting donations of books for sale and for distribution were received from prominent friends of the Bible in this State. Donations of Bibles and Testaments made to societies, committees, Sabbath schools and individuals, five thousand volumes.

In Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, the Valley of Virginia and East Tennessee, the Bible cause is promising. The following agents have been appointed for these States: Rev. G. Jefferson Peatree, Georgia; Rev. W. C. Johnson, Mississippi; Rev. Henry Hardie, North Carolina; Rev. E. O. Dunning, Valley of Virginia and East Tennessee. These gentlemen are Southerners, and, except Mr. Hardie, were in the service of the American Bible Society previous to the war. They are experienced laborers in the Bible cause. Before winter, the Board of Managers of the Bible Society expect to complete their corps of agents in the other Southern States.

Orders for Bibles and Testaments on donation account will be filled by addressing Rev. E. A. Bolles, Orangeburg, S. C. Also state the name of consignee in Charleston, S. C.

A thousand blessings on all who love the Bible, and who will pray and act, so that "the Word of God may have free course and be glorified."

Yours truly,
EDWIN A. BOLLES,
General Agent American Bible Society for South Carolina.
ORANEBURG, S. C., Oct. 10, 1865.

REMINISCENCE OF 1837.—AN AMERICAN EXILE.—Not long since an elderly man, bent almost double with age and work, and in garments tattered and torn, while passing through Rome, New York, stopped at one of the stores and asked for food or money. He volunteered the remark that he was ashamed to beg, but stated as an explanation and in extenuation, the following as the cause of the necessity: His home was Saratoga, and he chanced to be in Canada at the time of the rebellion in that country in 1837. He was charged with being engaged in that outbreak, was tried and convicted for being in complicity with the "Patriots," and sentenced to Van Dieman's Land for life. He says he was not guilty, but that the feeling was so strong against the Yankees at the time of his trial, it required but slight evidence to convict.

He was then some twenty-one or twenty-two years of age; he was taken to that penal colony, and there subjected to the severest drudgery and the most inhuman treatment; he, with other convicts, was compelled to draw the plow and cart like oxen, and to labor early and late, and treated not much better, if any, than the dumb beasts. Thus were twenty-eight years of life passed, never hearing from friends or home, nor allowed to communicate therewith. He, with others, was finally pardoned, and allowed to reach home as best he might.

He left the country a hale and hearty youth, erect and full of life and vigor; he returns to it after nearly thirty years absence a decrepid old man, bent over with age and work, and with shattered health and a broken constitution. The narration he gave of his life there and the details of his treatment fully impressed his hearers with the truth of his statements, and that he was no impostor. He was on his way home, not knowing that he would find a being who knew him when a boy.

[*Utica (N. Y.) Herald.*]

"Cotton Blanks" and permits—indispensable to all persons purchasing or shipping cotton—can be obtained at this office.

Local Items.

RELIGIOUS NOTICE.—We are requested to state that there will be service in the Baptist Church this-morning at 10½ o'clock.

CHINA WARE, &c.—By an advertisement in to-day's paper, it will be seen that W. B. Stanley, Esq., so well and favorably known to the people of Columbia, and other portions of the State, as a first-class merchant in his line of business. Mr. Stanley was one of the few who, during the war, sold out their goods at old prices. He moreover furnished soldiers' families with his goods at half-price. Such instances are rare, and we have no doubt his friends and the public will manifest their appreciation of his former liberality and generosity, by giving him an extensive run of custom. His establishment is one that is greatly needed in the community. We wish him success.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.—Attention is called to the following advertisements, which are published for the first time this morning:

- Ward & Harvey—Post Coaches.
- Col. A. R. Taylor—Exchanged.
- Col. Rolling Mills—Sawyer Wanted.
- E. J. Scott—Nomination.
- F. H. Elmore—Special Notices.
- The Misses Henry—School Notice.
- W. B. Stanley—China Glass, &c.
- W. G. Embleton—Notice.
- Ed. McMullen—Government Property.

All political parties in this country have long since advocated the rigid enforcement of the merciless maxim that "To the victors belong the spoils." Indeed, from the practice of all parties of late years, Democrats and Republicans should vie with each other in canonizing the memory of Mr. Marcy, who was, in his day and generation, so loudly reviled for first proclaiming this doctrine. From the days of Andrew Jackson's first administration the political guillotine has always slain its thousands after the inauguration of a new President. The bloody ceremony of slaying all his servants when an African King dies is not observed with more religious strictness than that of beheading the office-holders of a defeated party.

Immediately before the civil war the wild hunt after office assumed so fierce a type that even when the administration party was in power the chosen of the newly elected President were always clamorous for the heads of their political brethren in office. Indeed, this species of cannibalism was carried so far, that the defeat or success of the party in power made very little difference in the fate of the unfortunate office-holders.

President Johnson has just shown his hand pretty distinctly with reference to the important matter of appointments to office. He does not appear to sanction the indiscriminate removal of the present office-holders, but the recent demonstrations which have been made against the policy of his administration, by a portion of the Republican party, has rendered it necessary that he should at once separate the official sheep from the goats. As the President's reconstruction policy means the salvation of the country, and as the designs of his enemies, if successful, must accomplish its destruction, no man should be permitted to hold office who openly or secretly opposes the President's policy of reconstruction.

The papers announce the removal of Mr. Edmond Russell, from the office of Postmaster of Davenport, Iowa, and the appointment in his place of General Sanders. The former was the editor of a paper which advocates negro suffrage, and all the other measures which are in favor with the Radicals. General Sanders, however, is an ardent friend of the administration, and is moderate and conciliatory in the temper of his Republicanism. His appointment is a matter of great significance, as Davenport is a town of at least twenty thousand inhabitants, and to be postmaster there is a very good thing. The President does not intend to permit the men who are fed and clothed by the government to pull down the edifice which shelters them. Acton was torn to pieces by his own dogs, but the President has taken prompt measures to guard against any catastrophe of that sort happening during his administration. Whenever any office-holder exhibits symptoms of dangerous Radicalism, he will, we hope, be at once guillotined, and a Conservative man put in his place.

It is, perhaps, fortunate for the country, that the patronage of the Government is now very great. At times like these, when the President is seeking to restore the Union, it is well that he should be able to protect his administration from the intrigues of radical office-holders.

[*Richmond Times.*]